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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NURTURING EXPRESSIONS NAMED AS SEMI-FINALIST FOR EDG3 FUND GRANT

Seattle, WA – Nurturing Expressions is honored to have been selected as a semi-finalist for the 2015 edg3 FUND Competition, sponsored by Kitsap Bank. The competition recognizes entrepreneurs dedicated to growing the community economically, socially, and environmentally, with the winner being awarded a \$20,000 grant for its growing business. Sixteen local businesses were selected as semi-finalists, with a popular vote and independent judging panel determining the top five finalists. The edg3 FUND competition coincides with the opening of Nurturing Expressions' second permanent retail store and support center, located in downtown Poulsbo.

Founded in 2004 by Tracy Corey, RN, IBCLC, CFM, Nurturing Expressions is a unique durable medical equipment and wellness provider that offers families convenient, affordable access to breast pumps, breastfeeding support, and more. After providing these services in Seattle for more than a decade, Ms. Corey recognized this same need in Kitsap County, motivating her to establish a second permanent location in Poulsbo. The opportunity to share her knowledge and experience with Kitsap is both personally and professionally rewarding for Ms. Corey, a North Kitsap High School graduate and part-time Kingston resident: "Families deserve better access to pumps and support in Kitsap and we're here to provide it. I'm thrilled to return to this community I grew up in because it's my home." The Poulsbo space will include a retail store, breast pump purchases and rentals, lactation and fitting rooms, compression therapy garments, mastectomy bras and prostheses, community meeting spaces, and more.

As a semi-finalist in the edg3 FUND Competition, Nurturing Expressions has the opportunity to be awarded the \$20,000.00 small-business grant. This contribution would be essential in giving the Poulsbo location the momentum it needs to be the successful resource envisioned for the Kitsap community. The \$20,000 grant would be used for setup costs for the new space, the purchase of an energy-efficient automobile for our mobile delivery service, scholarships for breastfeeding education services, and pro bono services and supplies for new mothers, breast cancer survivors, and senior citizens facing financial hardship.

The edg3 FUND Competition voting period extends until 5:00pm on September 30. Community members are encouraged to visit the website at www.kitsapbank.com/edg3-fund-voting/ to review the business applications and cast their vote for their favorites. The top five finalists, as determined by popular vote and an independent panel of judges, will present their pitches live at the Kitsap Conference Center on November 12. The Poulsbo branch of Nurturing Expressions is scheduled to open to the public November 2 with an open house to follow in the coming weeks.

More information can be found at www.nurturingexpressions.com. Questions and comments can be directed to christine@nurturingexpressions.com.