



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 29, 2017

Contact: Codi Spodnik (541) 773-8946

Area Startups to Compete for Cash Prize at Oak Knoll Golf Course

Medford OR – Tuesday, July 11, SOREDI's LAUNCH Southern Oregon will host a Pitch Contest at the Oak Knoll Golf Course in Ashland. The program will feature a series of 5-Minute Startup Pitches, given by area entrepreneurs. The audience favorite will walk away with a \$500 Cash Prize, sponsored by KDP Certified Public Accountants. Tickets are \$15 each, free to SOREDI Members. Ticket price includes dinner, catered by Off the Bone BBQ. Beer and wine are available for purchase at the Oak Knoll Clubhouse. Register at www.soredi.org/events.

"I hope everyone will come out to see this crop of startups," says Rick Hood, SOREDI's Venture Catalyst. Hood continues, "In the time I've been at SOREDI, I've been so impressed by the variety of passionate entrepreneurs we have in this region. From really unique personal care products, recreation and outdoor goods, to extremely complex biological innovations, it is just inspiring to watch these young companies thrive. It is always rewarding when we can showcase them and help them take the next step in their journey."

If you are thinking of starting or growing a company in Jackson or Josephine County, if you offer services to local businesses or if you've ever considered participating in building local companies as an investor, you won't want to miss this showcase. In addition to the presenters, there will be ample networking time where startup companies will be able to mix and mingle with resource providers and potential investors.

LAUNCH Southern Oregon is an initiative of SOREDI created to support startup companies in Jackson and Josephine Counties. The City of Ashland, Southern Oregon University (SOU), the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and Bank of the Cascades provide funding and direction for the LAUNCH|Talks, an ongoing series of inspirational and informative talks offered for entrepreneurs monthly. For more information on upcoming LAUNCH|Talks, visit www.soredi.org/events.

About SOREDI: SOREDI is a private, membership-based, non-profit organization, governed by a board of directors. Its seven-person staff is charged with local business expansion and new business recruitment efforts, financial assistance to

start-up companies through its business loan fund, and management of Enterprise Zones in Jackson and Josephine Counties. The agency was formed as a regional economic development agency in 1987. Learn more at <http://www.soredi.org>.