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Media Release: Whyalla Small Businesses to Benefit from Free Financial Mentoring Program

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Small businesses in Whyalla are set to benefit from a new initiative aimed at providing expert financial guidance and support. The *Whyalla Financial Advice Mentoring Program*, managed by Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula (RDAEP), is now open for registrations—offering local businesses free access to experienced financial services mentors.

The program is supported through the Small Business Fundamentals Program, an initiative of the Government of South Australia’s Office for Small and Family Business and the South Australian Small Business Strategy 2023-2030.

Minister for Small and Family Business Andrea Michaels MP said, “We know that small business owners are feeling the impact of the current uncertainty in the region.

“That’s why we are providing this essential mentoring service, free of charge, to help businesses overcome challenges, build their financial capability and gain the confidence they need to manage their operations.”

The fully funded program allows eligible Whyalla businesses to participate in up to three one-on-one mentoring sessions, tailored to their individual needs and goals. The program is designed to assist businesses in improving their financial health, enhancing performance, and setting a clear path for future growth.

Businesses taking part in the program can select from two highly experienced mentors:

- Michael Tarin from RSM Australia, who brings extensive expertise in financial management, business advisory, and strategic planning.
- Martin Pike from Blue Jam, an accomplished business advisor specialising in business performance, growth strategies, and operational efficiency.

These mentoring sessions will offer participants the opportunity to work closely with their chosen mentor on challenges such as financial planning, cash flow management, profitability, and strategies for sustainable growth.

Mentoring is a proven tool for supporting small businesses, offering practical advice and guidance from experienced professionals who have worked across a range of industries. By working with a mentor, businesses gain a fresh perspective on their operations, access industry insights, and develop strategies to overcome challenges and achieve their goals.

For many small businesses, particularly in regional areas, accessing tailored financial advice can be difficult and costly. This program bridges that gap, offering Whyalla businesses the chance to build their financial capability, strengthen their decision-making, and boost their confidence in managing and growing their operations.

RDAEP CEO Ryan Viney encouraged Whyalla businesses to take advantage of this valuable opportunity, stating:

“This service is a fantastic opportunity for local Whyalla businesses to access expert financial mentoring, helping them work towards achieving their future business goals. Whether a business is looking to navigate financial challenges, plan for growth, or simply gain a clearer understanding of their financial position, this program provides tailored support at no cost.”

Interested businesses can register by completing a short online survey, available on the RDAEP website. Registrations are open now, and places are limited, so businesses are encouraged to apply early.

For more information and to register, visit <https://www.rdaep.org.au/economic-programs/business-support/small-business-fundamentals-program/>

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