FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mid-Continent Public Library Hosts Free Business Bootcamp

Library, Platte County EDC, and Northland Chamber Offer Half-Day Workshop

Platte County, MO – Mid-Continent Public Library’s Square One Small Business Services will host a Small Business Bootcamp on **Friday, March 1, from 8:30 a.m. to noon** at the Platte County Resource Center [11724 NW Plaza Cir. #400, Kansas City, MO 64153]. The half-day seminar will include talks on business plans, government contracts, funding and marketing issues, as well as the opportunity for entrepreneurs to network with local resource organizations that help small businesses.

“This bootcamp will be a great opportunity for metro entrepreneurs to not only learn a few new things but also to make valuable connections with other local businesspeople,” said Amy Fisher, who leads MCPL’s Square One team.

At 9:00 a.m., attendees will hear from featured keynote speaker Rebecca Gubbels of the UMKC Small Business and Technology Development Center who will lead a panel discussion with several local entrepreneurs, including Claude Harris of College Coaching Network, Tim Tuohy of Kansas City Canning Co., and Kristen Thomas of Open The Doors Coaching, who will share their stories of success. Following the opening panel discussion, attendees will have the opportunity to sit in on a variety of breakout sessions, including:

- **Earning the Government as Your Customer** with Michelle “Shelly” Cunningham of Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Center
- **Street-Level, Scrappy Customer Research** with Rebecca Gubbels
- **Non-Bank Business Financing** with Anthony Williams of Alt-Cap
- **Reaching Customers Online** with John Addessi of the Kansas Small Business Development Center (KSBDC) at Johnson County Community College

Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. for networking, and the opening panel will begin at 9:00 a.m. Complimentary coffee and snacks will be provided. The Small Business Bootcamp is presented in partnership with the Platte County EDC and the Northland Regional Chamber of Commerce. The program is funded by a grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. Learn more and register at mymcppl.org/SquareOne.

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Access Your World

Mid-Continent Public Library is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 31 branches and three Library-To-Go locations and serving more than 800,000 people in Jackson, Clay, and Platte
Counties. The Library strives to enrich our citizens and communities through expanding access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration. MCPL is a 2014 National Medal for Museum and Library Service winner. Connect with the Library on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Square One Small Business Services at Mid-Continent Public Library supports local entrepreneurs through access to information, programs, and opportunities during regular library business hours. Small business specialists are available to meet with business owners by appointment. For more information about Square One Small Business Services, contact a business specialist at squareone@mymcpl.org or visit mymcpl.org/SquareOne.