



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

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Menasha Businessman Wins Wisconsin SBA 2005 Financial Services Champion Award

Menasha: **Kent Nelson**, president of QuickStart, Inc. located at 1981 Midway Road in Menasha, has won SBA's 2005 Financial Services Champion award.

QuickStart, Inc. offers business plan assistance, financing assistance, small business consulting and QuickBooks consulting services. They specialize in helping businesses obtain financing for their business by preparing a business plan, educating their clients on understanding the financial aspects of their business and the lending process. They also help small businesses determine what options there are for financing their business and help them apply for any grants that may be available.

Kent was the only employee when he started his business in 1998 and offered one service, QuickBooks consulting. In 2001, the business was incorporated and has grown to five employees. QuickStart, Inc. offers their services primarily throughout northeast Wisconsin but are currently expanding into other areas across Wisconsin.

Kent helped establish the Outagamie County Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) in March of 2003. He worked closely with the Outagamie County Planning Department and the FCCoC to fund the RLF through a Community Development Block Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Commerce. Due to Kent's efforts, future businesses in Appleton and throughout Outagamie County can use the RLF to help finance their business.

Over the past three years, Kent has volunteered over 100 hours of his time speaking at various seminars and educational classes and assisted approximately fifty small businesses to obtain financing for starting, expanding, purchasing, and/or refinancing their business. He has met with and provided valuable free materials and advice to over 400 people, at no charge. These people were looking to start or grow a small business and were not clients of QuickStart, Inc.

Kent believes that owning and operating your own business is one of the most exciting and challenging undertakings an individual can do in their life. He believes that everyone who chooses to pursue owning their own business should be as prepared as they can be to help ensure their success. This is the reason he started QuickStart, Inc. and has dedicated his life to helping small business owners through the services he offers.

Kent will be honored at the SBA/SCORE Awards Presentation Breakfast on Friday, May 20, 2005 at the Milwaukee Marriott West in Waukesha. For more information on the awards breakfast, please contact Mary Trimmier at (414) 297-1093 or email her at mary.trimmier@sba.gov.

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