

Ask SCORE

RESOURCES TO HELP WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS SUCCEED

According to the 2017 State Of Women-owned Businesses Report, <http://about.americanexpress.com/news/docs/2017-State-of-Women-Owned-Businesses-Report.pdf>, commissioned by American Express, women-owned businesses now account for nearly 40 percent of all companies in the United States. With the increase in the number of women-owned firms a whopping 114 percent (compared to the 44 percent increase among all businesses) from 1997 to 2017, it is evident women entrepreneurs are a powerful force within the U.S. economy.

Some helpful resources exist to help female entrepreneurs as they start and grow their companies. Several to have on your radar include:

National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO)

NAWBO is a dues-based organization that represents the interests of all women entrepreneurs in all industries and across the nation. Local chapters can be found across the country, <https://www.nawbo.org/about/find-chapter>.

Women Who Start Up – Radio Podcast

Hosted in Denver, Colorado, these podcast episodes deliver inspiration and insight from successful women business owners on a variety of topics, <https://www.womenwhostartup.com/>.

Association of Women's Business Centers (AWBC)

AWBC <http://awbc.org/>, is a national nonprofit that supports and sustains over 100 Women's Business Centers throughout the United States. The centers provide training, mentoring, business development and financing opportunities to over 140,000 women entrepreneurs each year.

United States Small Business Administration (SBA)

The SBA has online guides, <https://www.sba.gov/business-guide>, to help entrepreneurs plan, launch, manage and grow their businesses. The organization also provides a number of funding programs, <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs>, including loans, investment capital, surety bonds, disaster assistance and grants.

SCORE

SCORE has a section of its website devoted to women entrepreneurs, <https://www.score.org/content/women-entrepreneurs>. You can find a variety of resources there including webinars and articles about overcoming business challenges and funding opportunities. SCORE also offers free mentoring to entrepreneurs at its over 360 chapters across the United States and via phone, email and video call (Skype and Google Hangouts).

Walker's Legacy

Walker's Legacy, <https://www.walker-slegacy.com/>, is a global platform for professional and entrepreneurial women of all cultures. The organization provides training programs, multimedia content, and special events to empower and inspire. Walker's Legacy is also partnering with SCORE, connecting women entrepreneurs with mentors who can help guide them through startup and business management challenges.

If you or a woman you know has dreamed of starting a business or is striving to grow an existing one, consider tapping the expertise and tools the above organizations offer. A good place to start is by contacting SCORE TriCounty to talk with a mentor who can help you assess your needs and plan your next steps.

Since 1964, SCORE "Mentors to America's Small Business" has helped more than 10 million aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners through mentoring and business workshops. More than 11,000 volunteer business mentors in over 320 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, contact SCORE TriCounty. You can call 610.327.2673, email tricity@scorevolunteer.org or visit the website at www.tricity.score.org.

The Pottstown Rotary Club Wants You!



You are cordially invited to make new friends and business contacts, while engaging in fun activities designed to serve our community.

This is your opportunity to grow your business and your circle of friends, and help make your community a better place to live and work.

Join us at 6:30 on Wednesday evenings at Brookside Country Club for a delicious meal, camaraderie, and a Rotary meeting where we plan and execute projects to improve the community.

- *Meaningful community service projects*
- *Fun social activities*
- *Important business connections*
- *Deep and lasting friendships*
- *Opportunity to learn about our community*

**Call Bill Wellen at
484.886.5396 to learn more!**



www.pottstownrotary.org