

Meet Me in St. Louis

Corporate relocation specialists say St. Louis compares favorably to other regions.

An excerpt from an article written by William Poe



A new breed of professional is working hand-in-hand with local companies to make St. Louis feel like home to employees moving to the area. And it seems that St. Louis competes well with other cities for the kind of talent employers need.

Brenda R. Hampton, president of Hampton Corporate Suites, Ltd., says her clients find St. Louis is “great place to live. We can live well and cheaply here.”

Hampton and other area professionals personify a new service industry that has blossomed during the tight labor market conditions of the last few years as employers have found it more difficult to attract and retain workers.

The costs involved in employee recruitment, retention and relocation are motivation for professionals like Hampton and

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to make relocatees and new employees from other areas comfortable with St. Louis, even before they arrive.

Hampton, whose company specializes in the leasing of furnished apartment homes for periods ranging from 30 days to a few years, says she often has to find housing to fit unique needs, such as for an extended family that needs to be close to a hospital where a child is being treated or for the federal Waco investigation team that had special requirements.

Relocation professionals say St. Louis



has plenty of quality housing at affordable prices, compared to other areas.

“We have good quality and value,” Hampton says. “My goodness, I know from my contacts all over the country that St. Louis definitely offers value for the money.” ■