

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 8, 2015

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## Mid-Columbia Tri-Cities SCORE Year End Numbers Reach Record Levels

**Kennewick, WA** – Mid-Columbia Tri-Cities SCORE today received their year-end report that showed the Chapters official year end numbers for 2014/15:

- 6,726 people mentored
- 4,218 volunteer hours
- 184 workshops
- 41 businesses successfully started
- 157 non-owner employees hired
- 204.8% overall growth
- #1 in State of Washington for overall performance
- #1 in Nation with 92% client mentor scoring average

"This has been a remarkable year for us. We have mentored thousands and seen great results with businesses being launched growing communities in all areas we serve," says Mahler. The Mid-Columbia Tri-Cities SCORE Chapter currently provides resources and mentoring services in 15 counties covering three states, (Idaho, Oregon, & Washington), making it the largest Chapter in the country geographically.

"We were laughed at when we set a goal to mentor more than Seattle. We were ignored when we said it was possible to reach our goals on such a limited budget. We did it because the people who volunteer, care more about the success of the region and the dreams of small business owners in the areas we serve, than they do about anything else both personally and professionally," says Mahler. According to the SCORE National report, the Mid-Columbia Tri-Cities SCORE Chapter contributed to 50% of the total mentoring done in the State of Washington. The State of Washington finished ranked #1 in the nation for largest turnaround and overall growth performance at just under 42% on the year.

Since 1964, SCORE has helped more than ten million aspiring entrepreneurs. Each year, SCORE provides small business mentoring and workshops to more than 375,000 new and growing small businesses. More than 11,000 business experts volunteer as mentors in 320 chapters serving local communities with entrepreneur education to help grow one million small businesses annually.

For more information about starting, operating, or growing an existing small business, call to schedule an appointment with a Mid-Columbia Tri-Cities SCORE mentor at **509-735-1000 Ext 235** or visit Tri-Cities SCORE at <a href="https://www.midcolumbiatricities.score.org">www.midcolumbiatricities.score.org</a>.