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Heart of Wisconsin Community Incubator to Receive WEDC Grant

Madison- The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) has awarded the Heart of Wisconsin Community Incubator \$17,000 to help train Wood County Jail inmates the skills of entrepreneurship through educational classes and mentoring.

“From my own experience previously as the Jail Discharge Planner at the Wood County Jail I know that the best way to break the cycle of incarceration and dependence on publicly funded programs is education and employment. For every dollar spent on prevention through education we tend to save ten times that or more. In the years that this programming was offered to inmates in Wood County we were able to effectively reduce recidivism enough to save close to \$1 Million on avoided costs. It has been my intention to replicate these programs as far and wide as we can in the State, said Rep. Scott Krug, (R-Nekoosa).

“It is important that we continue to fund educational, employability and other reforms for those in the publicly funded institutions and programs in Central Wisconsin and the rest of the State of Wisconsin. I look forward to more opportunities to improve employability for those overlooked in our workforce.”

The grants are being awarded as part of WEDC’s Entrepreneurship Support Program, which is now in its second year. The grants will help fund activities that promote entrepreneurship or deliver education, training and other resources to assist new and aspiring business owners. More than 400 entrepreneurs are expected to receive services through a wide variety of initiatives.

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