



June 23, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MCC partners with Greater Omaha Chamber small business initiative**

OMAHA, Neb. — Today, Metropolitan Community College joined a new, collaborative partnership REACH, dedicated to developing and growing the capacity and capabilities of small and emerging businesses in the Omaha area and throughout the region.

“MCC has long been dedicated to providing meaningful education to the area community and our latest partnership with REACH emphasizes that mission. MCC is committed to the development and success of both the REACH program and small and emerging businesses. We have a 40-year history of transparency, openness and collaboration on projects in the greater Omaha area and we look forward to a long, successful future,” said Jim Grotrian, executive vice president at MCC.

REACH is an innovative and bold initiative – bringing multiple entities together for the betterment of our community. Through this collaborative effort a market need can be addressed to meet the growing demand of institutional organizations with construction projects and procurement opportunities.

The initiative will be led by executive director, Winsley Durand and operated out of the Greater Omaha Chamber. The program seeks to address this market opportunity through the following:

- **Identify and increase** the number of existing SEBs in the region
- **Expand** the capacity and capabilities of SEBs
- **Recruit** new SEB-qualified businesses with scopes of work not present in the market
- **Educate** SEBs on various topics to increase awareness and access to resources and avenues of assistance, including workforce and development training

REACH partners include: the Greater Omaha Chamber; City of Omaha; Metropolitan Community College; University of Nebraska Medical Center and Omaha Public Schools.

“REACH is a true collaboration of companies working together to solve a market gap,” said David G. Brown, president & CEO, Greater Omaha Chamber. “Together we can utilize our resources to create a positive impact in our community.”

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Metropolitan Community College, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, is a comprehensive, public community college that offers affordable, quality education to all residents of Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties. Founded in 1974, MCC has the largest enrollment out of six community colleges in Nebraska and is the second largest postsecondary institution in the state. MCC serves more than 40,000 unique credit and noncredit students.