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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SKILLSOURCE HONORS NEARLY 200 YOUNG ADULTS AND EMPLOYERS  
PARTICIPATING IN THE 2014 SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM**

**August 13, 2014** – On Wednesday, August 6, 2014, the *SkillSource* Group, Inc. (the non-profit arm of the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board, Workforce Area #11) held an Appreciation and Awards Ceremony at the Fairfax County Government Center for nearly 200 young adults and employers that participated in the 2014 summer Educating Youth through Employment (EYE) Program. The EYE initiative recruits, screens and matches young adults with summer professional opportunities with private and public employers, as well as preparing young workers for future employment through training workshops.

“The EYE program offers young adults more than just a summer job – it is an exciting, professional opportunity that allows them to explore a career path that matches their interest,” said **Todd Rowley**, the Chairman of the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board and a Senior Vice President for Cardinal Bank. “This program also provides a significant opportunity for local businesses to help build our future workforce.”

*SkillSource*, in coordination with Fairfax County’s Department of Family Services, has greatly expanded the EYE Program since its inception in 2006, with 145 young workers enrolled in the program this summer. Representatives from nearly 75 participating agencies, employers and worksites attended the Appreciation and Awards Ceremony, including the Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, George Mason University, and the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force. Representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Food and Nutrition Service, a new worksite in the program this year, and from the U.S. Department of Interior - Fish and Wildlife Service were also in attendance. Laura Barnard, Board Member of the Project Management Institute of Washington D.C., presented a contribution in the amount of \$1,000 to *SkillSource*, in recognition of the program’s continuing efforts to serve the region’s young workers.

More information on the event, including a list of all of the participating employers and worksites, can be found here: [http://myskillsource.org/home/youth\\_eye\\_sponsors.shtml](http://myskillsource.org/home/youth_eye_sponsors.shtml).

The *SkillSource* Group, Inc. and the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board serve over 1.9 million residents and thousands of businesses within the counties of Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William and the cities of Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park. For more information, please call (703) 752-1606 or visit [www.myskillsource.org](http://www.myskillsource.org).

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