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News Release

Greater St. Cloud Talent Portal Wins Economic Development Award

St. Cloud, MN, January 7, 2015 – The Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation (GSDC) has been recognized by the Economic Development Association of Minnesota (EDAM) with the Economic Development Marketing Award for Greater St. Cloud JobSpot, an online regional talent portal serving Central Minnesota. The award will be presented to GSDC at the EDAM conference on January 23, 2015 in Brooklyn Park, MN.

JobSpot (www.GreaterStCloudJobSpot) links employers, job seekers, educational institutions and workforce partners, and is a resource for all community members focusing on workforce development. Since its launch in May, more than 900 job seekers and 260 employers have registered on the site, and more than 600 job openings are currently posted.

In order to serve regional employers specifically, JobSpot features only jobs located in Benton, Stearns and the northern half of Sherburne counties. However, job seekers from throughout the world may access the JobSpot job postings and other information on the site through the World Wide Web.

Financially, the talent portal was made possible through a matching grant of \$125,000 from the Morgan Family Foundation. GSDC secured donations and funds from other sources, including the Initiative Foundation, Central Minnesota Community Foundation, Central Minnesota Community Priorities Project, area higher education institutions, and private businesses to successfully meet the \$125,000 match requirement.

Greater St. Cloud JobSpot has been developed by the GSDC Talent Corps, the role of which is to facilitate collaboration between business, education, and workforce resource partners around regional talent issues. For information about Greater St. Cloud Jobspot contact Gail Cruikshank, gcruiikshank@greaterstcloud.com or (320) 257-4753.

About the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation

The Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation is a non-profit (501c3) collaboration of more than 125 regional public and private organizations in Central Minnesota. The GSDC is leading a

community-wide commitment to harness the vast resources of the region, facilitate community, education, and business collaboration, expand the talent base, spearhead economic development efforts, and make the greater St. Cloud area one of the best places to live, work and play. The GSDC is funded through business investor contributions, personal contributions, and grants, and all actions are self-governed by the organization's investors, boards and various committees. Learn more at www.greaterstcloud.com.

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