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For Immediate Release

### **8(a)-Certified Consulting Firm in Raleigh Wins U.S. Dept. of Labor Contract**

*Raleigh, NC (May 2, 2016)* – The INS Group – an 8(a)-certified consulting firm dedicated to increasing the capacity of government agencies, nonprofits, and faith-based institutions nationwide – has secured a contract with the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration's Office of Apprenticeship.

"The INS Group is honored to earn this contract and to provide our project management expertise to the Office of Apprenticeship," says Founder and President [Ruth Peebles](#).

Specifically, The INS Group is:

- ▶ Supplying in-person on-site and off-site technical support related to apprenticeship issues as well as logistics and administrative services
- ▶ Providing additional capacity to the Office of Apprenticeship through subject matter/industry experts with knowledge in the content areas being addressed by the [ApprenticeshipUSA](#) Initiative
- ▶ Offering human resources to assist with meetings, prepare summary reports and documents, and general office support.

As part of the company's business plan, The INS Group wanted to target government agencies at all levels to provide strategic planning, project management, community engagement, and training services. As The INS Group expanded to new markets over the past decade, the value of certifications and business development programs for small disadvantaged businesses became more apparent.

In 2015, Ms. Peebles' persistence and the Raleigh [Procurement Technical Assistance Center](#) mentoring assistance paid off when The INS Group was certified an 8(a) participant, opening the doors of opportunity for new business only six months after being certified. Specifically, 8(a)-certified businesses can:

- ▶ Receive sole-source contracts, up to a ceiling of \$4 million for goods and services and \$6.5 million for manufacturing
- ▶ Build competitive and institutional know-how through the use of counselors and mentors
- ▶ Form joint ventures and teams to bid collaboratively on contracts, enhancing the ability to perform larger prime contracts.

"The 8(a) certification is a valuable asset," says Ms. Peebles. "It has provided a wealth of opportunity for The INS Group, and our goal is to pool the resources of other small disadvantaged businesses to pay it forward through this and other contracts."

The INS Group has extensive experience in working with city and county governments as well as the nonprofit sector and has a deep understanding of how Federal initiatives intersect with local programs. In addition, the woman- and minority-owned consulting firm:

- ▶ Uses a tailored and outcome-focused approach to its services
- ▶ Has extensive experience using online platforms and technology for training
- ▶ Has provided quality services to more than 150 agencies and organizations nationwide since launching full-time in 2005.

The INS Group's consulting services include strategic planning, program development and technical assistance, capacity building and organizational development, program review and logistical support, and facilitation. Parties interested in securing the firm's services should visit <http://theinsgroup.com/contact-us/>.

#### **About The INS Group**

The INS Group is an 8(a)-certified consulting firm based in Raleigh, NC, that's dedicated to creating innovative solutions for government agencies, nonprofits, and faith-based institutions nationwide to build their capacity and sustain their programs and services. The INS Group is committed to giving organizations a competitive edge by assessing and addressing each client's individual needs. The INS Group achieves real results, taking clients to the next level by providing comprehensive, practical tools and superior organizational-development services in the areas of strategic planning, organizational assessments, fund development planning, board development, board training on fundraising, grant writing and research, project development, resource development audits, executive coaching and marketing communications. Learn more by visiting <http://www.theinsgroup.com>.

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