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**2007 LEADERSHIP AWARDS PRESENTED BY THE
COLORADO SPRINGS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

(April 22, 2008) - The Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation presented the 2007 Economic Development Leadership Awards at the EDC Luncheon held on April 22nd at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort. Leadership Awards were given for: Community Enhancement, Economic Impact, Outstanding Community Service, and Volunteer of the Year.

A Community Enhancement Award was presented to the UCCS – College of Business. The College of Business, under the guidance and leadership of Dean Venkat Reddy, has launched several new initiatives to further connect the College to the broader business community that include the recently completed ten million dollar renovation of Dwire Hall.

The Community Enhancement Award was also presented to the Defense Mission Task Force, Sub-committee on Encroachment, for the successful initiative to halt further residential development and preclude the use of water in certain areas adjacent to Fort Carson. The protection of Fort Carson from encroachment is an important step in maintaining the presence of one of the region's largest employers.

The 2007 Economic Impact Awards for the largest positive annual impact on the funding for the EDC program were presented to Nor'wood Development Group and La Plata.

Former City Manager, Lorne Kramer, was recognized with the Outstanding Community Service Award for his support of economic development and service to the community.

Bob Cutter, Chairman of the Council for Local Industry, was recognized as the 2007 Volunteer of the Year for his contribution of over 200 hours to the Local Industry program.

A Leadership Award was presented to Steve Schneider, past Chairman of the EDC board of directors for his leadership and service to EDC.

"The recipients of these awards demonstrate the leadership and support that complements our efforts in economic development," commented EDC Board Chair, Pam Keller. "While EDC is the primary organization for business attraction and serving the needs of local primary employers, it takes the work of individuals, employers, partner organizations and our investors to make our success in job creation possible. We thank them and all those who work so hard to grow our local economy."

The mission of the Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation, a private not-for-profit corporation, is to sustain quality of life through a healthy economy. It does so by providing economic development services that result in the attraction, retention and creation of primary jobs which provide for economic diversity, replacement of lost jobs and create job opportunities for those entering the workforce for the first time. www.coloradosprings.org.