



**For Immediate Release**  
March 10, 2016

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**'Building a Stronger Nevada' Awards & Accolades Program  
Honors Best Practices in Economic Development Marketing  
Part of Statewide Conference Set for Reno Sept. 20-22, 2016**

**(Carson City, NV)** -- Has your company or organization raised the bar when it comes to economic development, diversification or business retention?

New at this year at the Building a Stronger Nevada Conference, set for Sept. 20-22, 2016 at the University of Nevada, Reno's Joe Crowley Student Union, is the **Stronger Economies Awards and Accolades Program** which will recognize outstanding marketing programs, tools and tactics used for attracting and retaining business.

The **Stronger Economies Awards and Accolades Program** awards excellence in print, audio visual or electronic communications as well as marketing plans that communicate, demonstrate and promote economic vitality and development for the purpose of the retention and recruitment of business and industry to a city, county, or a region.

The Stronger Economies program is a way to show-off an organization's best work, receive valuable feedback from experts in economic development and see what other communities have been doing to successfully expand and retain businesses. Entry categories are based upon community population and type of marketing platform.

The Stronger Economies Awards and Accolades Program is sponsored by *VEDC* which provides small business loans, micro-financing and business development services to communities throughout the United States. Log on [www.vedc.org](http://www.vedc.org)

The entry fee is \$50 per entry and the awards application deadline is May 21, 2016. Judging will be in June, notification in July and awards presentation is Sept. 22, 2016 during the Building a Stronger Nevada conference.

Applications and information are available online at [wndd.org](http://wndd.org) or Louise Torres at 702-407-1400 X103, [louise.torres@nv.usda.gov](mailto:louise.torres@nv.usda.gov).

***About the Building a Stronger Nevada Economic Development Conference***

*The Second Annual Building a Stronger Nevada Economic Development Conference will explore the ideas, programs and products that are defining the new Nevada economy from Sept. 20-22, 2016 at the University of Nevada, Reno's Joe Crowley Student Union. The multi-track conference is presented by the Western Nevada Development District, University of Nevada, Reno College of Business, the University of Nevada Las Vegas Center for Business & Economic Research, USDA Rural Development and the Nevada Industry Excellence. Tracks for the conference, include Agribusiness, Business /Entrepreneurship, Economic Development/Vitality, Energy, Manufacturing, Transportation/Infrastructure and Workforce Development. The \$125 cost before June 30 includes opening sessions with keynote speakers, institutes, tours and educational sessions, Exhibit Hall Reception, parking and luncheons for both days. A one-day conference pass is \$100. For further information, including registration details, log on to [www.wndd.org](http://www.wndd.org)*