



PRESS RELEASE

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Missouri Main Street Community Development Coordinator Hired

Missouri Main Street Connection (MMSC) is pleased to announce Keith Winge has been hired as Community Development Coordinator to help meet the growing demand by communities across the state of Missouri looking to revitalize their commercial districts. After nearly a two month search and selection process, Keith was chosen for his professional management and leadership skills he demonstrated during his 8-year tenure as a board member and officer of Downtown Excelsior Partnership in Excelsior Springs, Missouri, and for his 20 years of experience in hospitality management.

“We are thrilled and honored to have Keith joining our team” says Gayla Roten, State Director. “His knowledge and enthusiasm will be a valuable resource for the many communities depending on MMSC’s revitalization training and mentoring services.”

Keith has worked with downtown Excelsior Springs since 2005 where he helped form the Downtown Excelsior Partnership as a board member while the General Manager of the historic Elms Hotel and Spa. He worked to build the all-volunteer organization by recruiting members and volunteers while assisting with grant writing, event coordination and marketing. He served as Vice-President and then President of the organization and helped with long range planning and organization building activities that lead to him being hired as the full-time Executive Director in 2009. As Executive Director, Keith has been affiliated with two large projects in downtown Excelsior Springs with a total redevelopment value over \$27 million – the new Villas Downtown and The Elms Hotel and Spa restoration. He also lead the charge on the newly implement downtown Community Improvement District that will fund marketing, economic development and beautification projects for the next 20 years.

Keith will assist the Director of Missouri Main Street Connection with management, administration and implementation of the statewide Main Street® program that utilizes historic preservation as an integral foundation for downtown revitalization and economic development. Winge will support the effort to maintain a consistent, quality program of services that will result in the transferances of the Main Street Four Point Approach® to communities throughout the state and will increase the potential success in all downtown revitalization activities.

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