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Department of Administration announces investment in Southern Wood County's Tribune Community-led Effort

MADISON –Secretary-designate Joel Brennan today announced \$3,000,000 to invest in a community-led effort to transform the 25,000 square foot former Daily Tribune building into an entrepreneurial support center, job training facility and dynamic community hub. This project represents the culmination of nearly two decades of work identifying and addressing local workforce gaps, economic development needs, and associated quality of life issues. More than 2,000 residents participated in a multi-year planning process to design the facility and plan the program uses.

“The State of Wisconsin is proud to partner with the residents of Southern Wood County to create jobs, retain talent and build a community hub for neighbors to come together”, said Secretary-designate Brennan. “This project leverage’s all of our resources to invest in the people of Wisconsin in a way that the community has directed.”

“This is exciting and welcome news for our community! Entrepreneurs and startups are searching for much-needed support and services,” said Kristopher Gasch, Director of Marketing at Fey Printing and Board Chair of Incourage. “Simultaneously, attraction and retention of employees is a challenge for many local businesses, including ours. The Tribune Building provides both, while serving as a model for how communities, businesses, and individuals can work together to build strong regional economies.”

“The Tribune project is a smart investment in Rural Wisconsin,” said Gordon Crow, Executive Director, Centergy, Inc. “Workforce, education, and economic development organizations are co-locating, working together with residents, and innovating to leverage local assets in pursuit of economic opportunity and sustainable growth for not only this region, but also the entire state. We will work with Governor Evers’ administration and the legislature to realize this important project”.

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