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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BMCC's SBDC to host Prison PublicTalk at Powder River Correctional Facility

BAKER CITY, Ore. – The public will have an opportunity to visit Powder River Correctional Facility and listen to business presentations by inmates during Prison PublicTalk on Wednesday, Oct. 14, sponsored by Blue Mountain Community College's Small Business Development Center. The dinner and presentation will run from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Powder River Correctional Institution, 3600 13th Street in Baker City.

For the past three years, SBDC has worked with inmates who desire to start a business upon release from prison. In addition to assistance with business plans, SBDC officials organize public forums at the prison. This year's Prison PublicTalk dinner provides the public with an opportunity to visit the prison and hear directly from the inmates during special presentations that highlight their business plans and experiences. They'll give a business plan "pitch" and will answer questions. Prison PublicTalk is also an opportunity for inmates to connect with local business leaders and officials who can assist in their future successes. Local business and citizen involvement helps to reduce the rate of recidivism and assist in creating a safer community.

The evening's agenda includes a welcome from PRCF Superintendent Brad Cain, and a keynote presentation from Casey Bailey, a former prison inmate who, despite multiple felony convictions and years behind bars, became a manager at a fast food restaurant upon release. In addition, a panel of local leaders – including Baker City Manager Mike Kee, Behlen Manufacturing Human Resources Manager Kathy Gover-Shaw, OTEC Finance Director Anthony Bailey and Baker Calvary Baptist Church Pastor Dave Deputy – will discuss support available for inmates upon their release from prison. Department of Corrections Deputy Director Kim Brockamp will also address the group.

Admission, which includes a meal prepared by the prison kitchen staff and a beverage at Lefty's Taphouse afterwards, is just \$5. Pre-registration for the event is required, and attendees will be asked to provide a driver's license and contact information. Background checks will need to be performed prior to Oct. 13. Register online at www.infovivaevents.com/PrisonPublicTalk.

Questions? Contact SBDC Business Advisors Jeff Nelson (jnelson@bluecc.edu), Bob Savage (bsavage@bluecc.edu) or Jake Jacobs (jake@infoviva.com).

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Oregon's Small Business Development Centers are partially funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Oregon Business Development Department, and the Oregon Public Utility Commission. All services are provided on a non-discriminatory basis.

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