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MEDIA RELEASE: August 1, 2012

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

In the fall of 2010 the Region Five Development Commission received a HUD grant. The grant supports a multi-jurisdictional planning effort and will be used to build economic competitiveness throughout the region. The areas of focus are housing, transportation, economic development and land use.

Celebrate the completion of the Resilient Region Plan at the Final Meeting

Over the last two years the rural 5-county Central Minnesota Resilient Region Consortium (over 450 members) crafted a HUD/DOT/EPA Sustainable Communities Regional Plan.

We invite you to **celebrate** the completion of this inclusionary national model of <u>balanced</u> <u>economic</u>, <u>environmental & quality of place</u> vision and to commemorate the implementation achievements/ ambitions.

Guest Speakers

United States Senator Al Franken

Director, Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities Shelly R. Poticha

State Panel Discussion:

USDA Rural Development; Colleen Landkamer

Dept. of Agriculture; David Fredrickson

Dept. of Employment and Economic Development; Mark Phillips

MN Housing Finance Agency; *Mary Tingerthal* MN Pollution Control Agency; *Michelle Beeman*

University of Minnesota; *Bev Durgen* MN Dept. of Commerce; *Bill Grant*

The event will be held on August 14, 2012 from 4-7pm at The Lodge in Baxter.

Drop ins on the night of the meeting are encouraged but an RSVP to confirm your plans to attend would be appreciated and can be arranged by emailing Dan Frank at: dfrank@ifound.org

"The work that provided the basis for this publication was supported by funding under an award with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The substance and findings of the work are dedicated to the public. The author and publisher are solely responsible for the accuracy of the statements and interpretations contained in this publication. Such interpretations do not necessarily reflect the views of the Government."