

**Strong Communities Award Application**  
**Deadline August 10, 2018**

Guidelines (Visit [www.fhlbdm.com/award](http://www.fhlbdm.com/award) for more award details and information)

1. The Strong Communities Award is not a grant program to fund an idea or a project to launch. The award measures the impact, results and collaboration of a recently completed or existing project.
2. Nominations must have support from an FHLB Des Moines member institution. However, direct involvement by an FHLB Des Moines member in a project is not required.
3. There is no maximum number of nominations a member may submit.
4. The Strong Communities Award provides a \$15,000 award to one rural winner and one urban winner. One runner-up in each category will receive \$3,000.
5. Nominees may be individuals, public agencies, for-profit and/or not-for-profit organizations. *The award may only be payable to the project or an economic development organization.*
6. Nominations should include this nomination form plus appropriate supplementary documents. Photos and video are encouraged. Please limit the complete application and supplementary documents to no more than ten pages.
7. Award announcements will be made in October 2018.

Applications are due by Friday, August 10, 2018. Applications must be received by 4:30 PM CST on August 10. Please send your application to:

Mitch Fastenau  
Marketing Communications Strategist  
801 Walnut Street Suite 200  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309  
515.281.1069

-or-

[mfastenau@fhlbdm.com](mailto:mfastenau@fhlbdm.com)

**Application** – Please answer the following questions.

**Category**

Please check only one of the following options (\*\*\*)See the bottom of the page for category requirements):

Urban \_\_\_\_\_

Rural \_\_\_\_\_

**I. Project Description**

Describe your community or economic development project. What is the project? Who is involved? How did you establish need for the project?

**II. Project Impact and Results**

What impact did this project have on your community? What are the highlights of development and growth in your community? Can you directly link this project to specific results or describe your anticipated outcomes? If specific results have been achieved, please provide examples and data.

*Ex. Community impact, number of new or retained jobs, youth involvement, growth of local businesses, other unique impacts (tourism, indirect jobs, etc.), etc.*

**III. FHLB Des Moines Member Collaboration**

How have you financed community projects and what has been the involvement of local financial institutions? Have the local institutions been involved in financing projects or have they made donations or invested in local projects other than through market rate loans? Did this project explicitly utilize FHLB Des Moines advances or grant funds? Is the project completed or in-progress?

**IV. Additional Material**

Photos and video are optional but encouraged.

\*\*\*Rural projects must meet the following criteria:

- The community that the project is located in must be eligible for the USDA Rural Development Business and Industry Loan program ([Click here](#) to access the USDA mapping tool– use the business program requirements as a reference)
- The FHLB Des Moines member and community partner(s) headquarters may be based within an urban area as long as the project is located in an eligible rural area.

- *Projects that do not meet the USDA Rural Development loan criteria above must be submitted as an urban project.*