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# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Dubuque Awarded \$50,000 at U.S. Conference of Mayors Meeting**

**DUBUQUE, Iowa** – An initiative headed by Dubuque’s Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative has been awarded \$50,000 through the DuPont “Lead-Safe for Kids’ Sake” grant competition. Dubuque Mayor Roy D. Buol accepted the grant at a special event Sunday at the U.S. Conference of Mayors’ 81st annual meeting in Las Vegas.

This neighborhood-based initiative will restore housing stock, create homeownership opportunities, increase property values, create jobs, and reduce lead hazards in the targeted Washington Neighborhood in Dubuque.

Besides the \$50,000 Lead-Safe for Kids’ Sake grant, the initiative will include the cooperative efforts of the City of Dubuque Housing and Community Development Department, Community Housing Initiatives, Dubuque Bank and Trust, Housing Education and Rehabilitation Training (HEART) Program, and the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI). As part of this initiative, the GHHI will provide services of a home advocate to ensure families are the focus of the work, not just the home. The home advocate will connect families to resources such as healthcare and financial literacy as well as education on health and safety, home maintenance, and sustainability, to improve the family’s overall health and standard of living. The City’s Housing and Community Development Department will provide a rehabilitation fund, assist in identifying distressed properties, and provide project management and coordination to oversee the restorations including the lead hazard removal, from the bid

process to final inspection and payout. The department will also coordinate with current neighborhood residents, additional partnerships, organizations, and volunteer groups to achieve a common goal.

For the last 12 years, DuPont has been a Platinum Partner with the U.S. Conference of Mayors. During this time, DuPont has funded the “Lead-Safe for Kids’ Sake” grant program. With over \$5 million granted to cities, this award program has been called, by national experts, a model on how public-private partnerships should work together to meet public health challenges. With the objective of continuing to assist mayors to meet the goal of having lead-safe cities, DuPont awarded \$250,000 in grants through the program this year.

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