



Collaboration Between Programs Helps Member Buy 1st Home

DUBUQUE, Iowa—Tami Paisley is proof positive of the power of partnerships.

Thanks to a collaborative effort between Dupaco Community Credit Union and local nonprofit organizations, the single mother of two traded her cramped apartment for the first home she's ever owned.

Number of nonprofit and community organizations Dupaco supported throughout 2016 **243**

"It feels good. I appreciate everything the city of Dubuque and Dupaco have done to get me here," Paisley said.

Paisley is among the latest successful participants

of Dupaco MoneyMatch—the savings account that matches your effort.

It's an Individual Development Account in which the savings of a participant are matched by a grant from either the Dupaco R.W. Hoefer Foundation or the Iowa Credit Union Foundation. The savings and matching funds are used to purchase a specific wealth-building asset.

Paisley used MoneyMatch to help purchase a three-bedroom home in downtown Dubuque in 2016. But it's not just any home. It's a symbol of the strength of community partnerships.

Paisley's property was renovated through the Housing Education and Rehabilitation Training program. HEART, which receives financial support from Dupaco, aims



▲ SCENE IN: 2016
Thanks to a collaborative effort between Dupaco Community Credit Union and local nonprofit organizations, Tami Paisley, a single mother of two, has traded her cramped apartment for the first home she's ever owned. (M. Blondin/Dupaco photo)



▲ SCENE IN: 2016
Members of the Four Mounds Foundation, the Dubuque City Council and Dupaco celebrate a housing project completed by the Housing Education and Rehabilitation Training program on Jan. 19. The Jackson Street house was the 30th project completed by HEART since 2004. (City of Dubuque photo) dupaco.com/foundation

to teach at-risk high school students trade skills through community-revitalization projects.

Thanks to those behind HEART, the once-rundown house looks brand new—breathing life into not only the home but the neighborhood as well.

Paisley's only regret is that she didn't access these community-driven programs sooner. She had been struggling to scrape together a down payment on a home when she turned to MoneyMatch in 2014. The program forced her to systematically save, an empowering experience that showed her homeownership was possible after all.

"Now I know that you can put money away to get something you want in life—whether it's a car, a home or going to college," Paisley said.