

# BEDFORD COUNTY

DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

P E N N S Y L V A N I A

ONE Corporate Drive \* Suite 101 \* Bedford, Pennsylvania 15522

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Local Business Owner Completes National Training

**Bedford, PA** -- Sara Letzo, co-owner of 10/09 Kitchen, recently joined 146 entrepreneurs from 38 states to graduate from a national program designed to help create jobs and stimulate economic opportunity.

The Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program provides greater access to education, capital and business support services. Commencing in February 2017, the 11-week program blended intensive online and face-to-face training from business experts and peers.

“The quality and quantity of education that we received in such a brief period was inspiring, mind-opening and powerful,” noted Letzo. “I can’t imagine a small business owner who would not benefit from this amazing program. I am very excited to incorporate the tools and techniques that we learned into our day-to-day business. “

The small businesses in Letzo’s group represented \$174 million in revenues and over 3,000 jobs from a broad range of industries including manufacturing, construction, retail, services and non-profit organizations.

The program is highly participative. It emphasizes peer-to-peer and experiential learning and focuses on the participants’ businesses. “These business owners represent the best of the US economy and this program helps them grow their businesses, create new jobs and strengthen our communities. Nearly 70% of participants increase revenues and 50% create new jobs just six months after graduating,” stated Babson Professor Richard Bliss, National Academic Director of Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses.

Campus training took place at Babson College in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Babson has partnered with Goldman Sachs on this program since 2010. The 10,000 Small Businesses program has graduates from over 8,000 businesses located in 50 states, Washington DC, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the UK.

Doug Gerber, Chair of the Bedford County Development Association, commends Letzo on her efforts. “Sara is a creative and tenacious entrepreneur who has a seeking mind and is always willing to learn. She’s an inspiration to other Bedford County entrepreneurs as we work together to grow our economy.”

To apply for the *10,000 Small Businesses* business and management education program, please visit [www.10KSBapply.com](http://www.10KSBapply.com).

For more information, contact:

Sara Letzo, Owner/Business Manager  
10/09 Kitchen  
P: (814) 623-1130  
E: [sara@1009kitchen.com](mailto:sara@1009kitchen.com)

Bette Slayton, President  
Bedford County Development Association  
P: (814) 623-4816  
E: [slayton@bcda.org](mailto:slayton@bcda.org)

### **About 10/09 kitchen**

Nick and Sara Letzo first dreamed of having a restaurant together on their very first date. Since the June 2013 opening of 10/09 kitchen, named for their wedding anniversary, this upscale restaurant in downtown Bedford, Pennsylvania has been the top-rated restaurant in the area, offering a creative variety of elevated dishes, along with craft cocktails and a quality wine list.

### **About Goldman Sachs *10,000 Small Businesses***

Goldman Sachs *10,000 Small Businesses* is based on the broadly held view of leading experts that greater access to this combination of education, capital and support services best addresses barriers to growth for small businesses. *10,000 Small Businesses* is guided by an Advisory Council on which Babson President Kerry Healey serves and is co-chaired by Goldman Sachs chairman and CEO Lloyd C. Blankfein, Bloomberg L.P. founder, president and CEO, and 108<sup>th</sup> Mayor of the City of New York Michael R. Bloomberg, Berkshire Hathaway chairman and CEO Warren Buffett, and the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City's Dr. Michael Porter. The National Urban League and the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce are also represented on the Advisory Council, among other groups.

### **About Babson College**

Babson College is the educator, convener, and thought leader for [Entrepreneurship of All Kinds](#)<sup>®</sup>. The top ranked college for entrepreneurship education, Babson is a dynamic living and learning laboratory where students, faculty, and staff work together to address the real-world problems of business and society. We prepare the entrepreneurial leaders our world needs most: those with strong functional knowledge and the skills and vision to navigate change, accommodate ambiguity, surmount complexity, and motivate teams in a common purpose to make a difference in the world, and have an impact on organizations of all sizes and types. As we have for nearly a half-century, Babson continues to advance [Entrepreneurial Thought & Action](#) as the most positive force on the planet for generating sustainable economic and social value.