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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Carroll Community College Will Lead Small Business Development Effort

Westminster, Friday, October 30, 2015 – Carroll Community College will be partnering with Carroll County Government to help small businesses and start-ups to grow and develop. With funding from Carroll County Government's Path program, the college will take the lead on small business development. This initiative will build upon existing county resources and partnerships, and will start on November 1, 2015. The initiative builds upon a long history of providing intensive small business training and support services for entrepreneurs.

"Carroll County is primarily comprised of small businesses, such as home-based businesses, Main Street proprietors and thriving small business owners throughout our community," said Board of Carroll County Commissioner Dennis Frazier. "We recognize the significant fiscal and job-creation impact of small business development in the local economy. Each business is a unique contributor to our economic landscape and we want to do everything we can to support their growth and success. This new initiative effectively leverages federal, state and local resources to ensure small businesses can start-up, launch new products or services, improve operations, expand market share and increase profits."

Dr. James D. Ball said: "This is an important initiative that unifies the resources and services provided in the county to support small business start-up and growth. We are grateful to receive support from Carroll County Government and look forward to expanding our efforts in this arena."

Vice President of Continuing Education and Training Karen Merkle said: "The college is uniquely positioned to lead the small business development efforts of the county. As an early adopter, Carroll Community College is among the community colleges in Maryland that are fully engaged in providing educational resources to small businesses and entrepreneurs."

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CARROLL COUNTY

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Carroll County Director of Economic Development Jack Lyburn said: “The small business landscape is very dynamic and complex. Small business owners need all of the strategic help that they can get to start-up and adapt their operations to accommodate new growth. I look forward to the exciting results that the college will be able to attain as this new initiative develops.”

The new initiative will fully integrate existing small business services of the college’s Miller Center for Small Business with the SBDC and the County’s Carroll Business Path resources to maximize impact on new business growth. Building upon existing partnerships with Economic Development, the Chamber of Commerce and the Carroll Technology Council will further expand services to small businesses.

Business owners that have small business training needs should contact Libby Trostle, senior director of Workforce Training and Business Services, at 410-386-8113 or email ltrostle@carrollcc.edu.

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Note to the Media: This is a joint press release between Carroll Community College and the Carroll County Board of Commissioners. For best response to inquiries, please contact Sylvia Blair at 410-386-8411 or email sblair@carrollcc.edu, or Deborah Lundahl at 410-386-2043 or dlundahl@ccg.carr.org.