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CONTACT: Clay T. Johnson
Village Administrator
Village of Lindenhurst
cjohnson@lindenhurstil.org
847-356-8252

Joyce Lee Brown
Awards Program Manager, ICMA
jlee@icma.org
202-962-3625

ICMA Recognizes the Village of Lindenhurst, Illinois for Program Excellence

WASHINGTON, D.C.— The Village of Lindenhurst, Illinois, has been recognized by ICMA, the International City/County Management Association, as a recipient of the organization's Community Health and Safety Program Excellence Award. The award recognizes innovative local government programs or processes that improve the community's safety, health, and/or wellness, or enhance the quality of life for the disadvantaged. The award is sponsored in part in memory of Carolyn Keane, first wife of ICMA's fourth executive director, Mark Keane, and Bill and Alice Hansell, parents of ICMA's fifth executive director, William H. Hansell.

The Village of Lindenhurst, represented by Village Administrator Clay Johnson and Police Chief Thomas Jones, will be formally honored during a Celebration of Service to the Profession as part of ICMA's 2019 Annual Conference, at the Music City Center in Nashville, Tennessee, on Wednesday, October 23, 2019.

The Village of Lindenhurst, incorporated in 1956, has a diverse background filled with residential and commercial growth and development. Finding its roots in a small farming community, Lindenhurst has grown steadily ever since. Resorts built by the Lehmann family in nearby Lake Villa brought visitors from Chicago seeking new surroundings. Ernest E. Lehmann, one of the heirs to his family fortune, owned what would be called Lindenhurst Farm, named after the two rows of Linden trees lining the estate. Years later, Morton Engle, subdivided the 500 acre farm in 1952, and in 1953 Lindenhurst Estates was born. This first set of homes provided a modern look that would propel this small community of less than one thousand to a Village of close to fifteen thousand today. This close-knit community grew from the help of Engle and the residents' persuasive spirit of volunteerism.

"Volunteerism has been woven into the fabric of this community since its inception. As a reflection of our community, it is important for our organization to exemplify the values of our residents. The E.R.I.N. program is a natural extension of the Village's commitment to our residents, especially our senior community. It has truly been the partnership with our community that has made this endeavor so successful," says Village Administrator Clay Johnson

The ICMA Local Government Excellence Awards highlight creative contributions to professional local government management while demonstrating the difference that this type of management makes to the quality of life in our communities. ICMA's Program Excellence Awards are presented to local governments and their chief administrators in recognition of their innovative and successful programs. Nominations are evaluated by an independent, 17-person panel of ICMA members.

"Our police officers and village staff work incredibly hard to meet the needs of all members of Lindenhurst," says Mayor Dominic Marturano. "The relationships built by our officers and volunteers come as such a comfort to our senior population. Well-being checks and daily phone calls have been uplifting to our E.R.I.N. participants. We are truly honored that all these efforts are recognized by ICMA through this award."

"We congratulate the recipients of our 2019 Program Excellence Awards and the administrators and managers who lead them," says ICMA Executive Director Marc A. Ott. "The communities, men, and women recognized this year set the standard for innovation, effectiveness, and creativity. We thank them for their commitment to improving the lives of the constituents they serve every day."

In addition to recognition at the Celebration of Service to the Profession in conjunction with the ICMA Annual Conference, the 2019 ICMA Annual Award recipients will be highlighted in a commemorative booklet that will be posted on icma.org in October and published in the October 2019 issue of *PM* magazine.

For more information about ICMA's Annual Awards Program, contact Joyce Lee Brown at jlee@icma.org or 202-962-3625.

About ICMA

ICMA, the International City/County Management Association, advances professional local government worldwide. Our mission is to create excellence in local governance by developing and fostering professional management to build livable communities that improve people's lives. ICMA provides member support; publications; data and information; peer and results-oriented assistance; and training and professional development to nearly 13,000 city, town, and county experts and other individuals and organizations throughout the world. The management decisions made by ICMA's members affect millions of individuals living in thousands of communities, from small villages and towns to large metropolitan areas. Learn more at icma.org.