



## **For Immediate Release**

### **National Civic League and Allstate Announce All-America Cities**

**Atlanta, Georgia – June 23, 2001 – The National Civic League and Allstate** Insurance Company today announced the 10 All-America Cities selected at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual All-America City Awards ceremony in Atlanta, Georgia. The All-America City Award annually honors 10 communities that best exemplify the spirit of grassroots citizen involvement and collaborative problem solving.

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The ten All-America Cities for 2001 are:

Santa Clara, CA

South Miami, FL

Del Ray Beach, FL

Ft. Dodge, IA

**Howard County, MD**

Ocean City, MD

Independence, MO

Bozeman, MT

Fayetteville, NC

Brownsville, TX



“This year’s 10 winners symbolize the backbone of our nation – the ability of citizens, government, businesses and nonprofit organizations to join together to address their local issues,” said Christopher T. Gates, president of the National Civic League. “The accomplishments of these 10 All-America Cities can inspire other communities across the United States that are sharing similar challenges.”

Allstate Chairman, President and CEO Edward M. Liddy, was on hand to praise the efforts of both the Finalists and winning communities. “On behalf of Allstate employees across America, I would like to salute the 30 Finalists for their successful community initiatives that have truly improved the lives of their citizens. I congratulate this year’s 10 award recipients for their dedication and community spirit,” said Liddy. “These communities represent the American spirit at work in their ability to build stronger, safer neighborhoods and ensure a brighter future for our youth, an attribute that Allstate holds in the highest respect.”

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**All-America Cities**

The complete list of Finalists included:

Tempe, AZ  
Bellflower, CA  
Deerfield Beach, FL  
Chatham County, GA  
Nampa, ID  
Muncie, IN  
Kosciusko County, IN  
Dodge City, KS  
Holyoke, MA  
Jackson County, MI  
Montevideo, MN  
Kansas City, MO  
Roswell, NM  
Buffalo-Niagara, NY  
Greater Syracuse, NY  
Huntington, NY  
Morganton, NC  
Oil City, PA  
Irving, TX  
Port Arthur, TX

Government officials, neighborhood activists, business leaders and volunteers from each of 30 Finalist communities traveled to Atlanta to compete in hearings before the All-America City Award Jury. After the presentations, the 10 All-America Cities were announced at tonight's awards ceremony at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. The ceremony also recognized DeKalb County, Georgia as a 1998 winner of the award.

Originally established to recognize local government reform and efforts to support education, the All-America City Award now encourages broader initiatives such as economic development, health and social service projects, and efforts to improve race relations. In 1997, on the heels of the President's Summit for America's Youth, the National Civic League and Allstate added the requirement that all applications include at least one youth project that demonstrates tangible results. This year's Finalists developed programs that address current national issues including crime, education, poverty, cultural diversity, and the environment. Since the program began in 1949, more than 4,000 communities have competed and nearly 500 communities have been named All-America Cities.

The All-America City Award is a program of the National Civic League, a 107-year-old national non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to strengthening citizen democracy by transforming democratic institutions. NCL accomplishes its mission through technical assistance, training, publishing, research and the All-America City Award. The National Civic League is headquartered in Denver, Colorado.

The Allstate Insurance Company has been the sponsor of the All-America City Award since 1988, emphasizing the company's commitment to supporting communities across the nation in their efforts to make their neighborhoods better places to live and do business. Allstate Insurance Company is the nation's largest publicly held personal lines insurance company, insuring one of every eight homes and automobiles in the country. The company provides insurance for more than 20 million customers and has approximately 15,500 agents in the U.S. and Canada. Allstate is also a major life insurer.

For more information about the All-America City Award or to apply in 2001, call Sharon Hartman at the National Civic League, 303-571-4343, SharonH@ncl.org, or visit the National Civic League website [www.ncl.org](http://www.ncl.org) or the Allstate website at <http://corporate.allstate.com>.