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Business Impact NW to Celebrate Opening of Oregon Minority Business Development Agency Business Center, Expanding Opportunities for Underserved Entrepreneurs

Seattle, WA, 2023 – On April 6, Business Impact NW will be celebrating the grand opening of Oregon’s first—and only—Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) Business Center (MBDA). Business Impact NW is proud to host the grand opening in Beaverton and invite community leaders, resource partners, government agencies, and elected officials, giving them the opportunity to connect. Attendees will have the chance to connect and enjoy a complimentary breakfast and enjoy remarks from several guest speakers.

In 2022, Business Impact NW was awarded a federal grant to establish the Oregon MBDA Business Center and provide critical aid to underserved and underrepresented small businesses and entrepreneurs in Oregon. Business Impact NW hopes the MBDA Center will bolster opportunities for communities of color and be a powerful catalyst for minority-owned businesses to make connections and achieve their goals.

Business Impact NW CEO, Joe Sky-Tucker, shared his excitement for the opening, saying “Business Impact NW is proud to be the host of the Oregon MBDA Business Center and excited to be officially launching the program. It is a remarkable thing, bringing together our partners and the small business community in Beaverton to celebrate our Grand Opening.”

Program director Kenyatta Trice says Oregon is finally catching up with the times, explaining that small businesses are the backbone of communities, but many local organizations rarely follow up on their promises to support the growth of the small business community. “I want to see Oregon grow in the small business sector. Through the MBDA, we can be intentional with helping minority businesses gain the crucial access they need to actually grow their business.”

Through the MBDA Business Center, Business Impact NW will support minority-owned business enterprises across Oregon by providing technical assistance and capital access services, including business training, contracting and certification aid, business accelerator programs, loan readiness, networking events, referrals to local partners, and more.

Trice shares her vision for the MBDA Business Center that can unite with other Oregon agencies and organizations and work together collaboratively rather than competitively. “The Oregon MBDA Business Center is focused on strategic partnerships. We’re connectors, and the MBDA Center is making intentional connections. Many small businesses are connected by reference, not by resources. It takes a

village collectively working together to get businesses the important resources they need to grow and increase their revenue for their families and other folks coming behind them.”

About Business Impact NW

[Business Impact NW](#) is a nonprofit dedicated to serving BIPOC, women, Veteran, immigrant, refugee, LGBTQ+, and low-income entrepreneurs in the Pacific Northwest through financial services, business coaching and training.