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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE *SKILLSOURCE* GROUP, INC. ANNOUNCES \$401,160 GRANT FOR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING THROUGHOUT NORTHERN VIRGINIA

December 2, 2010 – The *SkillSource* Group, Inc. and the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board announce a new Federal Labor National Emergency Grant through the Virginia Community College System totaling \$401,160. Known as the Virginia OJT Reemployment Project, this two-year grant for Northern Virginia will provide specialized employment and training services and on-the-job training opportunities for up to 52 long-term unemployed Northern Virginians. Four other workforce areas in the State will also participate in this reemployment initiative.

State officials have identified over 10,500 adults in Northern Virginia that have been unemployed for over 27 weeks. These new grant funds will be used to support local private businesses in hiring a long-term unemployed worker and will fund portions of the worker's wages during the initial training period. Smaller businesses (50 or fewer workers) will be eligible for wage offsets of up to 90%. Medium size businesses (51-250 workers) will be eligible for wage offsets of 75%. Larger businesses (251 workers or more) are eligible for the standard on-the-job wage subsidy of 50%. All of the participating on-the-job trainees will become permanent employees of the company following the training period, ranging from two to six months.

The Chairman of the *SkillSource* Group, Inc., Janet Samuelson, noted that “This new grant award will help us bring businesses and jobseekers together in a win-win effort. Long-term unemployed jobseekers will gain new skills while becoming employed. Moreover, private sector employers will gain a new committed employee with limited upfront costs”. Samuelson is the President and CEO of ServiceSource, Inc.

The *SkillSource* Group, Inc. and the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board intend to focus on multiple occupations in local businesses adding new workers, including health care, retail, hospitality and information technology. Contact the Northern Virginia Workforce Board office today at (703) 752-1606 to discuss your company's potential interest in the Virginia OJT Reemployment Project or if you need more information.

The *SkillSource* Group, Inc. and the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board represents more than 20,000 businesses and over 1.8 million residents within the counties of Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William and the cities of Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park. For more information, please visit www.myskillsource.org.

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