# Diversity...It's Respect • Period



The *Greater Mankato Diversity Council's* mission is to build a community where the attitudes and actions of people foster mutual respect so all people can fully participate.

# Corporate Champion of Diversity



#### **Greater Mankato Diversity Council**

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Diversity...It's Respect • Period

The Greater Mankato Diversity Council (GMDC) exists to enhance greater Mankato's commitment to creating an inclusive and welcoming community. Through education, communication and celebration, this community-focused, community-led, non-profit organization actively affirms and promotes the full participation of all regardless of race, religion, gender, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, age, income class, marital status or national origin. GMDC serves as a resource to all and emphasizes respecting differences. It does not advocate for any particular group or individual.

#### Goals and Priorities

The GMDC's mission will be realized by focusing on the following goals:

- Build capacity in the community to proactively address issues of diversity and discrimination by celebrating differences;
- Build capacity in the community to eliminate racism and all forms of discrimination;
- Build community awareness and support for diversity among individuals, businesses and organizations; and
- Expand diversity education programs for all.

# Investor

# Diversity Impacts bottom line results

Supporting diversity is an important way to build your company/organization. In an increasingly diverse world, multicultural competence is a critical part of organizational development. Your organization can leverage diversity to achieve strategic business objectives such as:

- Create a more cohesive, productive workforce
- Gain the advantage of multiple perspectives
- Maximize the contributions of all employees
- Grow and develop talent
- Increase retention and lower turnover costs
- Enhance innovation and improve problem-solving at every organizational level
- Increase market share with relevant and effective products and services
- Positive public relations

Reaping the benefits of diversity in your business can give your organization a competitive edge.

# Your investment supports...

## Education

The GMDC will challenge stereotypes with accurate information and serve as a resource for schools, individuals, businesses and organizations.

#### **Prejudice Reduction Workshops**

Prejudice Reduction Workshops are an initiative of the GMDC and the curriculum teaches respect as its core value. The lessons are age-appropriate, research-driven, and continually evaluated and revised. During March 2005, students in grades 7 and 8 in Mankato area public and private schools participated in the Prejudice Reduction Workshops pilot program. Workshops were conducted in 47 middle school classrooms, exposing more than 1,200 students to the message of mutual respect. With the success of the pilot program, the workshops will be expanded to all grades, K-12, over the next five years.

#### **Community Outreach**

The GMDC presents to a variety of business and non-profit organizations to share and discuss diversity issues being dealt with today. See the latest Community Outreach events at www.mankatodiversity.com.

#### Resources

Video tapes and books can be checked out from the GMDC office.

## Communication

The GMDC website provides diversity information and resources for organizations and individuals. Learn more at www.mankatodiversity.com.



Management Symposium on Diversity.

### Celebration

#### **Multicultural Calendar**

The multicultural calendar is posted on the website and includes local cultural events, international observances and major religious holidays.

### **Annual Event**

The GMDC hosts an annual event to celebrate successes and plan for the future. Learn more about the annual event at www.mankatodiversity.com.



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