

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MERRIMACK VALLEY SCORE CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO THE SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE SMALL BUSINESS
COMMUNITY**

On December 13th, the Merrimack Valley Chapter of SCORE will hold an invitation-only Dinner Gala at the Derryfield Country Club in Manchester, capping a year-long celebration of the chapter's 50th year of serving the Southern New Hampshire small business community with free, confidential, one-on-one mentoring, training workshops and a vast array of online resources. The chapter will honor the many volunteer mentors, clients and SCORE partners that have served the chapter over the past five decades. In addition, the winners of two business competitions will be announced, with \$18,000 in prize money to be awarded.

Merrimack Valley SCORE was chartered on November 1, 1967, one of the first chapters of SCORE, a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration. Among the chapter's achievements during its 50-year history are:

- Client sessions held – 46,614
- Volunteer mentors – 588
- Volunteer hours – 195, 237
- Workshops held – 788
- Workshop attendees – 9,061
- New business started – 8,467
- New jobs created – 9,020

During its most recent year, Merrimack Valley SCORE accomplished the following:

- Clients served – 964
- Client sessions held – 1,670
- Volunteer hours (mentoring only) – 2,285

- Volunteer hours (total) – 11,415
- Workshops presented – 33
- Workshop attendees – 928

The above statistics for last year were achieved with a total of only \$5,500 in government funding.

Merrimack Valley SCORE's 50th Anniversary supporting partners include TD Charitable Foundation, Orr & Reno, Melanson Heath and the SCORE Association.

The Merrimack Valley Chapter of SCORE, which covers Nashua, Manchester, Concord and the surrounding areas, has approximately 55 current and former business executives available to provide free, confidential, one-on-one business counseling and training workshops for area start-ups and existing businesses. Call 603-666-7561 or visit merrimackvalley.score.org for information on mentoring, upcoming workshops and volunteer opportunities.