



**Greater
Dubuque**
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Double Win for Greater Dubuque: Awarded Top Honors at Regional Conference

Dubuque, IA - Greater Dubuque Development has been awarded top honors in two separate categories by the Mid-America Economic Development Council. The awards were presented during the annual Mid-America Competitiveness Conference & Site Selector Forum, held in Chicago on December 8-10. This annual award ceremony recognizes excellence in economic development throughout the ten-state Mid-America region.

In the Business Retention and Expansion category, Greater Dubuque received the top honor. On June 12, 2012, a construction accident caused a major disruption in critical telecommunication service in the Greater Dubuque area. Utilizing our strong relationship with CenturyLink (formed through the InfoAction program), Greater Dubuque's staff notified top personnel of the outage, communicated the issue to the existing business base, and monitored the repairs to the fiber. As a result, CenturyLink completed a \$2.3 Million enhancement project which now provides Dubuque with 68 miles of new, state-of-the-art fiber. This upgrade guarantees Dubuque a "second path" that protects our businesses' telecommunications from disruption should a similar incident occur.

Greater Dubuque Development's Newcomers Services also scored first place honors in the Workforce Development category. Our Newcomer Services assist candidates in making an informed decision to relocate to Dubuque. Staff provides information on housing rentals and property for sale, health care and education options, recreation opportunities, ways to get involved, and answers candidates' questions. Our staff also provides community tours, distributes relocation guides, and assists in the facilitation of the Distinctively Dubuque course. Through this program, Greater Dubuque has welcomed over 1,700 newcomers to our community since its inception in 2009. Dubuque has created workforce solutions, such as Newcomer Services, that are not only proactive in addressing inevitable recruitment, relocation and retention challenges, but also positively impacting both existing business and the lives of real people. Thanks to the City of Dubuque, Mystique Casino, and the Dubuque County Board of Supervisors for their financial support of Dubuque Works. Their investment makes our newcomer services possible.

The Mid-America Economic Development Council is dedicated to enhancing economic developers' knowledge, capabilities and opportunities through multi-state networking, education and site selector interaction. For more information about the Mid-America Economic Development Council, please visit www.maedc.net.

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