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NEWS RELEASE

December 28, 2010 – For Immediate Release

Workshop Offers ‘Bridges Out of Poverty’

DUBUQUE, Iowa – A workshop designed to provide a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by those who live in and have lived in poverty, and their strengths, will be offered in Dubuque for social, health, legal, educational, and business professionals. “Bridges Out of Poverty” will be held on **Friday, January 14, 2011**, from 8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Loras College Auditorium, 1450 Alta Vista, in Dubuque.

The workshop is based on the book, “Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities” by Dr. Ruby Payne. The book offers a framework to better understand poverty and the workshop is tailored for professionals who serve clients who live or have lived in poverty and for employers who hire people who have lived in poverty. Topics to be covered in the January 14 workshop include:

- identifying resources and building strengths,
- the social and political factors affecting poverty,
- the hidden rules of both poverty and middle class,
- better communication through understanding the registers of language, and
- Family structure and personal identity.

“Bridges Out of Poverty” will be presented by Jim Ott, a psychologist with the Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency serving schools in Jackson County.

The cost to participate in the workshop is \$75 per person, which includes breakfast, lunch, and a copy of Payne’s “Bridges Out of Poverty.” The deadline to register is Friday, January 7. Social work continuing education units (CEUs) are available through Loras College for an additional \$5. Foster care CEUs are available at no charge. For registration information, please contact City of Dubuque Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator Carroll Clark at (563) 589-4230 or cclark@cityofdubuque.org. Online registration is available at www.cityofdubuque.org/bridgesoutofpoverty.

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