

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Conversations with Successful Communities** *Nationally Known Speaker Headlines Manning Workshop*

(DES MOINES, IOWA) – In 2004, the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines (FHLB Des Moines) chose Manning as one of two Iowa Capital Community Award recipients. The award annually recognizes a few of the many innovative rural communities in the Bank’s five-state district of Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota and South Dakota. Manning received the designation based on their vision, planning and teamwork as well as their demonstrated ability to meet the challenges of sustaining and revitalizing their community.

As a follow-up to the Capital Community Award, FHLB Des Moines will be hosting *Conversations with Successful Communities* on Monday, September 15. This forum is designed to showcase some of the best examples of community development efforts in Carroll and surrounding counties as well as devise new strategies and goals to enhance tourism in the area, attract businesses and complete renovation projects.

Nationally renowned speaker, Jody Kretzmann, will serve as the workshop facilitator. Mr. Kretzmann is Co-Director of the Asset-Based Community Development Institute, a research project of the Institute for Policy Research at Northwestern University. He will discuss asset-based community development along with citizen-centered community organizing while Todd Abrahamson, Superintendent of the Sigourney and Keota Community School Districts, focuses on youth retention and leadership. Community leaders from around the region have been invited to begin discussing the strengths and resources Manning can utilize to build their community. Using the information shared by attendees of the event, Mr. Kretzmann and FHLB Des Moines staff will provide the community with a follow-up report from the session.

Manning, “A City Where Past, Present and Future Meet,” takes its development and economic growth seriously. Excelling in areas of entrepreneurial spirit, tourism promotion and progressive thinking, this community sets a great example for others to strive to meet. FHLB Des Moines is looking to build upon their work and provide local communities with an opportunity to network with leaders throughout their region and formulate innovative strategies into an action plan for more positive outcomes.

For more information on *Conversations with Successful Communities* or the Capital Community Award, visit [www.fhlbdm.com](http://www.fhlbdm.com) or call Angie Richards at 515.281.1014.

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*The Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines is a wholesale cooperative bank that provides low-cost short and long-term funding and community lending to more than 1,200 members, including commercial banks, saving institutions, credit unions and insurance companies. The Bank is wholly owned by its members and receives no taxpayer funding. The Des Moines Bank serves Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota and South Dakota and is one of twelve regional Banks that make up the Federal Home Loan Bank System.*