**-------------NOTICE------------**

**Below is a copy of the national press release that the Association will be sharing regarding the SBDC Day initiative. Please feel free to share this release via a newswire service, via email or post on your website. You are welcome to edit the contents to create your own version (except for the quote from Tee Rowe). We strongly encourage you to include quotes from your local stakeholders, clients or anyone that has helped your local SBDC be the success it is today.**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**
**March 21, 2018**

**America’s SBDCs Host 2nd Annual SBDC Day March 21st**
Small Business Development Centers Around the Country Celebrate Their Impact on Small Businesses

**Burke, VA** –For nearly 40 years the America’s Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Network has helped aspiring and emerging small business owners achieve the American dream of entrepreneurship. This March SBDCs from around the country are coming together for one special day to celebrate their impact on the success of our nation’s dreamers, innovators and doers – America’s small businesses.

With nearly 1,000 locations across the country, SBDCs provide local businesses and entrepreneurs with the resources needed to succeed. In 2016, America’s SBDCs provided 1.24 million hours of consulting to 188,602 client businesses, resulting in 96,095 jobs created; $6.4 billion in sales growth; $5.16 billion in capital investments; and 17,174 new businesses started.

To celebrate the collective impact and success SBDCs have across the nation and in local communities each year, America’s SBDCs are hosting the second annual SBDC Day on March 21. SBDC Day is a national movement to help share the small business success stories and notable impact SBDCs have fostered in communities nationwide.

“It’s great to see SBDCs, their clients and supporters come together to celebrate SBDCs and their amazing clients. With SBDC support small businesses around the country raised over $5 billion in capital and created nearly 100,000 jobs,” said Charles “Tee” Rowe, President & CEO of America’s SBDC.

To learn more about SBDC Day, and to join the movement, visit <http://www.americassbdc.org/SBDCDay>.

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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.americassbdc.org](http://www.americassbdc.org).