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**Media Contact:** Kayla Kovarna

515-422-7740, [kmkovarna@dsmairport.com](mailto:kmkovarna@dsmairport.com)

## **DSM Airport Announces Kayla Kovarna as New Manager to lead Communications and Business Development**

*The Des Moines International Airport adds a new position to expand visibility and revenue opportunities*

**Des Moines, Iowa (April 22, 2019):** The Des Moines Airport Authority added a Communications, Marketing and Air Service Development Manager position to their management team to increase visibility and help attain the Airport's overall goals. Kayla Kovarna joined the team in this role and will oversee communications efforts including media relations, digital content creation and presentations while also being responsible for air service business plan development.

[Kayla Kovarna](#) brings over 10 years of business development and fundraising experience in the nonprofit industry. Most recently, she served as the Executive Director of the Central Iowa American Heart Association where she led the market to nearly 55% growth. She also served as the Midwest Regional Director at the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for seven years and in 2017 began consulting RoadShow Logistics to build their web presence and communication strategies. Ms. Kovarna holds a Bachelor of Arts from The University of Iowa in both Journalism and Mass Communication as well as Communication Studies.

"We are pleased to add this new position to support our team in achieving our strategic plan which includes the new terminal project," said Kevin Foley, Des Moines Airport Authority Executive Director. "Our continued growth has created a need for this role and Kayla is well positioned to meet these needs as we prepare for expansion."

March posted a record of 263,000 passengers traveling through DSM reaffirming the need for a new and expanded terminal. Progress is being made now to prepare for the new terminal build in 2026, however, there is a funding shortfall of \$203 million. Ms. Kovarna joined the Airport team in hosting a breakfast forum on opportunities to close the funding shortfall by \$138 million and how local business leaders can aid in advocating for access to these funds.

"It's an exciting time to join the Airport. I am looking forward to establishing a comprehensive communications plan while also uncovering opportunities for revenue growth," said Kayla Kovarna, Communications, Marketing and Air Service Development Manager. "Working with Kevin and the team on ways to close the funding shortfall for the new terminal is a thrilling challenge to have. Together, Airport employees and community stakeholders are working to make the terminal project a reality to better serve all travelers coming through our airport."

**About the Des Moines Airport Authority**

The Des Moines Airport Authority is an independent entity that oversees the operations and maintenance of the Des Moines International Airport. The Airport Authority works to improve the quality of air service and make air travel to and from Des Moines more convenient and pleasurable. For more information, visit [www.dsmairport.com](http://www.dsmairport.com) and follow [@dsmairport](https://twitter.com/dsmairport) on Twitter and [DSM International Airport](https://www.facebook.com/DSMInternationalAirport) on Facebook.

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