Pennsylvania SBDC Network Launches into Global Entrepreneurship Week 2013

PHILADELPHIA – Over the next five days, the Pennsylvania Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) network will be hosting more than 25 events and seminars as part of their participation in Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), an initiative of the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation running from November 18-24, 2013.

Across Pennsylvania, SBDCs will host events for entrepreneurs and small business owners including topics such as: what it takes to start a business, social media tactics, app development, mobile and credit card tools, business financing and more. Registration and more details on these low-fee educational programs can be found by visiting www.pasbdc.org/events.

This year, the Penn State Small Business Development Center (SBDC) was recognized nationally for registering the highest number of events leading up to GEW through video address by GEW President Jonathan Ortmans. Penn State SBDC is leading Penn State’s GEW coordination efforts which include more than 45 events in conjunction with partners from around the University involving students, professors and SBDC consultants.

“We congratulate Penn State SBDC and all of the other centers in our network who continue to shine a light on Pennsylvania’s start-up economy as part of Global Entrepreneurship Week,” said Pennsylvania SBDC State Director Christian Conroy. “Each year, roughly fifty percent of SBDC clients are start-ups who are looking to launch their business, and for over 30 years, the SBDCs have been there to help,” he concluded.

(MORE)
The Pennsylvania SBDC is the only integrated statewide network that is a direct channel of services to help aspiring entrepreneurs in all 67 counties of the commonwealth unlock their potential and turn their dreams into thriving businesses. Each year, hundreds of new businesses are started with assistance from the SBDC.

Independent analysis of SBDC start-up services has demonstrated that these services are highly effective. In fact, more than 75% of new businesses started with SBDC assistance are still in business after five years, a success rate that is 20% greater than the survival rate for other companies that start without SBDC assistance.

GEW is the world’s largest celebration of the innovators and job creators who launch startups that bring ideas to life, drive economic growth and expand human welfare. This year, GEW will hold more than 40,000 events worldwide in more than 140 countries.

The Pennsylvania SBDC network is proud to participate in GEW 2013 to promote business start-up growth and entrepreneurship in Pennsylvania. To follow the GEW conversation on twitter, be sure to follow @gewusa and @pasmallbusiness and use #GEW.

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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).