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NEWS RELEASE

---For Immediate Release---

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GEAR UP Iowa Holds College and Career Summit

60 student leaders from across state selected to attend

Des Moines, IA, June 10, 2016 – GEAR UP Iowa will gather 60 high school freshmen and six college student mentors from around the state next week for the program’s first-ever college preparedness summit. Over four days and three nights at Grand View University, the students will build leadership skills, explore education and career options, and develop relationships with peers and college student mentors.

“GEAR UP Iowa is a movement to ensure college access and success for Iowans,” said Project Director Christina Sibouih. “This summit will help these students explore, lead, and succeed.”

Among the events planned for the GEAR UP Iowa Student Summit:

- Tours of Unity Point Health and Accumold
- Outdoor activities at Jester Park
- Team-building exercises with college student mentors
- Leadership workshop with Alan Feirer
- Creation of a “Dreams” mural

A more detailed schedule the week’s events is below.

GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) is a seven-year project following more than 6,000 students in 12 Iowa school districts from 7th grade through their first year of

college, aimed at preparing them academically and financially to succeed. The program is a partnership between those 12 districts, Iowa College Aid and 40 institutions of higher education and community-based organizations. Find more information at GearUpIowa.gov or IowaCollegeAid.gov.

GEAR UP Iowa 2016 Student Summit—Selected Activities

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

8–9 a.m. | Mentor Team Building; Grand View University, Student Center Plaza View Room

4:45–5:45 p.m. | Icebreakers; Grand View University, Outside or Student Center Speed Lyceum

MONDAY, JUNE 13

9 a.m.–noon, 12:30–3:30 p.m. | Leadership Workshop with Alan Feirer; Grand View University, Student Center

7–9:30 p.m. | Movement 515/RunDSM Performance & Activity; Grand View University, Krumm Centrum

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

8:45–10 a.m. | Grand View University Campus Tour

1:30–3 p.m. | Business Site Visit; UnityPoint Health

3:30–5 p.m. | Business Site Visit; Accumold

6:45–8:45 p.m. | Canoeing and Hiking; Jester Park

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

11:15 a.m.–noon | Team Building and “Mural of Dreams”; Grand View University, Student Center Speed Lyceum

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About the Iowa College Student Aid Commission

Iowa College Aid provides college access, financial literacy and outreach services to Iowa’s students and families as they prepare, plan and pay for college. Iowa College Aid also administers state scholarship, grant, work study, and loan forgiveness programs totaling over \$70.0 million annually, conducts research and distributes higher education data, and offers Iowans assistance in obtaining student financial aid and college-related information. Through its role, Iowa College Aid also serves as the state-designated administrator of the U.S. Department of Education’s College Access Challenge Grant, which is designed to increase the college-going culture in Iowa. Additionally, Iowa College Aid is the administrator of the Federal GEAR UP Grant, a multi-year state-wide grant which is being utilized to provide early awareness programming and outreach initiatives to thousands of Iowa’s students and families. More information is available at www.IowaCollegeAid.gov.