



## Butler County is Iowa's Newest Home Base Iowa Community

June 22, 2021 (Allison, Iowa) – This evening, at a special event held as part of the Grandstand events at the Butler County Fair, Jathan Chicoine, the Home Base Iowa program manager announced that Butler County has officially been designated as a Home Base Iowa Community.

In a letter read at the announcement, Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds congratulated the county for the commitment to connecting veterans, transitioning service members, and their families with career opportunities and other resources.

Governor Reynolds noted “in recent years, Butler County has positioned itself as a destination where businesses can grow and thrive, and workers can find high quality jobs, and a quality of life that is second to none”. She continued, “I commend you for the effort you invested to earn this notable designation”.

Butler-Grundy Development alliance has been working to achieve this designation for quite some time, as the pandemic delayed some of the tasks to complete all of the requirements. The organization earned the designation for Grundy County in late 2019.

“As the lead economic development organization serving Butler and Grundy Counties, we have made workforce attraction our main priority for the foreseeable future, and as we all know, veterans have skills and a work ethic that our employers are looking to attract” said Jeff Kolb, Executive Director of the Butler-Grundy Development Alliance. The organization partnered with the County Veteran Affairs Office, and Director Thomas Heckman to participate in the program.

Home Base Iowa is a one-of-a-kind program to connect veterans and transitioning service members with over 2,400 businesses statewide who have pledged to hire over 15,000 veterans. In addition to the communities statewide, the program also has 27 college and university partners.

The program connects businesses and communities with veteran job seekers using the “Find a Veteran” feature on the Home Base Iowa website. Find a Veteran allows Home Base Iowa businesses and communities access to all active veteran job seekers who have submitted their resume through the website. Businesses and communities are also alerted by email when a veteran resume is published with matching location and industry criteria. These features allow program partners to directly connect and market to veterans by providing businesses with a user-friendly platform to find veterans with the skills they need.

Butler-Grundy Development Alliance and The County Veteran Affairs Office will provide a host of services to help showcase the area to these potential new residents, and to also assist them with all of the programs and resources available to them once they decide to relocate to Butler County.

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