

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TheBank of Edwardsville Becomes Second Mosaic Ambassador Company

St. Louis - The St. Louis Mosaic Project is excited to announce TheBANK of Edwardsville as the second Mosaic Ambassador Company. "TheBANK is a local community bank with the number one goal of helping those in our communities," says Business & Diversity Development Coordinator, Sandy Smith. Its devotion to promoting diversity and bettering the community aligns with the goals of the Mosaic Project, which will play a vital role in attracting and retaining foreign-born to the St. Louis bi-state region.

TheBANK will contribute to the Mosaic Project's mission of making the St. Louis region more economically and culturally successful. As a Silver Member of the Mosaic Ambassador Company Program, TheBank will share Mosaic flyers to spread awareness of the initiative, encourage associates to become Mosaic Ambassadors, and share Mosaic material with newly arriving international employees.

TheBANK has already demonstrated the value of promoting diversity within its company, placing importance on having a diverse staff to cater to all potential clients in the community. Specifically, the staff includes bilingual team members to assist Latino customers and provide guidance in Spanish regarding all banking needs.

TheBANK's commitment to partnering with the Hispanic community extends beyond their bilingual staff. They already have an established Hispanic Outreach Program and are one of the first businesses in Illinois to join the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. It also has developed partnerships with The Latino Roundtable of Southwestern Illinois, as well as local non-profits, churches, schools, and libraries in the community that have increased populations of Hispanics.

As an Ambassador Company, TheBANK is committed to working with the St. Louis Mosaic Project to foster a diverse and welcoming community for foreign-born to the region. It is committed to serving as a

professional connector for immigrants in Madison and St. Clair counties and proudly offers products and services catered to individuals whom may not have long credit histories due to being new in the United States. In regards to community outreach, staff members of the company also will continue to speak on panels to educate the region on the growing Latino customer base, and the importance of having a diverse team.

About the St. Louis Mosaic Project

The St. Louis Mosaic Project was launched in 2012 in response to an economic impact report, outlining St. Louis to be lagging in immigrant growth as well as highlighting the 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 St. Louis and a 22-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.