



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CNECT Appoints New Director of Field Support to Strengthen Member Services

National Group Purchasing Organization Welcomes Julie Prokop to Critical Leadership Role

San Diego—Nov. 7, 2016—CNECT (formerly Council Connections), a leading national group purchasing organization (GPO), today announced the appointment of Julie Prokop as director of field support. In her new role, Prokop will share strategic guidance and industry best practices around supply chain management solutions to bolster CNECT member services. With more than 6,500 members nationally in healthcare, veterinary, social service, education and many other business and industry sectors, CNECT aims to empower its members through access to a robust contract portfolio, superior service and an extensive array of supplier partners.

“We are confident that Julie’s in-depth experience in supply chain solutions and her drive to go above and beyond for our members will continue our nearly 40-year legacy of exceptional service, helping our members further maximize their GPO benefits,” said Sparkle Barnes, executive vice president of CNECT.

With nearly 20 years of experience in managing supplier relationships and providing consulting services, Prokop most recently served as membership coordinator for Health Enterprise Cooperative (HEC), and was responsible for managing HEC’s affiliate business market with membership across 46 states. Prokop assisted in expanding HEC’s acute and non-acute presence and was a driver of supply chain efficiencies in member organizations. Her new role at CNECT will enable Prokop to apply her experience to a broader market as part of a national team.

“CNECT is well known for its exceptional collaboration and communication with members, and for delivering highly customized and strategic guidance for optimizing business operations and reducing costs,” said Prokop. “I look forward to applying my talents to this trusted organization and adding value to our members.”

For more information on CNECT, please visit www.CNECTGPO.com.

About CNECT

CNECT (formerly Council Connections) is a national group purchasing organization (GPO) that allows its members to access discounts and services specifically designed to enhance their financial strength. Through dedicated support, detailed analytics, individualized program development and training opportunities, CNECT ensures members realize the total value proposition of their GPO relationship. Founded in 1979, CNECT continues to serve as a trusted partner and valued resource to members all classes of trade, including healthcare, social service and education. Through CNECT’s affiliation with

Premier, one of the nation's largest GPOs, members have access to a comprehensive savings portfolio that includes thousands of contracts covering all aspects of purchasing.

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