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NEWS RELEASE

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HEART Program Receives 1000 Friends of Iowa 2008 Best Development Award

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The HEART Program’s Washington Street Project in Dubuque, Iowa has been named a winner of the 2008 Best Development Award for Renovated Residential Development by the 1000 Friends of Iowa organization.

The award announcement stated, “The Washington Street Project was selected to receive the award due to their truly holistic approach to sustainability. The project is a distinguished development that restored the people, place, and prosperity of the Dubuque community.”

As leading partners in Dubuque’s Housing Education and Rehabilitation Training (HEART) Program, the Four Mounds Foundation and the City of Dubuque have been pleased to see the positive, community-wide effect this project has been having on the people, environment, and infrastructure of our city. Supporting partners critical to the success of the HEART Program include the Dubuque Community Schools, Four Oaks, Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, Northeast Iowa Community College, Gronen Restoration, Iowa State University and Juvenile Court Services of Dubuque and Delaware Counties.

Among its many projects since its inception four years ago, the HEART program has redeveloped five derelict homes in the Washington Neighborhood. The project is promoting quality of life by empowering at-risk youth through job training and low-income families through first time homeownership. The project is sustainable because it revitalizes the neighborhood through the creation of quality, affordable homes sensitive to the neighborhood’s historic character, while protecting the environment and empowering young people and families. The project is efficiently utilizing resources because of its focus on reuse of buildings, materials and infrastructure and restoring walkable neighborhoods.

1000 Friends of Iowa established the Best Development Awards in 2001 to recognize cities, companies, and individuals and also to recognize development projects in Iowa that reflect smart growth and sustainability principles. The winners of the Best Development Awards are models of how responsible development practices provide benefits to the community, the environment, and quality of life for future generations.

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For more information on this award program, visit: www.1000friendsofiowa.org