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News Release

For Immediate Release

RE: NCK SBDC recognized for excellence

The North Central Kansas Small Business Development Center (NCK SBDC) and Business Consultant Linda Sutton were honored at the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting on April 27th.

The Wichita State University KSBDC, of which the NCK SBDC is a part, has been awarded the 2011 U.S. Small Business Administration Region 7 Small Business Development Center Excellence and Innovation Award. The NCK SBDC serves 11 counties of the WSU KSBDC 23 county service area. Some of the criteria for the award included meeting or exceeding the center's performance milestones and helping build small businesses by creating and implementing innovative programs.

"Linda has been a helpful member of the group working on our Project Open entrepreneur development program," stated Dennis Lauver, CCE, president/CEO of the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Small Business Administration is divided into 10 regions, with only one center being recognized per region. The combined efforts of Linda Sutton and the other regional KSBDC staff resulted in the WSU KSBDC beating out nearly 50 other centers from its region, which includes Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and Iowa.

In February 2011, the NCK SBDC was named by Inc. Magazine "One of Americas 10 Most Helpful SBDCs." The ten centers selected out of over 900 in the United States stand out as the most active and influential small business development centers across the country – providing exceptional support for their local entrepreneurial communities. Details are available at <http://www.inc.com/articles/201102/americas-10-most-helpful-sbdc.html>

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