

## **SCORE CPA Success Story – February 22, 2011**

### **People Centre'D on Diabetes**

Forms a Community Awareness Organization with help from SCORE

Diabetes is a rising epidemic throughout the United States. The number of people diagnosed with diabetes has increased almost four-fold in the last 25 years and the number continues to increase at an alarming rate.

Central Pennsylvania is no exception - diabetes is affecting more and more residents and placing an ever-increasing strain on patients, their families, health care professionals and community services ... but there is hope.

In the Centre Region of Pennsylvania a new organization has been formed to address the issue from a community level. People Centre'D on

Diabetes (PCOD) was formed by a group of Centre County residents with a common interest in improving the lives of friends and neighbors living with or at risk of diabetes. According to its President, Sue Trainor, "Our group is composed of people with diabetes, family members of those with diabetes, health care providers and other community members with an interest in the growing epidemic of diabetes in central Pennsylvania."

Trainor pointed out that, "PCOD believes improving health is not just the prerogative of health care professionals, but must be the responsibility of all. Diabetes is a community issue and tackling the challenges of diabetes requires, needs a community effort."

As noted in their charter, community empowerment is PCOD's mission and their goals are focused on educating people about diabetes and facilitating activities in the community so individuals and institutions enable those with diabetes to live well, and help prevent others from becoming diabetic.

SCORE Central Pennsylvania (SCORE CPA) Chapter 618 assists area entrepreneurs and small business owners in a four-county area with information on managing their business challenges. SCORE volunteer counselors provide confidential, free face-to-face and email counseling. Last year, SCORE provided services to over 270 small business owners and people interested in starting a business.

John Vincenti, SCORE Chapter Chair and Counselor to PCOD said Sue Trainor and Jane McDowell applied to SCORE with the intent to develop and submit an IRS 1023 application form for a not-for-profit 501(c)3 educational organization. Vincenti said PCOD was well organized and had already incorporated within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. "Their application was prepared by several individuals within PCOD that addressed each section by their expertise from organization issues to educational program development."

PCOD met with SCORE for several months and used several different ways to communicate, from face-to-face and email interactions and even the U.S. mail. PCOD members with SCORE reviewed each section of the IRS 1023 application until PCOD was satisfied with it and formally applied.

"With SCORE CPA's assistance our submission to the Internal Revenue Service was received, reviewed and approved within three months of application," noted President Trainor. "Without SCORE's assistance and attention to detail we definitely would not have received the approval in such a short time."

Since 1964, SCORE has helped more than 8 million aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners through counseling and business workshops. More than 11,000 volunteer business counselors in 384 chapters serve their communities through entrepreneur education dedicated to the formation, growth and success of small businesses. For more information about starting or operating a small business, call SCORE Central Pennsylvania at 814-234-9415. SCORE CPA can be found on the Web at [www.scorecpa.org](http://www.scorecpa.org) or nationally at [www.score.org](http://www.score.org).

**PCOD's website is <http://www.pcod.info>**