



AMY JENNINGS
Executive Director, Lead DSM

LAST YEAR WAS A BIG YEAR! As I reflect on Lead DSM’s best year yet, two words come to mind: **evolution and celebration.**

In recent years, we’ve evolved into an organization that provides critical programs to help Greater Des Moines’ caretakers and changemakers lead more thoughtfully and intentionally. Think of us as a school for community leaders. That school evolved so much that it needed a new name to communicate its impact and reach. Thus, we introduced Lead DSM, which is the umbrella for the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, Community Connect, the Youth Leadership Initiative, and more.

A bigger organization required more person power. We welcomed Jessica Taylor-Fink as Development and Marketing Manager, and promoted Kelly Royal to a full-time position as Program and Operations Manager. A bigger staff required room to spread our wings, so we became the first tenant of the new C3 Center, owned by the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines at 1910 Ingersoll.

Our evolution in the last year and over the last four decades was cause for celebration. More than 300 alumni gathered at Des Moines Water Works Park to toast to 40 years of community leadership development. Thank you to those who joined us!



As we look forward to the next 40 years, we will continue to evolve as we set bigger, better, and bolder goals for helping our community’s leaders make thoughtful and intentional impact in Greater Des Moines. We promise to make you proud and invite you to be part of Lead DSM’s bigger, better, bolder future.



Gratefully,
Amy

P.S. If you believe that thoughtful, intentional leaders are critical for our community’s future, please support our mission-driven organization by becoming a 1982 Society member today. Most donors give at the \$125 level or above.

**WE CELEBRATED OUR
40TH ANNIVERSARY AND
ENTERED A NEW CHAPTER AS**



Community Connect Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute Youth Leadership Initiative

Last fall, we introduced Lead DSM, the new umbrella brand that now encompasses the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, Community Connect, Youth Leadership Initiative, and more. Lead DSM brings leaders together to learn, to act, and to make bold change happen in Greater Des Moines.

In 1982, our organization was built on the belief that caring about the future was critical for our community’s success. In 40 years, Lead DSM has graduated 3000+ caretakers of Greater DSM’s future from 4+ leadership programs who serve 286+ community organizations. That’s a lot of impact. And we’re not done.

WE HONOR OUR HISTORY AND BEGIN A FUTURE THAT IS **BIGGER BETTER BOLDER**

Bigger = more programs, increased reach
Better = more staff, enhanced learning
Bolder = more brave conversations, more courageous action

2022-23 Impact and highlights

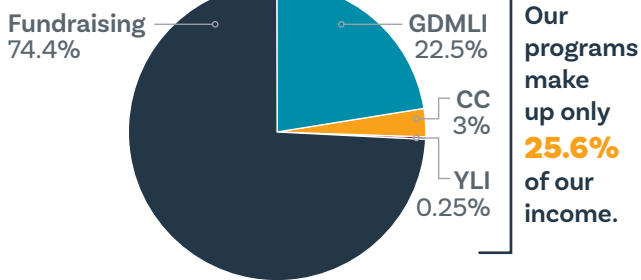
- > **\$14,850** scholarships awarded to adult participants
- > **104** program graduates
- > **134** organization volunteers
- > **\$50,000** dollars needed to fund the tuition-free Youth Leadership Initiative

Our impact is possible thanks to alumni like you in the **1982 Society!**

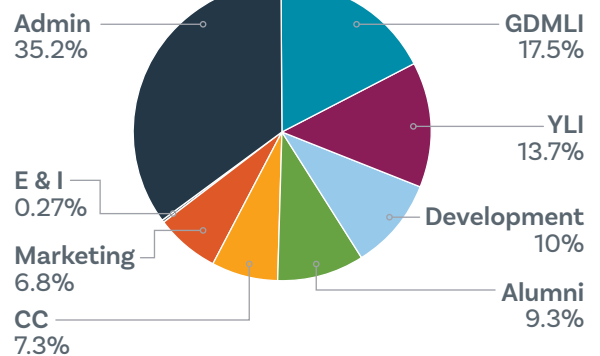


1 in 7 participants received scholarships

INCOME



EXPENSES





YOUTH LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

The Youth Leadership Initiative (YLI) releases untapped potential in the next generation of community leaders. These young leaders learn skills that propel them into their next steps of life and as they embrace their roles as shapers of a community where their dreams can be realized. High school students get out of the classroom and into real-life learning experiences throughout Greater Des Moines.

CLASS OF 2023

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Tyler Anderson, Valley High School
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Kira Brockman, Nevada High School
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Delanee Stuve, East High School
Sophia Taylor, Ankeny Centennial High School
Jaden Tennant, Saydel High School
Elijah Washburn, Urbandale High School
Bruce Zhu, Valley High School

GREATER DES MOINES LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute prepares leaders from across Central Iowa to be effective stewards for our community's future. The nine-month curriculum offers a view of Greater Des Moines from different vantage points, heightens participant awareness of current community conditions and issues, enhances individual and group leadership skills, and helps class members see themselves as partners for change.

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COMMUNITY CONNECT

Community Connect inspires and teaches participants that leveraging their purpose improves their lives and our community. The concise, five-session curriculum, with guidance from program mentors, helps participants uncover and leverage their personal values and interests, leading to intentional engagement in the community.

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