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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PEARLS OF PROGRESS CLOSING IN ON FUND RAISING GOAL

Only \$136,101 of additional contributions needed to make \$8.09 million project a reality

MUSCATINE, Iowa – The Pearls of Progress Fund Raising Project is closing in on their goal with just a week left in the effort. The Enhance Iowa Board approved a \$500,000 Community Attractions and Transportation (CAT) grant Oct. 11 contingent on the remaining funding gap be closed by November 15.

The Community Improvement Action Team (CIAT) Pearls of Progress fund raising campaign was initiated in September and received a boost from Kent Corporation Foundation who announced that they will match all donations made during the campaign. As the campaign enters its final week, the CIAT reports that the funding gap has narrowed to \$136,161.

There is still time to donate and make all four projects a reality.

Donations are accepted through the City of Muscatine Finance Department. All donations are tax deductible and those who choose to donate can specify which project the money should go towards. A donation to any one of the four components of the project helps to leverage funds for all four.

The Pearls of Progress is a joint project of the City of Muscatine and the Muscatine County Conservation Board, and directed by the CIAT. The focus of the project is to make Muscatine a more attractive place to live, work, play, visit, and do business which is in alignment with the goals of the Muscatine City Council.

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The four components include converting the former HNI headquarters into a new library and community center, construction of the Westside Trail which will link Discovery Park to Kent Stein Park, construction of the Muscatine Dog Park, and construction of four rental cabins at Deep Lakes Park.

More than 92.1 percent of the funds for the \$8.09 million Pearls of Progress Project have been secured. If the fund raising effort is unsuccessful the \$500,000 CAT grant will be revoked.

Information on how to make a contribution to the project and additional information on the Pearls of Progress project can be found at www.muscatineiowa.gov/PearlsofProgress.

Donations can also be made to the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine at www.muscatinecommunityfoundation.org

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