

AmeriCorps Member of the Year

Lyndsey Johnson

College Possible Milwaukee

Governor's
Service Awards



Throughout her three AmeriCorps terms with College Possible Milwaukee, Lyndsey Johnson has positively impacted numerous Milwaukee area students by supporting them on their path towards college graduation.

Lyndsey has served during the last two school years as a college success coach, currently supporting a cohort of 140 college students. Additionally, she served an additional AmeriCorps term as a transition coach last summer, helping more than 200 students navigate tasks before the next school year, including signing up for orientation, securing housing, accepting financial aid, and other enrollment and payment issues.

As a tech connected college coach, Lyndsey is working with Milwaukee area students attending colleges across the country, supporting their academic success and assisting them with financial aid, career planning, scholarships, and locating additional resources. She has additionally expanded upon that role with her students at Mount Mary University, providing them with the option to meet in-person and helping to organize events, including developing a relationship with the university's Promise Program to provide these opportunities for her scholars.



During her first year as a college coach, Lyndsey saw a need from her students for essential items, so she initiated and maintained a donation-based hygiene pantry for scholars to provide them with materials including soap, toiletries, feminine products, and other needed items. She ensures that these essentials are accessible and equitable, and Lyndsey delivers the essentials to scholars if they cannot come to pick them up. Additionally, she is working on a plan that will sustain the pantry for scholars after she concludes her AmeriCorps service with College Possible Milwaukee.

Lyndsey has striven to be not only available to her students, but also to her fellow AmeriCorps members whenever they need help. As a returning college coach this year, she saw a need and stepped up as a leader, always sharing insights and best practices with her fellow team members. She shares and creates resources for her team members to utilize in their work, such as walkthrough videos or flyers, taking it upon herself to create a resource if she ever hears there is a need or an issue.

Additionally, Lyndsey has worked to build culture and relationships for the team, joining their Community Planning Committee. As College Possible Milwaukee left the remote-hybrid model and more individuals were in serving at the program office, she put up decorations and brought in an office pet fish to create a more welcoming, enjoyable, and lively environment for her team members.

In describing the impact that Lyndsey has had for the students she serves, Lauren Robinson with College Possible Milwaukee explained that "out of all of the coaches on our team, Lyndsey has dealt with the most student crises between homelessness, domestic violence, food insecurity, and more. She always meets these students where they are at, and she supports them in any way she can by advocating for her students and reaching out where necessary to get them any resources or help they need."

