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ST. LOUIS MOSAIC PROJECT



Saint Louis Football Club Becomes 11th Mosaic Ambassador Company

(St. Louis)- In 2014, St. Louis welcomed a professional soccer team St. Louis Football Club to the region and became a member city of the United Soccer League (USL.) Now, the team expands its commitment and involvement in the area by joining the St. Louis Mosaic Project Ambassador Companies. Mosaic is pleased to have its first athletic team commit to the Project's goals especially given the sport's power to cultivate inclusion for the international community.

The St. Louis FC franchise belongs to St. Louis Scott Gallagher Soccer Club, a youth organization dedicated to growing soccer at all levels in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Head coach, Predrag (Preki) Radosavljevic, leads the team in the USL Eastern Conference. Home games are played at the Toyota Stadium at the World Wide Technology Soccer Park in Fenton, MO. Team management is led by its CEO, Jim Kavanaugh, co-founder and CEO of World Wide Technologies, a \$6.5 billion Information Technology systems integrator. Kavanaugh, also a retired professional soccer player, was inducted in the St. Louis Sports Hall of Fame the same year that the team came to St. Louis.

St. Louis has a rich soccer history, having supported professional teams in the past, hosting sell-out international exhibition Major League Soccer games, and developing many national team level players, some being members of international championship teams. There are also many collegiate teams in the area, attracting talent from around the world, making a St. Louis FC and St. Louis Mosaic Project partnership a dynamic force in supporting and retaining foreign-born youth.

The 2017 regular season for St. Louis FC began in March and ends in October, yet the goals and commitments will be enacted throughout the year and seasons to come. The goals

touch on a variety of support components from cause fundraising to student development and broadcasting in a foreign language to supporting local business.

In detail, the St. Louis FC action items are:

- Holding six games per season as fundraisers for organizations that help immigrants including International Institute and Casa de Salud.
- Hiring international students as interns for college credit requirements.
- Hosting Kick It with FC (a program focusing on student fitness, health, and wellness) to students from schools with large Hispanic-populations.
- Offering Pub to Park shuttle program to locally owned Mexican restaurants beginning with a pilot on July 22, 2017 at LaTejana restaurant. Then, expand to restaurants along Cherokee street and in other areas with Hispanic-owned restaurants as well as to International Institute clients.
- Broadcasting games in Spanish.
- Introducing spouses of St. Louis FC International players to Mosaic's International Spouses Meet Up Group.
- Offering Community Builder group tickets to organizations serving Hispanic community and fellow Mosaic Ambassador Companies.

About 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.

About Saint Louis Football Club

Saint Louis Football Club officially became the professional soccer team of the St. Louis area in 2014 under the ownership of St. Louis Scott Gallagher Soccer Club. Twenty-eight players are on the team, led by head coach Predrag (Preki) Radosavljevic. The team is managed by CEO Jim Kavanaugh. Home games are played at World Wide Technology Soccer Park in Fenton, MO.