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9th Annual Small Town & Rural Development Conference

Lansing, MI – The Michigan Rural Council is pleased to announce the 9th Annual Small Town & Rural Development Conference April 22-24 in Thompsonville, Michigan. Every spring, the Michigan Rural Council welcomes regional, national and international speakers and presenters to the Small Town & Rural Development Conference whose expertise and passion make this event the premier conference for rural community development in Michigan. Conference participants will share, learn from and connect with leaders working across the state to support and promote vibrant rural communities.

The conference features a number of break-out sessions with local experts and three keynote sessions led by Dan Gilmartin, Executive Director of the Michigan Municipal League, Amy Cortese, award-winning journalist and author and Lillian Salerno and Acting Administrator for Rural Business-Cooperative Service at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. For the first time, the conference is hosting a locally-sourced food and beverage pairing dinner featuring Michigan-made products – including wine from Blackstar Farms.

“We are excited to host a conference that brings together so many resources and tactics relevant to the revitalization of Michigan’s rural communities,” said Jamie Schriener-Hooper, Executive Director for the Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM). “Local practitioners always walk away with something they can try in their own backyard.”

The Small Town & Rural Development Conference is generously sponsored by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, among others. To register for the conference, visit rural.cedam.info/conference.

The Michigan Rural Council (MRC), a program of the Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM), supports efforts and enhances programs and services that have a positive impact on the quality of life in Michigan’s rural communities. CEDAM is a nonprofit membership organization that represents hundreds of individuals and organizations committed to revitalizing and rebuilding Michigan through community economic development. For more information about CEDAM, visit cedam.info. For more information about the MRC, visit rural.cedam.info.

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