



For Immediate Release:

GREATER CINCINNATI SCORE NAMED ONE OF TOP CHAPTERS FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW!

Cincinnati, O., --April 23, 2008— For the third year in a row, the Greater Cincinnati SCORE Chapter 34 (www.scoreworks.org) was named one of the top chapters in the country during the U.S. Small Business Administration's Small Business Week 2008 activities. Recognition of Greater Cincinnati SCORE's achievements began in 2005 when the chapter was named National Chapter of the Year. In the two subsequent years—2006 and 2007, the chapter has been a national finalist.

The SCORE Chapter of the Year recognizes those chapters whose volunteer counselors have exceeded high standards for counseling small business clients. This includes expanding counseling offerings, community outreach, and programs that benefit local small businesses.

In addition to the Greater Cincinnati Chapter, the Akron SCORE chapter was among the finalists. Atlanta SCORE received top honors as the 2007 national chapter of the year.

SCORE chapters must submit reports demonstrating positive growth and increased services from the previous year, business plans from the past two years and a narrative describing chapter activities, business and/or community involvement and the uniqueness or creativity of its program or activities.

Highlights from the Greater Cincinnati SCORE Chapter 2007 report:

- ✓ Total Client Contacts: 4141—a 26% increase over 2006
- ✓ Seminar Attendees: 634—an 8.9 % increase over 2006
- ✓ Volunteer Hours: 7908—a 57.9% increase over 2006
- ✓ Counselor Effectiveness*:
 - 95% of the local SCORE clients said SCORE counselors were helpful to them in their quest for help and information.
 - 20% of the local SCORE clients launched a new business

- 22% of the local SCORE clients avoided failure as a result of the SCORE counseling process
- 45% of the local SCORE clients elected to do more planning before launching their business a result of their SCORE counseling
- 24% of the local SCORE clients decided to make changes or expand as a result of their SCORE counseling

(* Results from a client satisfaction survey. Totals may exceed 100% as some respondents selected more than one choice)

About SCORE:

Since 1964, SCORE “Counselors to America’s Small Business” has assisted more than 7.9 million aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners through counseling and business workshops. Nationally, more than 10,500 volunteer business counselors in 389 chapters serve their communities through entrepreneur education dedicated to the formation, growth and success of small businesses.

Greater Cincinnati has an active chapter, known as “SCORE Chapter 34” which covers Southwest Ohio, Northern Kentucky, and Southeast Indiana. Its approximately 70 volunteer members is comprised of both working and retired executives and business owners who donate time and expertise as free business counselors.

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