



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPER RECEIVES NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL CERTIFICATION

Primghar, Iowa, August 5, 2020 – On August 5, 2020, Kiana Johnson, Executive Director of O'Brien County Economic Development Corporation, received certification as an Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP) from the National Development Council (NDC). EDFP Certification is a professional credential given to individuals who successfully complete NDC's intensive economic development finance training series. The training provides individuals working in the field of economic development with instruction in business credit analysis, real estate financing, loan packaging, deal structuring and negotiating and the creation and implementation of development programs.

Each of the four EDFP Certification Program courses are five days in length and concludes with an exam. Upon successful completion of all four courses, the candidate is awarded EDFP Certification.

Kiana Johnson has served as executive director of O'Brien County Economic Development Corporation (OCEDC) since May of 2005. Ms. Johnson has a background in accounting, having earned her BA in accounting from Buena Vista University in 2001. In her current position, Kiana's focus has been on providing gap financing to O'Brien County businesses as well as growing the county's agriculture and tourism sectors. During her time at OCEDC, Kiana Johnson has been instrumental in growing the county Revolving Loan Fund to its current status of just over \$2.2 million.

NDC's work focuses on HOMES, JOBS and COMMUNITY. Founded as a national nonprofit in 1969, NDC has worked for 46 years at fulfilling its mission to increase the flow of capital for investment in low-income communities. NDC directs capital to support the preservation and creation of affordable housing, the creation of jobs through training and small business lending and the promotion of livable communities through investment in social infrastructure. NDC's products and services are deployed for the benefit of our municipal and nonprofit partners in both urban and rural low-income communities.

The logo features a stylized green circle on the left containing a white road that curves upwards towards a white sun-like shape. To the right of this icon, the word "O'BRIEN" is written in a large, bold, black serif font, followed by "COUNTY" in a smaller, black serif font. Below "O'BRIEN COUNTY", the words "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION" are written in a smaller, black, all-caps serif font.

O'BRIEN COUNTY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

NDC has provided training to over 70,000 professionals working in the fields of economic and housing development. Participants come from diverse backgrounds including city and state governments, public agencies, community-based organizations, professional organizations and banks.

NDC is headquartered in New York City with offices in Washington, DC, Seattle, WA, Cleveland, OH and Edgewood, KY. For more information about NDC, please visit: www.ndconline.org/.

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