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THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR FOOD PROTECTION RECEIVES \$3.8 MILLION GRANT TO CREATE GLOBAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND COLLABORATION NETWORK

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., May 1- The National Center for Food Protection (NCFP) today announced that it has been awarded a \$3.8 million, 3-year grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to support the NCFP's efforts to create a global food protection resource development and collaboration network. Positioned at the intersection of government, academia, the food production and processing industries, and the public, the NCFP will serve as a catalyst for the advancement of food protection by facilitating the exchange of information, generation of new ideas, and acceleration of the development of applications and processes to enhance the safety of the global food supply.

"By connecting food safety professionals and scientists, our aim is to influence policies and practices that will advance food protection, said Stephen Benoit, President and COO. "We are extremely grateful for the support of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation as its generosity will enable us to make great strides toward realizing our overarching goal of improving public health," Benoit added.

The NCFP will use the grant funds to advance three strategic initiatives: the **International Food Protection Training Institute** (www.ifpti.org), which is delivering career-spanning, standards-based food protection training for state and local food protection officials; the **Emerging Technology Accelerator**, established to advance the development of novel food protection technologies; and the **Global Food Protection Symposia**, which will be convened with the aim of exchanging knowledge and generating new ideas regarding policies and practices within the food protection community.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an estimated 76 million illnesses, 325,000 hospitalizations, and 5,000 deaths occur annually in the U.S. due to food pathogens; and about one of every four Americans will develop a foodborne illness each year.

About NCFP

The National Center for Food Protection (NCFP) is a global food protection resource development and collaboration network serving as a catalyst for the advancement of food protection. The NCFP's strategic initiatives include the **International Food**

Protection Training Institute (www.ifpti.org), established to deliver career-spanning, standards-based food protection training for state and local food protection officials; the **Emerging Technology Accelerator**, established to advance the development of novel food protection technologies; and the **Global Food Protection Symposia**, convened to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and generation of new ideas regarding food protection policies and practices.

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