FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 30, 2018

CONTACT: Kathy Lopus klopus@bcwinstitute.org 206-230-8111



87 Organizations Honored as "Certified Best Christian Workplaces"

Largest-ever number of Christian organizations in a six-month span affirms growing vital importance of healthy organizational culture

MERCER ISLAND, WA – The Best Christian Workplaces Institute (BCWI), a pioneer in equipping and inspiring Christian leaders to build a flourishing organizational culture, today honored 87 faith-based organizations as Certified Best Christian Workplaces.

"These remarkable churches, parachurch ministries, Christian schools, higher education and businesses represent triple the number of Certified organizations since 2012. The increase speaks to the growing trend of ministry organizations building a healthy-to-flourishing culture which, in turn, leads to organizational impact," says BCWI President AI Lopus.

Certified status is based on the eight key benchmarks of BCWI's "FLOURISH Model": fantastic teams, life-giving work, outstanding talent, uplifting growth, rewarding compensation, inspirational leadership, sustainable strategy, and healthy communication.

Each of the 87 Certified Best Christian Workplaces completed BCWI's groundbreaking Employee Engagement Survey, from July to December 2017. Overall, 58% were Certified out of 150 organizations surveyed. Developed in 2002, the survey has been completed by more than 300,000 employees from 925 organizations, churches and Christian-owned businesses in the U.S., Australia, Africa, Asia, Canada, Europe and Central America.

The groundbreaking, online survey is the only available resource of its kind that offers a faith-based organization a true, objective, quantifiable measure of its organizational health. All survey participants are ensured complete anonymity.

About Best Christian Workplaces Institute

BCWI is an international non-profit, research-based, organizational development and human resources consulting firm, with head offices in Mercer Island, WA. BCWI's mission is to equip and inspire Christian leaders to build a flourishing workplace.

For more information, visit Best Christian Workplaces Institute online: <u>www.bcwinstitute.org</u>. Each week, benefit from the proven, practical insights from top Christian leaders on the BCWI Blog (<u>blog.bcwinstitute.org</u>) and Flourishing Culture Podcast (<u>blog.bcwinstitute.org/podcast</u>).

The organizations honored as Certified Best Christian Workplaces from July to December 2017 are:

CAMPS & CONFERENCE CENTERS

CRISTA Camps – Seattle, WA New Life Ranch – Colcord, OK United Christian Youth Camps – Prescott, AZ

CHRISTIAN-OWNED BUSINESSES

Aspen Group – Frankfort, IL Fortis Riders – Greenville, SC Gant Travel Management – Bloomington, IN LuGreg Trucking, LLC – Kingfisher, OK

CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Calvary Christian Academy – Fort Lauderdale, FL Cornerstone Christian Academy – Sycamore, IL Heritage Christian Academy – Overland Park, KS King's Schools – Seattle, WA Seattle Urban Academy – Seattle, WA Silverdale Baptist Academy – Chattanooga, TN Wheaton Academy – West Chicago, IL

CHURCHES

Anderson Hills United Methodist Church – Cincinnati, OH Bay Life Church – Brandon, FL Bayside Community Church - Bradenton, FL Bethlehem Baptist Church - Minneapolis, MN Calvary Lutheran Church of Golden Valley - Golden Valley, MN Christ Fellowship – McKinney, TX Christ's Church of the Valley – Peoria, AZ Church of the King - Mandeville, LA Cornwall Church - Bellingham, WA Crossings Community Church – Oklahoma City, OK Damascus Road Community Church - Mount Airy, MD Faith Promise Church - Knoxville, TN Gateway Church - Austin, TX Gateway Church - Southlake, TX Grace Community Church – Tyler, TX Harvest Church - Billings, MT Newlife Uniting Church - Robina, QLD Australia Pathway Church - Wichita, KS Pinelake Church - Brandon, MS Port City Community Church – Wilmington, NC Redeemer Presbyterian Church - New York, NY River Pointe Church - Richmond, TX Seacoast Church - Mount Pleasant, SC StoneBridge Christian Church - Omaha, NE Summit Church – Durham, NC Timberline Church - Fort Collins, CO Vineyard Cincinnati - Cincinnati, OH

HIGHER EDUCATION

Azusa Pacific University College – San Dimas, CA Bethlehem College & Seminary – Minneapolis, MN College of Biblical Studies-Houston – Houston, TX Grace School of Theology – The Woodlands, TX Northwest University – Kirkland, WA Olivet Nazarene University – Bourbonnais, IL Pacific Rim Christian University – Honolulu, HI Whitworth University – Spokane, WA

MEDIA

CRISTA Media – Seattle, WA KSBJ – Humble, TX LightMelbourne – Mitcham, VIC Australia Positive Alternative Radio, Inc – Blacksburg, VA

PARACHURCH & MISSIONS

Apartment Life – Euless, TX Atlanta Mission - Atlanta, GA Bible League Canada – Grimsby, ON Canada **Buckner National Missions and Family Hope Center** Collaboration - Mission, TX Cadence International - Englewood, CO Catholic Christian Outreach - Ottawa, ON Canada Christian Veterinary Mission - Seattle, WA CRISTA Ministries - Seattle, WA English Language Institute/China - Fort Collins, CO HOPE International – Lancaster, PA Jewish Voice Ministries International – Phoenix, AZ Joni and Friends – Agoura Hills, CA Miracle Hill Ministries - Greenville, SC Mission India – Kentwood, MI The Mustard Seed - Calgary, AB Canada Novo Ministries - Oklahoma City, OK Rachel House - Lee's Summit, MO Samaritan Ministries International - Peoria, IL Scripture Union Victoria - Mitcham, VIC Australia Union Rescue Mission - Wichita, KS Upward Sports - Spartanburg, SC VisionTrust International – Colorado Springs, CO Water Street Mission - Lancaster, PA Willow Creek Association - South Barrington, IL WinShape Foundation – Mt. Berry, GA Word of Life Fellowship, Inc. - Schroon Lake, NY World Concern - Seattle, WA

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Christian Family Care – Phoenix, AZ Classical Conversations – West End, NC CRISTA Senior Living – Seattle, WA Genesis Recovery – La Mesa, CA Hafer – Evansville, IN Recovery InSight Inc. – Lancaster, PA Tennessee Farmers Cooperative – LaVergne, TN

###