



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW HOMEBUYERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR REGION

The East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECICOG) is pleased to announce their new Homebuyers Assistance Program. The program will help first time homeowners with down-payment assistance, as well as repairs needed to bring the home up to local codes and rehabilitation standards. The Homebuyers Assistance Program will be available to first time homebuyers or veterans in the counties of Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, and Washington (excluding properties within the city limits of Cedar Rapids and Iowa City).

Not only is this program a great opportunity for ECICOG but also for our region. ECICOG Executive Director Doug Elliott says, "ECICOG offers a variety of housing assistance programs to our region, but this will be the first time we offer a program that was specifically created to assist people in purchasing their first home. This program aligns with ECICOG's commitment to not only expand our own services and capacity based on our core expertise and experience, but also to help further the housing and community development goals within our region."

The Homebuyers Assistance Program does have applicant requirements, including income and property, so please visit www.ecicog.org/homebuyers-assistance for additional information on the program.

Funding for the program was received through the Iowa Finance Authority HOME Program with matching funds from three Housing Trust Funds, including the East Central Iowa Housing Trust Fund, the Housing Fund for Linn County, and the Housing Trust Fund of Johnson County.

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About ECICOG

The ECICOG is an intergovernmental council established in 1973 under Chapter 28E and provided for under Chapter 28H of the Code of Iowa. Governed by a board of directors comprised of elected officials and private citizens, ECICOG was created to promote regional cooperation and to provide professional planning services to local governments in Benton, Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, Tama, and Washington Counties.