



PRESS RELEASE

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SUBJECT: Mayor Mike Bell to proclaim May 25th SCORE Day in Toledo.

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As part of National Small Business week (May 24th), SCORE is being recognized for their outstanding impact on the Toledo economy through their work with local entrepreneurs.

For 45 years, SCORE has served Northwest Ohio as a free business counseling and advice service for existing or start-up small businesses. SCORE is a nonprofit association, and a resource partner with the Small Business Administration. The Northwest Ohio Chapter of SCORE has 40 volunteer counselors, with offices in Toledo and branches in Archbold, Bowling Green, and Port Clinton.

Northwest Ohio SCORE fulfills one of our community's most pressing needs, helping individuals become independent and responsible citizens. SCORE counselors are trained volunteers who donate their time and business expertise to help people, many of whom are women or minorities, who want to start their own business. SCORE counselors also stand ready to counsel existing small businesses that need help to remain viable and continue to provide employment in our area. The ripple effect of these new and/or continuing businesses is immeasurable. In the fiscal year ending September 2009, NW Ohio SCORE volunteers provided 1311 total counseling services, including 14 free workshops attended by 335 individuals.

SCORE provides a tremendous value to Toledo's economy. The Small business Administration estimates that one in seven SCORE clients creates a new job. According to Chapter President Phil Fittante, "SCORE helps small business owners start up, stay in business and keep Toledoans employed. SCORE has a proven track record of both creating and saving jobs by improving small business survival rates and accelerating small business formation."

For more information about SCORE, or to arrange an interview with one of our counselors, call either contact above. It is the mission of SCORE to provide resources and expertise to maximize the success of existing and emerging small businesses.