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RCEDC Annual Celebration 2024 Marks Milestone: 64 Projects Secure \$1.36 Billion in Private Investment

Racine County, WI – The Racine County Economic Development Corporation (RCEDC) held its 41st Annual Celebration on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at the Veterans Terrace in Burlington from 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

The 2024 RCEDC Annual Celebration featured keynote speaker Rebecca Ryan, a noted top 50 professional futurist, economist, best-selling author, entrepreneur, and founder of NEXT Generation Consulting. Her presentation focused on the top 10 trends that will shape our communities, organizations, and society for the next 10 years.

Attendees along with RCEDC's staff celebrated the achievements of three Racine County award recipients. The three awards given out were for the Lender of the Year, Business Development Project of the Year, and the Sam Johnson Volunteer of the Year. RCEDC congratulates the following individuals and organizations for their successes in 2023:

Sam Johnson Volunteer of the Year - Steve McLaughlin

"Receiving RCEDC's 2023 Volunteer of the Year award is an incredible recognition of the impact my volunteering has had on our community. This award highlights the importance of giving back and contributing to the betterment of society through selfless acts of service."

Business Development Project of the Year - Hotel Verdant by Dominion Properties

"Hotel Verdant and Dominion Properties are honored to be recognized by the Racine County Economic Development Corp as The Business Development Project of The Year. We are proud members of the Racine community and are thrilled to be working alongside local businesses and institutions to revitalize our downtown, providing an ideal place for work and to be enjoyed by locals and visitors alike." –Michael O'Connor, Chairman - Principal of Dominion Properties

Lender of the Year - Barb Bakshis, Senior Vice President at Greenwoods State Bank

"It is a tremendous honor to receive RCEDC's 2023 Lender of the Year award, recognizing Greenwoods State Bank's dedication to supporting economic growth and development in the community through responsible lending practices."

RCEDC extends heartfelt thanks to our businesses, municipal officials, and community partners for their invaluable contributions to the success of 2023. Together, staff facilitated 64 projects, attracting \$1.36 billion in private investment, with \$1.05 billion allocated to new construction. Upon completion, these endeavors are projected to create or retain 542 jobs, further fueling economic growth and prosperity.

For more detailed information on successes and highlights from last year, the 2023 Progress Report can be accessed at rcedc.org/2024-rcedc-annual-celebration/.

About RCEDC

The Racine County Economic Development Corporation is a private, non-profit organization providing Racine County businesses with technical and financial resources for 41 years. The mission of RCEDC is to increase Racine County's property tax base and create employment opportunities.