



INFORMATION SERVICE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Novi to host Small Business Administration Expo

Wednesday, March 16 from 10 a.m. to noon.

NOVI, Mich., February 18, 2005 – All small business owners and those thinking about starting a small business are invited to attend a Small Business Administration Expo on Wednesday, March 16 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Novi Civic Center, located at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. According to the Small Business Administration, more than 95% of Michigan businesses fall into the “Small Business” category, with maximum size standards varying by industry.

Hosted by the City of Novi, the complimentary event will feature representatives from a variety of organizations offering information on valuable resources, including loan guarantees, streamlined financing programs, and more. Organizations represented will include:

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) – The SBA offers guarantee loan programs, government contracting programs, counseling and training to assist small businesses. The goal of the Michigan District Office is to create an environment within Michigan where small business can grow and prosper. Last Fiscal Year, the Michigan District Office guaranteed 2,050 loans worth more than \$469 million. The loans ranged from \$5,000 to \$2,000,000.

SCORE Services – SCORE is a nationwide organization of active and retired business men and women who volunteer their services to assist small businesses and entrepreneurs. SCORE provides free business counseling and offers low-cost workshops on a variety of business topics

Small Business and Technology Development Center Services – The Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center network is a partnership program of Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University, the Small Business Administration and regional and local hosts. The regional host that provides services for Oakland County is Eastern Michigan University.

Walsh Family Business Center – The Walsh Family Business Center serves as a catalyst for business growth in southeast Michigan and provides educational services

and a unique set of business resources geared specifically for those who own and manage family businesses. Through a comprehensive learning community including educational forums and seminars, networking and web-based resources, Walsh College and the four business sponsors offer their extensive experience and proven track records in counseling and supporting a multitude of family business scenarios, from investment and estate planning, to business succession and tax issues. The Walsh Family Business Center sponsors are Derderian Kann Seyferth and Salucci, Standard Federal Bank, Seymour Gill Financial and Raymond & Prokop.

Following the program, attendees will have the opportunity to visit one-on-one with representatives from all organizations, as well as network with other businesses in attendance.

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