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# Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **MID-AMERICA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL PRESENTS 2020 ANNUAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AWARDS**

The Mid-America Economic Development Council presented its annual Economic Development awards during the Virtual Best Practices Conference, held May 12-13, 2021!

Award entries were accepted in two markets – large division (community population over 50,000) and small division (community population less than 50,000).

Congratulations to the following winning entries!

### **Overcoming Adversity**

*Project or best practice that a community, region, or state utilized during a situation of overcoming a challenge – anything from a factory shut-down, to a COVID-19 response plan, or natural disaster.*

- ***DSM Forward – Des Moines, IA (Large Division)***

### **Entrepreneurial Award**

*Unique approaches to enhancing the Entrepreneurial culture in a city or region. Unique approaches for assisting young companies through the start-up/early stage of a business life cycle.*

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- ***Michigan Women Forward - Jackson, MI (Large Division)***

**Workforce Development**

*Activities and/or innovative programs to attract new workforce to an area, strengthen the skills of your existing workforce or encourage retention of youth in an area.*

- ***Greater Dubuque Development Corp College Recruitment Strategy – Dubuque, IA (Large Division)***
- ***Chippewa County YouthBuild Dedicated to Improving Lives – Chippewa Falls, WI (Small Division)***

**Marketing Program**

*An overall comprehensive marketing program to market a community, county, state, or region to a prospect; an Annual Report or Newsletter; Online Programs, and/or a Specific Program or Event.*

- ***Lenawee Now – Lemonade Stand Video – Adrian, MI (Large Division)***
- ***Williston Works Podcast – Williston, ND (Small Division)***

**Economic Impact Deal of the Year**

*Recognizes a project having significant and measurable impact on a City, County and Region. The project must have already broken ground and be in the initial phase of implementation between January 2019 and September 2020. The measurable impact can include capital investment, jobs, supplier network, economic impact or new partnership initiatives that positively improved the community.*

- ***HODGE, Duluth Trading Company, & Crown Holdings – Dubuque, IA (Large Division)***
- ***VES Brings Global Dairy Industry to Chippewa Falls – Chippewa Falls, WI (Small Division)***

Mid-America EDC members are dedicated economic development professionals who share best practices to add value in their organizations and communities. Mid-America EDC is a multi-state association dedicated to being the leading resource for making contact with site selectors, advancing regional economic development programs, and accessing thought leadership.

For many years, The Mid-America Economic Development Council has sponsored the annual Economic Development Awards competition to recognize and stimulate the creative use of quality marketing by economic development organizations throughout the thirteen-state Mid-America region in promoting their respective communities.

For more information about The Mid-America Economic Development Council, visit [www.midamericaedc.org](http://www.midamericaedc.org).

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