Brian K. Auger Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Press Contact: Lisa Bogart

Somerset County Library System

908-526-4016 ext. 188 lbogart@sclibnj.org

SCLS Awarded Economic Vitality Award

Bridgewater, NJ. December 12, 2012. – Somerset County Library System (SCLS) is being singled out this week for its contribution to the economic health of Somerset County. The Somerset County Business Partnership (SCBP) recognized SCLS with an Economic Vitality Award at the annual meeting and awards program on Thursday, December 12, 11:45 am at the Bridgewater Marriott.

The award is presented annually to recognize Somerset County organizations that have made a significant economic impact and have fostered economic vitality through job creation and retention, job training and retraining, sales growth, profitability and reinvestment; technologic advancement, and increased capital assets and influx of new dollars. In particular, SCLS is being honored for forward thinking and creativity through a program to provide resources to patrons with employment search challenges.

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Grants and funding coalesced at a critical time under the umbrella of the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) to provide support to libraries throughout New Jersey. SCLS has focused on coordinating myriad training opportunities, classes, seminars, lectures, one-on-one appointments with librarians, along with technology upgrades, through the NJWorks@YourLibrary program. Two open houses showcased the Library's capabilities, along with also highlighting the services available to job seekers from area civic and non-profit organizations.

Support from the New Jersey State Library has come via specially funded databases developed for job seekers, publicity support, and training opportunities. Staff from the State Library nominated SCLS for the SCBP award.

"We continue to hold classes, seminars and other opportunities for job seekers to gain skills, discover more about a prospective career path, and help patrons gain critical information about organizations as they seek out and interview with specific organizations. This is part of our vision for the County Library as we seek partners to enrich lives, expand knowledge and strengthen communities," noted library director Brian Auger.

Patrons with further questions can call SCLS at (908)526-4016 or visit the website at http://www.sclsnj.org. The Somerset County Library System has branches in Bridgewater, Bound Brook, Hillsborough, Manville, at the Mary Jacobs Library in Rocky

Hill, North Plainfield, Peapack & Gladstone, Somerville, Warren Township and Watchung.

The Somerset County Business Partnership serves as central New Jersey's regional Chamber of Commerce. Members and investors represent public, private and community organizations, working in partnership and dedicated to maintaining and promoting economic prosperity and quality of life in Somerset County. The Somerset County Business Partnership is an essential partner for doing business in Somerset County, and as such is the premier regional business organization in New Jersey. The Business Partnership seeks to achieve four key outcomes; public leadership, advocacy, economic and community development, and value/engagement, providing LEADERSHIP, OPPORTUNITY, AND RESULTS to the Somerset County Business Community.