



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOCAL on LOCAL

America's SBDC Iowa promotes May 6 to celebrate Iowa's Small Businesses

AMES, Iowa – Small businesses are an important part of our communities. They play a central role to health and well-being of the state Iowa. To recognize the contributions of small businesses in Iowa, America's SBDC Iowa has designated Saturday, May 6 as Focal on Local Day.

On May 6, individuals are encouraged to support and shop at their local small businesses. "Small businesses are vital to Iowa and we feel that should be highlighted more," according to Lisa Shimkat, State Director for America's SBDC Iowa.

There are over 266,000 small businesses in Iowa, representing 99.3% of the total establishments in the state. Nearly half of the employees in Iowa are employed by a small business. Small businesses are the drivers of creating new jobs.

Lisa Shimkat explained, "This is a tremendous opportunity to energize cities and communities in Iowa to focus on all of the amazing local businesses."

America's SBDC Iowa employs certified business advisors, many of whom are former business owners and hold nationally- and internationally-recognized professional certifications.

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Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, America's SBDC Iowa has 15 regional assistance centers located strategically across the state. Since program inception in 1981, the SBDC has helped Iowa businesses and entrepreneurs through no fee, confidential, customized, professional business counseling and practical, affordable training workshops.

For more information on America's SBDC Iowa programs or services, call (515) 294-2030 or visit <http://www.iowasbdc.org/>, <https://www.facebook.com/AmericasSBDCIowa>, or <https://twitter.com/IowaSBDC>.



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