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No More Empty Pots Launches Sixth Entrepreneurship Invitational

Omaha, Neb. | August 13, 2021 – Food-focused entrepreneurs interested in starting and growing businesses in the shared use kitchen at the No More Empty Pots’ Food Hub may compete to earn seed money by participating in the Sixth Entrepreneurship Invitational. Learn more at www.nmepomaha.org/invitational/.

The informational session for the Sixth Entrepreneurship Invitational will be held virtually on Saturday, August 21, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. During the session, entrepreneurs will be guided through the stages of preparation and pitching for the competition. Throughout the invitational process, entrepreneurs will receive coaching to develop successful business plans and presentations to earn seed money and develop their business ideas.

In 2020, eight entrepreneurs pitched their businesses. After three rounds of successive pitches, Easton Galindo of Lean MEals earned the top seed money of \$2,000 for her business. Anthony Horner of Fermented Felon was awarded \$1,500 and Rahim Sanders of Cleanse the Beverage was awarded \$1,000 for their outstanding business plans and pitches.

“Now in its sixth year, we continue to be excited to support and guide courageous emerging entrepreneurs taking bold steps to launch and grow their businesses. Together, we are building a supportive and resilient ecosystem,” said Nancy Williams, President and CEO of No More Empty Pots.

No More Empty Pots Food Hub is based on a system of interdependent activities that deliver positive outcomes in job training, workforce readiness, food waste reduction, equitable healthy food access, income generation and business development. The Food Hub programs support youth and adults in cultivating educational and career pathways. The programs are designed to recognize participant strengths and talents and provide access to resources needed to succeed in the workplace, grow small businesses and become self-sufficient – leading to economic resilience.

Since the opening of the Food Hub, No More Empty Pots has built on the success of proven models. The shared-use commercial kitchen available for rent, by the hour, is similar to [LaCocina](#), an incubator program in San Francisco. Currently, 17 food entrepreneurs are actively renting the space to start and grow unique businesses serving the Greater Omaha area and Heartland region.

NMEP food entrepreneurs rent the commercial kitchens at below market rate allowing them to start food businesses without the immediate financial burden of opening their own space. The commercial kitchens give entrepreneurs the opportunity to improve their products and processes while building their business in a supportive environment. Through the incubator membership, entrepreneurs learn that a successful business is more than just a good recipe. Members of the incubator program have access to a series of business-focused workshops covering everything from food safety and legal topics to food photography and search engine optimization. Additionally, membership gives access to market and retail opportunities as well as networking and individual mentorship.

About No More Empty Pots

No More Empty Pots (NMEP) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to connect individuals and groups to improve self-sufficiency, regional food security and economic resilience of urban and rural communities through advocacy and action. NMEP’s vision is to support communities in becoming self-sufficient, and food

secure through collaboration and adherence to our core values of education, stewardship, and sustainability. NMEP serves youth to seniors providing educational, hands-on and experiential learning. Learn more at www.nmepomaha.org or email info@nmepomaha.org.