January 12, 2022



## For Immediate Release

Contact: Suzanne Sierra Senior Program Manager St. Louis Mosaic Project ssierra@worldtradecenter-stl.com Contact: Phyllis Ellison VP of Partnerships and Program Development Cortex Innovation Community pellison@cortexstl.com

## Cortex becomes 47<sup>th</sup> St. Louis Mosaic Project Ambassador Company

The St. Louis Mosaic Project welcomes Cortex as its 47th Mosaic Ambassador Company. Founded in 2002, Cortex is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that oversees the development of the Cortex Innovation Community, a 200-acre urban hub of innovation and entrepreneurship located in St. Louis, Missouri. Founded by Washington University in St. Louis, Saint Louis University, University of Missouri - St. Louis, BJC Healthcare, and the Missouri Botanical Garden, it is one of the region's largest innovation campuses, physically designed and actively curated to accelerate high-growth startups and advance established innovative corporates. Cortex is a nationally and internationally recognized innovation hub that supports all technology sectors.

Cortex puts forth many efforts towards creating a welcoming environment for people from all backgrounds. For example, Cortex provides diversity and inclusion training for their employees and provides additional support and recognition of its diverse workforce through Employee Resource Groups (ERGs). Internally and externally, they also highlight stories of Cortex employees who are foreign-born or those that have worked abroad to encourage their staff to be globally minded.

As a Mosaic Ambassador Company, Cortex will develop their website to be more welcoming to foreign-born job applicants and post select jobs on the St. Louis Mosaic Project's website. They have also committed to become a member of local ethnic chambers to connect with business owners from diverse cultural backgrounds. In addition, Cortex will host an event for its employees to share information about Mosaic programs, such as the Professional Connectors Program and International Spouse and Mentoring Programs.

## About the St. Louis Mosaic Project

The St. Louis Mosaic Project began in 2013 under the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership and the World Trade Center-St. Louis. Its goals are to make St. Louis the fastest growing US major metropolitan area for immigration by 2025 and to increase the foreign-born regional population by 25,000. Mosaic is a public/private partnership supported by a 32member steering committee comprised of a diverse mix of regional business, civic, economic development, faith, agency, and academic leaders. For more information, visit <u>www.stlmosaicproject.com</u>.