**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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September 8, 2009

**ANNOUNCING THE WOODBURY ENTREPRENEUR PROJECT PROVIDING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE**
**AND**
**A CALL FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SIOUXLAND INITIATIVE'S KITCHEN INCUBATOR PROJECT**

*Projects To Keep Young People In Our Region By Providing Real Business Opportunities Through A System of Support, Financing & Business Development In Partnership With Local Colleges, Universities, & Business Leaders*
*The Siouxland Initiative Needs To Determine Public Interest In Establishing A Kitchen For Use In Developing Local Food Processing Businesses*

**SIOUX CITY, IA** – September 8, 2009 – The Woodbury County Board of Supervisors today supported the Woodbury Entrepreneur Project developed by Rob Marqusee, Director of Rural Economic Development, which is designed to promote real business opportunities for students in our regional colleges and universities. The entrepreneur project would take advantage of a broader initiative undertaken by the Siouxland Chamber of Commerce to establish an incubator kitchen for all citizens, of any age, who may want to enter the food processing business.

"We want to make a coordinated effort to provide business opportunities for our citizens – to let them know that there is a great future in establishing a business in our region that is viable and lucrative. We expect broad participation in the projects that include our schools of higher learning, experts in finance, bankers, realtors, and economic development professionals," said Marqusee.

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In May 2009, The Siouxland Initiative commissioned a study from the Food Processing Center of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln resulting in a detailed report entitled *Assessment of Successful Kitchen Incubators and Commercial Kitchens*. "The proposed facility would provide food processing, bottling, and canning services for new business ventures. Our area could support such a facility, but we need to first determine if there is an interest by the citizens of our region," said Joseph Wright, Vice-President of Technology Transfer for The Siouxland Initiative. "In order to secure the required investment, we ask that those who would take advantage of such a facility to contact my office by October 1, 2009 at 712.255.7903," said Wright.

"It is always a good thing to support the development of new local businesses in our region," said Larry D. Clausen, Chairman of the Woodbury County Board of Supervisors. "We must, as a community, support opportunities that make our area attractive for our young people – to work and prosper," said Clausen.

The projects would look to support entrepreneurship programs offered at local and regional colleges and universities: from identifying business opportunities, to providing business contacts, and to gathering support from those in the community. "We look forward to working with our economic development leaders to promote new entrepreneurs through our financing programs," said Ken Beekley, Executive Vice-President of the Siouxland Economic Development Corporation.

"While it is important to attract business to our area, it is even more important to develop businesses within our community. We have incredible resources, in our land and in our people, that should be developed to secure a prosperous future for our entire region," said Marqusee.

Woodbury County policies and press releases may be found at: www.woodburyorganics.com.
The Siouxland Initiative may be found at: www.siouxlandinitiative.com

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