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## Schnucks Joins the St. Louis Mosaic Project as the 20th Mosaic Ambassador Company

ST. LOUIS (June 25, 2018) – With June Immigrant Heritage Month in full swing, the St. Louis Mosaic Project is excited to announce that grocer Schnuck Markets Inc. is joining Mosaic as the 20<sup>th</sup> Silver Level Ambassador Company. Mosaic Ambassador Companies at the Silver Level engage in action items that promote diversity and inclusion in the work place. Companies joining at the Silver Level place value in maintaining an internationally welcoming work environment and agree to spread awareness of the St. Louis Mosaic Project, encourage associates to become Mosaic Ambassadors, and participate in volunteer opportunities that support international communities.

Schnucks has a storied St. Louis heritage. The third-generation, family-owned company started in 1939 in North St. Louis. Nearly 80 years later, the grocer has grown to 100 stores across five Midwestern States. Nearly two-thirds of Schnucks stores are located in the greater St. Louis area.

The company employs more than 13,000 teammates, and actively works to strengthen the communities where it does business. In 2017, Schnucks donated more than \$13 million in food to food pantries in the St. Louis region alone, and supported hundreds of nonprofits by donating more than \$1.3 million to charitable organizations.

"We are proud to join Mosaic and look forward to collaborating on efforts to not only continue to diversify our workforce, but also to support St. Louis in promoting the value that diverse cultures bring to our region," said Laura Freeman, Schnucks' Chief People Officer.

Schnucks celebrates and encourages diversity through its recently-formed Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Taskforce. The Taskforce aims to execute monthly companywide diversity awareness events, as well as play a role in helping to develop educational opportunities. In 2017, the company engaged with the Praxis Group, LLC, a strategic consulting firm led by Leon Sharpe that specializes in leveraging workforce diversity and building inclusive communities.

Schnucks is a member of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of St. Louis, and in stores with significant Spanish-speaking populations, the store offers its recruitment materials in Spanish. Schnucks teammates

who are bilingual also distinguish themselves as such, in order to help all customers with their shopping needs.

"We are very pleased to welcome Schnucks Markets to our growing group of welcoming Mosaic Ambassador Organizations. I am impressed by how Schnucks tailors its product offerings to meet the changing needs of our growing ethnic communities and the leadership team's interest in being a preferred employer among diverse candidates in our region," said Betsy Cohen, Executive Director of the St. Louis Mosaic Project.

## **About Schnucks**

Founded in St. Louis in 1939, <u>Schnuck Markets, Inc.</u> is a third-generation, family-owned grocery/pharmacy retailer committed to nourishing people's lives. The company takes pride in its community partnerships and gives more than \$13 million annually in food to food pantries and more than \$1.3 million to nonprofit organizations through the company's <u>My Schnucks Card</u> program. Privately held, Schnucks operates 100 stores in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Iowa and employs more than 13,000 teammates. Follow Schnucks on Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/schnucks</u>.

## 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