



TUSCARAWAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chris Abbuhl – Al Landis – Joe Sciarretti

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Commissioners Contribute to Small Business Development Center

During Wednesday's Commissioners Meeting on July 10, 2019, the Tuscarawas County Commissioners approved a \$3,000.00 contribution to the Small Business Development Center (SBDC). According to Steve Schillig, Director of the SBDC, the \$3,000.00 donation generates \$10,000.00 in funding from the Small Business Administration. With the mission to accelerate business success in the area, the SBDC offers a wide variety of different services, counseling, and courses on entrepreneurship and business growth. These services include meeting with clients, counseling hours, access to loans and capital resources, and 30 different workshops. Some of these workshops include, classes on QuickBooks, social media, international trade, taxes, and business startup. In the first nine months of this fiscal year, the SBDC has worked with 75 different clients, assisted with 6 business startups, provided access to over 1.5 million dollars in loans and 1.3 million dollars in capital, and offered 30 different programs with over 631 attendees. As director of the SBDC, Steve Schillig also assists with planning the annual Women in Business Expo.

Commissioner Abbuhl noted that previous Boards have been supporters of the SBDC and the current Board continues that support of the SBDC and its work in Tuscarawas County. Stating that as a community we are only as strong externally as we are internally, Commissioner Abbuhl noted that the work the SBDC does strengthens the local economy, which in turn helps the regional and state economy. According to Commissioner Landis, small businesses are the backbone of Tuscarawas County and Ohio, and the SBDC not only helps with new businesses, but also assists current businesses in the community. Commissioner Sciarretti echoed the sentiments of Commissioner Abbuhl and Commissioner Landis, adding that he appreciates Steve Schillig for being such a positive force in the community.