

*For Immediate Release: July 26, 2022*

## **JAG Nebraska Selected as Apprenticeship Ambassador by U.S. Department of Labor**

United Way of the Midlands (UWM) is excited to announce that the JAG Nebraska program has been selected by the U.S. Department of Labor for its inaugural group of Apprenticeship Ambassadors.

Announced by Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh, the Apprenticeship Ambassador Initiative will create a national network of employers, labor organizations, industry associations, program sponsors, educators, workforce intermediaries, community-based organizations and other stakeholders who are committed to expanding and diversifying Registered Apprenticeship experiences across the country.

The 207 selected Ambassadors will partner with the department's Office of Apprenticeship to promote apprenticeships as a valuable workforce strategy in high-demand industries to develop and expand opportunities for people who are historically underserved. Ambassadors will also identify and scale innovative practices and partnerships to modernize, strengthen and accelerate the adoption of Registered Apprenticeships with businesses and industries in their geographic areas.

"JAG Nebraska gives students the support, training and experience they need to be well-equipped to enter the Nebraska workforce and contribute to their communities," said Matthew Wallen, Senior Vice President, Community Impact and Analytics, UWM. "Being selected as an Apprenticeship Ambassador reinforces the work we are doing with agencies, business leaders and community members across the state, and sets us up for continued success in the future."

For more information about the U.S. Department of Labor's Apprenticeship Ambassador program, go to: [www.apprenticeship.gov/apprenticeship-ambassador-initiative/apprenticeship-ambassadors](http://www.apprenticeship.gov/apprenticeship-ambassador-initiative/apprenticeship-ambassadors). For more information about JAG Nebraska, go to: [jagnebraska.org](http://jagnebraska.org).

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### **About JAG Nebraska**

Committed to providing in-school support for students and helping them develop their skillsets to overcome the many challenges they face, JAG Nebraska sets students up for success in the classroom, workplace and life. Students build relationships with local employers, engage in project-based learning and develop a strong sense of civic and social responsibility. Students graduate with a strong foundation to pursue career opportunities or further their education.

### **About United Way of the Midlands**

For nearly 100 years, United Way of the Midlands (UWM) has served the Omaha-Council Bluffs metro by bridging the business and not-for-profit sectors to create a Circle of Support that helps our neighbors overcome difficult challenges and start building a better future. UWM's funded programs and direct services address social and economic disparities and meet families' essential needs such as healthy food, safe and stable housing, physical and mental health services, career preparation and job training. For more information, visit [www.unitedwaymidlands.org](http://www.unitedwaymidlands.org).