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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Mary Ann Dziak Named Director of the Wilkes University SBDC

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. – Mary Ann Dziak has been named the new director of the [Small Business Development Center at Wilkes University](#). Dziak is responsible for overseeing the consulting and education services to small businesses in Carbon, Columbia, Luzerne, Schuylkill and Sullivan counties.

“We welcome Ms. Dziak to the statewide network of Pennsylvania SBDCs, and we look forward to having her as part of our leadership team,” said Pennsylvania SBDC State Director Christian Conroy. “SBDCs play a vital role in supporting their local economies and we are very excited to have a connected community leader such as Ms. Dziak join our ranks,” he added.

“Ms. Dziak emerged as the top candidate from over 40 candidates for the Small Business Development Center Director position,” said Jeffrey Alves, professor of entrepreneurship and dean of the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership at Wilkes University. “The search committee believed that her management experience working in the grant-funded, not-for-profit area, her experience with small businesses, and her knowledge of the social and economic opportunities and challenges of the region made her the best choice for this challenging role.”

Dziak brings over 20 years of diversified and progressive business management and leadership expertise to her new role. Prior to her appointment at the Small Business Development Center, she was chief executive officer and executive director of the Greater Pittston YMCA and director of the Lackawanna College Hazleton Center. Dziak is the former deputy director for field operations at Pathstone Corporation, Scranton; a business consultant, project manager and partner in La Marja, Inc., Hazleton; chief professional officer and executive director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeastern Pennsylvania; and manager and national program development specialist at Kidspace National Centers in Wilkes-Barre.

Dziak is an adjunct faculty member and on the faculty advisory committee of the Center for Adult and Continuing Education at Misericordia University in Dallas, Pa. She serves on the CAN BE Economic Development advisory board and is a member of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business & Industry; the Carbon County Chamber of Commerce; the Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce; the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce; the Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce Women’s Network; the President’s Advisory Council at King’s College; and the President’s Alumni Advisory Council and Business Department Advisory Board at Luzerne County Community College. She is also a former member of the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce board of directors and Lackawanna County Women’s Commission, and former vice president of the Executive Association of United Way Agencies and the Scranton Kiwanis Club. She received a Master of Science in Organizational Management from Misericordia University and bachelor’s degrees in human resources management and psychology from King’s College, Wilkes-Barre.

SBDC Locations

Bucknell University  
Clarion University  
Duquesne University  
Gannon University  
Indiana University  
of Pennsylvania  
Kutztown University  
of Pennsylvania  
Lehigh University  
Lock Haven University  
Penn State University  
Saint Francis University  
Saint Vincent College  
Shippensburg University  
Temple University  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Scranton  
The Wharton School,  
University of Pennsylvania  
Widener University  
Wilkes University

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**About Pennsylvania Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)**

*The Pennsylvania SBDC network is the only statewide, nationally accredited program that provides high quality one-on-one consulting, training and information resources to empower new and existing businesses. SBDC consultants work with entrepreneurs in confidential, individualized sessions to help them with a range of business issues including testing a new business proposition, shaping a business plan, investigating funding opportunities, and much more. The SBDC program is a public/private partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and 18 universities and colleges across the Commonwealth. For more information on the Pennsylvania SBDC services and impact, please visit [www.pasbdc.org](http://www.pasbdc.org).*