

The UTPB SBDC, led by Tyler Patton, has significantly impacted the West Texas business landscape since its start in 1987 when it served only 50 clients and helped open two businesses. Today, it interacts with over 300 clients and trains 600 more annually, launching over 40 businesses each year and achieving an average of \$20 million in capital formation annually. Over its 36-year history, it has helped establish 1,377 businesses, create over 6,100 jobs, and facilitate nearly \$250 million in capital.

In 2023, the center's client survey revealed a 97.3% satisfaction rate, with 97.4% rating counseling knowledge highly and 96.8% finding the counseling useful. All clients, 100%, would recommend the services to family and friends.

The UTPB SBDC collaborated with the West Texas SBA District Office during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing timely support and hosting business seminars across a 16-county service area. Annual events include the National Small Business Week Award Luncheon and National Veteran Small Business Week celebrations. The center also promotes participation in initiatives like the THRIVE Program and SBA Lender training sessions.

From October 1, 2022, to September 30, 2023, the UTPB SBDC served 512 unique clients, surpassing its goal of 285 by 179.65%. The center opened 43 businesses, 226.32% above its goal of 19, and reached \$13.52 million in capital infusions, more than doubling its target. It also supported 2,317 jobs, exceeding its goal of 1,029 by 225.17%, and hosted 34 training events with 612 attendees.

For every dollar invested by the SBA, the center generated \$93.27 in capital infusion. The cost per counseling hour was only \$57.11, and the cost per unique client counseled was \$283.20. A new job was created for every \$449 invested by SBA funding.