



## For Immediate Release

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# Greater Dubuque Development Ranked in U.S. Top 5: Business Retention & Expansion Program to Receive Award

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**Dubuque, IA**—For the second time this year, Greater Dubuque Development has been ranked in the U.S. Top 5 for its business retention and expansion program. The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) will recognize Dubuque's *InfoAction* program during an awards ceremony on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> in Reno, Nevada. Mike Blouin, Greater Dubuque's President, will be on a west coast sales trip and will accept the award.

An impartial panel, including experts from both the United States and Canada, voted for Greater Dubuque's program on the basis of its follow-up and superior service to existing businesses. A critical piece that differentiated Greater Dubuque from other cities and regions is the *InfoAction* program.

Greater Dubuque's *InfoAction* includes systematic meetings with 200 CEO's, business owners, and top managers every year. Information is used to identify possible business expansions, as well as to analyze trends and community needs.

Mr. Ian Bromley, Chairman of the IEDC said that furthering economic development is rarely a simple task in the best of times, and advancing the cause in the midst of a global financial crisis is nothing less than arduous. *"We tip our hats to the Greater Dubuque Development Corporation for its superior work during these difficult times,"* said Bromley.

The IEDC is headquartered in Washington, DC. IEDC's professional economic development awards annually recognize excellence in the economic development profession.

Greater Dubuque Development's *InfoAction* program is only one of four programs set to receive recognition on Tuesday. Greater Dubuque will receive an honorable mention and is the smallest of the metro areas to be recognized. The other award-winners and honorable mention come from economic development organizations in Tampa, FL, Pittsburgh, PA, and the Louisville metro area.

Earlier this year, Greater Dubuque was also recognized by the global trade association, Business Retention & Expansion International (BREI). BREI recognized Greater Dubuque as having the best program in North America for a population of 100,000 or less.

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