



**Greater  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# **Dubuque County Designated a Home Base Iowa Community:**

**Greater Dubuque Development Announces Dubuque County as the 5th Home Base Iowa Community and first major metro in Iowa to receive the designation.**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Dubuque, IA** - Greater Dubuque Development Corporation will host their semi-annual Workforce Solutions Breakfast beginning at 8:00 a.m. this Friday, November 21st at the Diamond Jo Casino Bridge Room located at 301 Bell Street. The economic development group will release the 2014 Skills Gap Analysis and Wage Data for the Greater Dubuque area as well as announce the designation received from the State of Iowa naming Dubuque County a Home Base Iowa Community. Dubuque County is one of only five counties statewide to secure this title, and the first major metro in Iowa to receive the designation.

*"Lieutenant Governor Reynolds and I are pleased with the momentum around our innovative Veterans jobs plan, Home Base Iowa,"* Governor Terry Branstad said. *"With continued partnerships among state, community, business and education partners, Iowa is establishing itself a premier location of opportunity for transitioning service members,"* Branstad added.

Home Base Iowa designates qualified communities as centers of opportunity for military veterans based on four standards; ten percent of businesses within a designated metro must become Home Base Iowa businesses, each community develops its own incentive package for Veterans, the community prominently displays the Home Base Iowa Community designation and obtains a resolution of support from the appropriate local governing body. Dubuque County is creating a positive and welcoming experience for Veterans and their families as they transition to civilian careers by providing relocation, career and education assistance.

*"We are proud of Iowa's commitment to Veterans and their families and we believe that Dubuque County strengthens Iowa's mission to welcome, employ, and honor those who serve our country,"* said Sarah Harris, Vice President of Workforce Solutions. *"Our military men and women are some of the best and the brightest and they have many valuable skill sets to offer local employers. Recruiting, relocating, training, and retaining Veterans in our community is critical to our mission of shaping a talented workforce for decades to come,"* added Harris.

Dubuque County's incentive package includes programs such as Opportunity Dubuque that provides short-term certificate training to upgrade individual skills in high-demand, high-wage careers. Opportunity Dubuque helps eliminate barriers to obtaining education through tuition reimbursement, transportation assistance, child care provision and on-going support from education to employment. Qualified Veterans willing to learn new skills will have access to this innovative program at no charge to them.

Twenty-nine employers in Dubuque County have already signed on to be Home Base Iowa Businesses by pledging their commitment to hire Veterans. Additional companies who would like to participate as a Home Base Iowa business should contact Sarah Harris at 563-557-9049 or [sarah@greaterdubuque.org](mailto:sarah@greaterdubuque.org).

For more information on Home Base Iowa, please visit [www.HomeBaselowa.org](http://www.HomeBaselowa.org) or contact Kathy Anderson at 515.725.3149 or [Kathy.anderson@iowa.gov](mailto:Kathy.anderson@iowa.gov).

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*Opportunity meets  
community.*