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ST. LOUIS MOSAIC PROJECT

Midwest BankCentre Becomes St. Louis Mosaic Project's Fifth Mosaic Ambassador Company

(St. Louis, MO) – **St. Louis Mosaic Project** is delighted to announce locally-owned **Midwest BankCentre** as its fifth **Mosaic Ambassador Company**. The designation reflects the bank's commitment to attract and welcome foreign-born individuals to the St. Louis region in concert with the St. Louis Mosaic Project.

Midwest BankCentre's long history of serving St. Louis since 1906, reflected in its tagline of Rising Together™, has effectively advanced the financial well-being and prosperity of the diverse communities it serves. It has grown into one of the region's largest locally-owned community banks, serving customers at 16 locations and exceeding \$1.6 billion in assets.

Midwest BankCentre contributes to the Mosaic Project's mission of making the St. Louis region economically and culturally successful. The bank recently hosted the Bosnian Memory Project exhibit at its Bevo branch and actively hires and promotes Bosnian-speaking staff to serve the needs of customers most fluent in Bosnian. In addition, the Bank offers Financial Empowerment classes in Spanish and is an active member of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Bank officers and lenders routinely give of their time to promote basic financial knowledge, more advanced financial education and specialized programs aimed at maximizing financial empowerment. Its personnel have played leading roles since inception in the Bank-On Save-Up initiative and Money Smart Week.

Midwest BankCentre partners with various organizations including Missouri Immigrant & Refugee Advocates (MIRA), Beyond Housing, St. Francis Community Services, the Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing and Opportunity Council, St. Cecilia Church and Kingdom House. The company participates as a sponsor in International Institute of St. Louis and its Capital Campaign, Festival of Nations and the competitive financing supporting the growth of diverse businesses, including many local restaurants owned by immigrants.

Midwest BankCentre considers St. Louis its home and is dedicated to serving and developing the community. The company focuses on financial education outreach in low-moderate income neighborhoods and has a diverse legal board of directors to better understand and serve its Hispanic, Bosnian, African-American, and Asian customers. As a Mosaic Ambassador Company, Midwest BankCentre is committed to working with the St. Louis Mosaic Project to continue fostering economic and cultural growth within the region through community outreach and a diverse staff that works to promote independent growth of customers from all backgrounds.

The region's existing four **Mosaic Ambassador Companies** include Monsanto, Thomson Reuters, Next Gen Information Services, Inc. and TheBANK of Edwardsville.

About Midwest BankCentre

Midwest BankCentre is a fast-growing, progressive community bank with enduring traditions and values. Its name reflects its regional focus, attuning products and services to meet changing local needs. Supported by an accomplished management team and more than 300 dedicated team members, Chairman and CEO Jim Watson leads the daily operations of one of St. Louis' most innovative and customer-focused banking institutions. With 16 locations and \$1.6 billion in assets, Midwest BankCentre is a big community bank with a small-town spirit focused on building client relationships, one at a time. Learn more at www.MidwestBankCentre.com.

About the St. Louis Mosaic Project

The St. Louis Mosaic Project was launched in 2012 in response to an economic impact report that showed St. Louis was lagging in immigrant growth and highlighted the potential economic benefits of increasing its foreign-born population. The Mosaic Project is a regional initiative that is professionally managed by St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, World Trade Center and a 27-member committee. Its goal is to transform St. Louis into the fastest growing major metropolitan area for immigration by 2020 and promote regional prosperity through immigration and innovation. Learn more at www.stlmosaicproject.org.