



# ECIA Spotlight

January 2021

## FREE Training Sessions in 2021

ECIA continues to use USDA grant funds for several FREE training sessions in 2021. The sessions noted below have been confirmed for first quarter and will be held via Zoom or live webinar. Look for more information regarding these sessions and others to be added via ECIA's [website](#) and Facebook

Date/Time	Title	ECIA Contact
Thursday, January 21 1:30-3:00pm	<b>Big Messaging for Small Towns,</b> Presented by International Economic Development Council	Sharon Nesteby <a href="mailto:snesteby@ecia.org">snesteby@ecia.org</a>
Wednesday, January 27 11:00am - Noon	<b>Grant Writing Workshop,</b> Presented by ECIA and Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque	Marla Quinn <a href="mailto:mquinn@ecia.org">mquinn@ecia.org</a>
Wednesday, February 3 Noon – 1:30pm	<b>COVID-19 Best Practices for HR in 2021,</b> Presented by Attorney Michele L. Warnock-Brott of Davis Brown Law	Caitlin Siemionko <a href="mailto:csiemionko@ecia.org">csiemionko@ecia.org</a>
Thursday, February 11 1:30 – 3:00pm	<b>The Trajectory of Trauma,</b> Presented by Julie Homb, Licensed Mental Health Counselor	Caitlin Siemionko <a href="mailto:csiemionko@ecia.org">csiemionko@ecia.org</a>
Monday, February 15 1:00 – 2:30pm	<b>Your Local County Parks – Economic &amp; Quality of Life Generators...What's Not to Like?</b> Presented by Thomas F. Hazelton, CEO, Iowa's County Conservation System	Caitlin Siemionko <a href="mailto:csiemionko@ecia.org">csiemionko@ecia.org</a>
Thursday, February 18 Noon – 1:30pm	<b>The New Downtown,</b> Presented by IEDC	Sharon Nesteby <a href="mailto:snesteby@ecia.org">snesteby@ecia.org</a>
Thursday, February 25 1:30 – 3:00pm	<b>Lead Safe for our Kids &amp; Properties,</b> Presented by ECIA's Kimberly Glaser and Liz Kemp	Caitlin Siemionko <a href="mailto:csiemionko@ecia.org">csiemionko@ecia.org</a>

## HUD Grant Expansion

Delaware County has been added to the HUD Lead & Healthy Homes Program that currently serves only Dubuque County and is managed by ECIA staff. With a large percentage of older housing stock in Delaware County, officials believe the grant expansion will enable more families to be served by the funding.

Before HUD's final approval to expand the target area, an environmental review must be completed of Delaware County, which may take up to six weeks. During this time, we will market the Program and accept applications for Delaware County properties that meet the criteria, which includes:

- a residential property (single family or rental) built prior to 1978;
- the family residing in the property having total income within the income guidelines set by HUD annually, and;
- the home having a child age 5 or younger living there or visiting.



For questions regarding this program, please contact Kim Glaser, ECIA Program Manager at [kglaser@ecia.org](mailto:kglaser@ecia.org).

## Coalition Receives Grant

The Camanche-DeWitt coalition, with ECIA's assistance, recently secured a 5-year, \$625,000 Center for Disease Control (CDC) Drug Free Communities (DFC) continuation grant. The DFC program provides grants to community coalitions to strengthen the infrastructure among local partners to create and sustain a reduction in local youth substance use. This grant will allow the Coalition to continue its mission of, through partnership and collaboration, work to reduce unhealthy use and abuse of substances and related issues by youth and, over time, adults in Camanche and DeWitt and surrounding areas.

Based on 2018 Iowa Youth Survey data, focus groups, and one on one interviews, the Coalition voted to address underage drinking and marijuana use using DFC funds. Through the activities and objectives of the grant's



Sgt. Cundiff & Cpl Kelli Smith at the Clean Out Your Medicine Cabinet Event

Action Plan, the Coalition will continue to address the effects of youth substance use and associated health problems (Education being interrupted or negatively affected with suspensions or expulsions; Concurrent mental health disorders such as depression or anxiety; Family dysfunction; Alcohol and drug related offenses; Fatal alcohol related car crashes; drug treatment episodes) by using the Seven Strategies for Community Change. This includes efforts that affect individuals as well as the entire community and also involve community outreach, education, improving systems and processes, altering consequences of risky behavior, changing physical design of the environment, and changing policies.

"This is a big federal grant that we rely on for staffing and programming. We could not have done it without ECIA's assistance. They helped us with our first one, so we knew we could count on them, to help us again." Kristin Huisenga, Director, Clinton Substance Abuse Council.

## Farewell to Mark

At the end of this month, ECIA and our partners will lose a long time partner and community champion, Mark Schneider, as he retires to enjoy free time with his family, golfing and taking photos. Mark, Co-Director of Community and Economic Development, has been with ECIA for 30 years and has a truly remarkable list of accomplishments. Mark led the flood recovery efforts throughout his time at ECIA, including being an integral part of the City of Dubuque Resiliency program application and administration in 2016. Through Mark's creativity and grant writing skills, the State of Iowa received a \$100,000,000 HUD Resiliency grant for housing and infrastructure with the City of Dubuque housing and infrastructure costs included in the State grant. Another very large grant Mark diligently worked on was the City of Dubuque flood mitigation program. The project was over \$200,000,000 and Mark, working with City and State partners, secured a \$96,500,000 flood mitigation grant. In addition to Mark's grant writing skills, he developed the building inspection program in Peosta and Asbury and assisted with the design of the current ECIA and RTA facility. Mark wrote several HUD lead grants and secured over \$281,700,000 in CDBG Public Facility and Housing grants, as well as FEMA and EDA grants. Mark has spent countless hours at city council and county supervisor meetings. His commitment to ECIA and our eastern Iowa communities has never wavered, and his institutional knowledge will be missed greatly. We are most grateful for all his work and knowledge, and we wish Mark a very long and joy-filled retirement and an even par score on the golf course! Click [here](#) to see a highlight video of Mark's time at ECIA.

## CDBG Grants Awarded

In early December, IEDA announced fourth quarter CDBG awards to the cities of Maquoketa and Tipton. Maquoketa received \$103,400 to be used for Homebuyer Assistance in conjunction with the Bear River Pocket Neighborhood development. Four of the homes will be purchased by the end of February, while another two spec homes are available for purchase at this time. The city of Tipton was awarded nearly \$190,000 to assist with Water System Improvements.

## Good360 Donates Shingles

In August 2020, the straight-line wind storm, known as a derecho, tore through Iowa. Governor Reynolds declared a disaster in 20 counties, including Cedar, Clinton and Jackson in the ECIA region. Good360, a national nonprofit that provides "goods for the greater good" partnered with GAF shingles to deliver truckloads of free shingles to people whose residential roofs were impacted by the storm. If you know someone whose home incurred damage from the derecho and you'd like to find out more about the program, email: [shingles@ecia.org](mailto:shingles@ecia.org).



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