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The Plexus Groupe Receives Big I Illinois Agency of the Year Award

Springfield, IL. (October 21, 2025) – Big I Illinois presented The Plexus Group of Deer Park, IL, with the Big I Illinois Agency of the Year Award in the large agency category during the association's annual convention held in Peoria earlier this month.

The Agency of the Year Award is presented to a Big I Illinois member agency that exemplifies leadership and innovation within the industry. The Agency of the Year demonstrates strong growth, innovative marketing strategies, creative utilization of evolving technology, top-level customer service, and dedication to the community.

Celebrating its 35th year in business, The Plexus Groupe has built a reputation as one of the Midwest's premier independent insurance advisory firms. Guided by its mission to "grow the finest insurance advisory firm that cares about people, builds lasting relationships, and is trusted by clients," the agency has built a culture rooted in collaboration, innovation, and purpose.

At the heart of Plexus' success is a people-first philosophy - one that extends to both clients and associates. The agency's service model focuses on partnership over policy, fostering trust through proactive communication, tailored solutions, and responsiveness that keeps clients coming back. Its commitment to professional growth is equally strong, offering mentorship, leadership development programs, and continuous education for its more than 140 full-time associates across five offices.

Innovation is another hallmark of the agency. The Plexus Groupe has embraced technology to stay ahead of the competition and team members are encouraged to explore emerging tools, ensuring innovation happens at every level.

The agency's community engagement is equally impressive. Through initiatives like school supply drives, charity tournaments, and annual fundraising events, Plexus has raised thousands of dollars for organizations including Clearbrook, Make-A-Wish, the American Cancer Society, Feed My Starving Children, and Ronald McDonald House Charities. In 2024, the agency raised more than \$20,000 for Clearbrook during its annual team event.

"The Plexus Groupe represents everything this award stands for—leadership, innovation, service, and heart," said Phil Lackman, Big I Illinois CEO. "Their commitment to their clients, associates, and community truly sets them apart."

Big I Illinois is an association representing independent insurance agents throughout the state. Big I Illinois membership is comprised of 800 insurance agencies representing 10,000 licensed independent agents engaged in all facets of the insurance industry, including property, casualty, life, and health. Its members offer customers a choice of policies from a variety of insurance companies. In addition to serving the professional needs of members, Big I Illinois works for the betterment of the insurance industry through legislative and consumer awareness programs. For more information, visit www.ilbigi.org.