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First-ever "Start Your Business" Social Media Campaign Helps New Companies Launch in Just 6 Weeks

Burke, VA – Would-be entrepreneurs are about to have one more way to start living the dream of owning their own business as America's SBDC and small business expert Rhonda Abrams launch the Six-Week Start-Up Campaign on March 17. Through social media outlets Twitter and Facebook, the campaign will provide entrepreneurs with information, advice, and resources they need to get started.

"We hope we'll have helped created hundreds – if not thousands – of new businesses," said Charles "Tee" Rowe, president of America's SBDC. This is an excellent way to reach more small businesses and startups."

Approximately 1,000 Small Business Development Centers provide no-cost business consulting and training and reaches more than million small businesses each year, creating and retaining 158,000 jobs.

The Six-Week Start-Up Campaign begins on March 17 and was inspired by the recently released third edition of Abrams' bestselling book, *Six-Week Start-Up*. This edition includes dozens of free startup resources as well as step-by-step guidance to start a business in just six weeks.

"SBDCs are the best kept secret weapon for small businesses," Abrams said, referring to her own experience as a former SBDC client. "I know how valuable their expertise is and it's free. SBDCs continue to make a huge economic impact in this country every year – they really are on the front lines helping entrepreneurs create jobs and access desperately-needed capital to start and grow."

Throughout the six-week period, anyone who hopes to start, run, or grow a business receives daily guidance, worksheets, and links to free resources. Through Twitter and Facebook, they'll be encouraged to tell their own story and become an inspiration to others. Local Small Business Development Centers will be available to provide one-on-one assistance and support.

Those who want to start on their own entrepreneurial journey can follow:

- Twitter: #6wkstartup, #ASBDC, @RhondaAbrams
- Facebook: www.Facebook.com/RhondaAbramsSmallBusiness, www.facebook.com/ASBDC and local SBDC Facebook pages

For more information on America's SBDC or to find a Small Business Development Center near you, go to www.asbdc-us.org. For more information on PlanningShop and the Six-Week Start-Up Campaign, visit www.PlanningShop.com/SixWeekStartUp.

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About America's SBDC Program: America's SBDC (Small Business Development Center) Network is a partnership uniting private enterprise, government, higher education and local nonprofit economic development organizations. It is the Small Business Administration's largest partnership program, providing management and technical assistance to help Americans start, run and grow their own businesses. Learn more at www.asbdc-us.org.

About PlanningShop: PlanningShop is America's leading publisher of content on entrepreneurship, business planning and small business. Their best-selling books and software have helped more than a million entrepreneurs start and grow businesses. PlanningShop is headquartered in Redwood City, CA.