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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Maryland entrepreneur set to speak at the University of Chicago SAGE Dining Services'® Tina Rodriguez to take part in EnvisionDo's GastroConference

Lutherville, MD (April 11, 2013)-Despite the recent ups and downs of the economy, everyone wants to live the American Dream. At some point in our lives, we may have come up with what we believed was a great idea but didn't know how to turn into reality.

That is the focus behind **EnvisionDo** and this year's **GastroConference** being held at the University of Chicago on April 13th, where Tina Rodriguez, CFO and Co-Founder of Maryland-based **SAGE Dining Services®**, will be among the highlighted speakers. This year's conference will focus on the restaurant/food service industry. EnvisionDo asked Ms. Rodriguez to take part in this year's conference because she has helped build and establish SAGE Dining Services® as a sustainable leader in the marketplace.

EnvisionDo strives to help students see their potential, and turn dreamers into budding entrepreneurs by providing access to industry mentors, training, and opportunities to pitch to investors. "No company starts at the top. You work your way up, building and growing your business and meeting people along the way that support your vision," says Rodriguez. "We began as a small company. We had drive and determination, running SAGE out of the basement of our Baltimore City home."

According to *Entrepreneur Magazine*, entrepreneurship plays a vital role in the growth of the U.S. Economy. Small business is how America grows. There are more than eight million small businesses across the country hoping to make it big.

"As entrepreneurs we had an idea. We developed a plan and turned it into reality," says Rodriguez. "We got four schools on board and they gave us a chance. We refused to give up, gave it our all, and built a business that now represents nearly 200 schools across the country." Rodriguez, who also serves on the board of Common Market Philadelphia, will discuss the importance of sustainability in the industry, including using local vendors, the farm to table concept, and the difficulties that arise with owning and running your own business.

About SAGE Dining Services®

SAGE Dining Services®, established in 1990, is the leading food service provider for independent schools and colleges throughout North America. SAGE's unparalleled expertise in nutrition, sustainability, and culinary trends produces exceptional dining experiences that delight the senses, inspire minds, and foster community. Learn more at sagedining.com.