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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 5, 2021

**Application Period Open
for GEDA Qualifying Certificate Community Contribution Grant Program
for Workforce and Entrepreneurship Development**

(Tamuning, Guam) The Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA) has opened its application period for the Qualifying Certificate Community Contribution (QCCC) Grant Program Series 3. The program will provide grant funding up to \$50,000 per award to non-profit organizations (NPOs) and Government of Guam departments or agencies toward eligible projects and programs with an emphasis on workforce and entrepreneurship development. This grant funding is provided by the Qualifying Certificate Community Contributions from the Guam Regional Medical City and TNN Guam dba Tsubaki Hotel.

The grant application period opens February 05, 2021 and closes on February 26, 2021 at 5:00pm.

The focus of Series 3 is on projects that aid in the re-training of unemployed or underemployed persons or development of new small businesses. Since the start of the QCCC grant program, GEDA has distributed \$600,000 to 56 of non-profit organizations (NPOs) and Government of Guam departments/agencies for projects falling into one of seven (7) categories: (1) health care, (2) public safety, (3) higher education, (4) cultural preservation, (5) tourist attractions, (6) sports tourism, or (7) economic development.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted our workforce with those in tourism being the most vulnerable. We focused this series of funding on programs to address skill development needs for our workforce and those transitioning from unemployment to employment or to being a small business owner," stated Melanie Mendiola, CEO/Administrator. "GEDA's Taking the Leap Conference last year indicated the desire for more information to spur economic growth for both employees and businesses. GEDA's goal is to create community partnerships to build career pathways while further strengthening our industries."

GEDA will be accepting grant applications online or in-office. For more information on the QC Community Contribution Grant Program, interested applicants are encouraged to visit the GEDA website at www.investguam.com/qc-grants or contact our Grant Coordinator at qcgrants@investguam.com.

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