**Nation's Top 25 Employee Resource Groups and Diversity Councils Honored at Orlando Diversity & Inclusion Conference**

The Nation’s Top 25 Employee Resource Groups (ERGs), Business Resource Groups (BRGs) and Diversity Councils were honored at the 9th Annual ERG & Council Honors Award™ luncheon celebration today at the 2017 ERG & Council Conference at the Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center in Orlando. Taking top honors was the General Motors Employee Resource Group, followed by the Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals Inclusion & Diversity Council and the Aramark Diversity Advisory Board.

Orlando, Florida (PRWEB) October 06, 2017 -- The Nation’s Top 25 Employee Resource Groups (ERGs), Business Resource Groups (BRGs) and Diversity Councils were honored at the 9th Annual ERG & Council Honors Award™ luncheon celebration today at the 2017 ERG & Council Conference at the Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center in Orlando. Taking top honors was the General Motors Employee Resource Group, followed by the Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals Inclusion & Diversity Council and the Aramark Diversity Advisory Board.

The ERG & Council Honors Award™ is part of the annual ERG & Council Conference presented by diversity and inclusion training and consulting firm PRISM International, Inc., and its practice group the Association of ERGs & Councils. “ERGs and Diversity Councils are vital links for improving organizational results,” said Linda Stokes, President and CEO of PRISM and co-host. "Participants report that completing the application challenges them to look hard and deep at what they are doing by evaluating their efforts and then enacting adjustments that make them better. Our intent is to enable ERGs, BRGs and Diversity Councils to use this application to learn what they are doing well and how they can continue to increase their impact and effectiveness,” concluded Stokes.

In its ninth year, the prestigious ERG & Council Honors Award™ recognizes and awards the outstanding contributions and achievements of U.S. ERGs, BRGs and Diversity Councils that lead organizational diversity and inclusion processes and demonstrate results in their workforce, workplace and marketplace. Fernando Serpa, the Executive Director of the Association and last night’s co-host said, “This year’s applications represented 1,330 ERGs, BRGs, Diversity Councils and their chapters. This is by far the most competitive and exciting field to date.” The 2017 ERG & Council Honors Award™ recipients are a diverse combination of U.S. organizations representing most sectors, geographies and sizes. “We also had several non-Top 25 groups demonstrate best practices and results that deserve to be recognized,” said Serpa. “As a result, we have introduced the Spotlight Impact Award™ that highlights the achievements of these select groups in the categories of Organizational Impact, Talent Management and Culture of Inclusion.”

Award recipients included a diverse combination of corporations, governmental agencies and not for profits representing various sectors, geographies and organization sizes. The 2017 ERG & Council Honors Award™ recipients (by rank):

1. General Motors Employee Resource Group Council
2. Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals Inclusion & Diversity Council
3. Aramark Diversity Advisory Board
4. ClinicPride Employee Resource Group – Cleveland Clinic
5. Texas Instruments Diversity Network

6. Professional Women's Network Massachusetts Chapter - State Street Corporation
7. U.S. Bank Proud to Serve
8. Americas D&I Council - JLL
10. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council - Davenport University
11. Diversity & Inclusion Leadership Council - Erie Insurance
12. InspirASIAN - AT&T
13. Diversity & Inclusion - Delhaize America
14. MSAG (Military Support and Assistance Group) - Bank of America
15. Entergy Employee Resource Group

16. Froedtert Health Diversity Council
17. UNIDOS System Resource Group - Carolinas HealthCare System
18. Bon Secours Executive Council - Bon Secours Health System
19. Ricoh Diversity and Social Responsibility Council - Ricoh USA, Inc.
20. Research Quality Nutrition and Technology Diversity and Inclusion Council (RQNT D&I) - The Kellogg Company
21. Women's Initiative Network (WIN) - Enterprise Resource Group - MUFG Union Bank, N.A
22. African American Employee Resource Group (AA-ERG) - Northwestern Mutual
23. U.S. Bank Spectrum LGBT
24. SALUD - Cleveland Clinic
25. Diversity Advisory Council - Summa Health

The 2017 Spotlight Impact Award™ recipients (in alphabetical order):

CalPERS - CalPERS Diversity & Inclusion Group
KeyBank - Key Business Impact and Networking Groups (KBINGs)
NextEra Energy, Inc. - NextEra Energy Women in Energy ERG
Northwestern Mutual - Military Veterans ERG
Novant Health - Latino/Hispanic BRG
PNC Bank - Cleveland Chapter Military Employee BRG
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. - Military Virtual EBRG
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. - PNC Regional Diversity & Inclusion Council

To qualify for the ERG & Council Honors Award™, ERGs and Diversity Councils must be in operation for at least two years and have demonstrated significant contributions and achievements in four categories: Demonstrated Results; Demonstrated Management Commitment; Measurement and Accountability; and, Communication and Education. Every applicant receives their results in their complimentary Application Summary Report that provides feedback and information that will enhance their performance and increase their value to the organization they serve. This is an open application process with no cost or obligation. Membership with the Association of ERGs & Councils is not required.

The 2018 ERG & Council Honors Award application process opens in February 2018. For more information
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