



HAWAI'I SBDC NETWORK AWARDS



OUTSTANDING PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The National Association of Management and Technology Assistance Centers (NAMTAC) selected the RETA-H Program for its 1999 Outstanding Project of the Year Award for Economic Development.



HAWAI'I STATE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

In 1998, the Hawai'i SBDC Network received the Hawai'i State Award of Excellence. This award is based upon and affiliated with the Malcolm Baldrige National Award for achieving high quality, world class excellence in operations. The Hawai'i SBDC Network is the only SBDC in the nation to have received a comparable award.



ACCREDITATION

In 2002, the Hawai'i SBDC Network was accredited by the Association of Small Business Development Centers under a rigorous program required by the U.S. Congress. The SBDC Program is the only economic program with an accreditation requirement.



SBA REGIONAL MINORITY ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Robert Chase, Ph.D. received the 2001 Minority Advocate of the Year Award for the state of Hawai'i and SBA Region IX, which includes the states of Arizona, California, Nevada and Hawai'i. This is a highly competitive award and was won by Chase for his work as the program director of the Rural Economic Transition Assistance-Hawai'i (RETA-H) program.



SBA REGIONAL FINANCIAL ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Darryl Mleynek, State Director of the Hawai'i SBDC Network, received the SBA's Financial Advocate of the Year Award for 2000 for the state of Hawai'i, as well as Region IX. Mleynek was recognized for his leadership of the Hawai'i SBDC Network and its accomplishments in the economic development of Hawai'i. Specifically cited was the \$24.9 million in annual economic impact for the previous year that resulted from the activities of the Hawai'i SBDC Network.



SBA MAUI COUNTY MINORITY ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD

In 1998, David Fisher, Maui Center Director, received the Minority Advocate of the Year Award for the County of Maui. His citation included not only his extraordinary contribution to his clients, but also his service on the Governor appointed and Senate confirmed Community Based Economic Development Advisory Council.



SBA KAUA'I COUNTY FINANCIAL ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD

In 1997, Randy Gingras, Kaua'i SBDC Center Director received the Financial Advocate of the Year for the County of Kaua'i. The award cited his uncommon dedication to his clients and the results he achieved in working with them, especially in helping them obtain financing for their businesses. It also noted his contribution to the development of the Hawai'i Community Loan Fund.



SBA HAWAI'I COUNTY MINORITY SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Constance Cate, East Hawai'i Center Director received the Hawai'i County Minority Small Business Advocate of the Year Award for this year. Cate has worked with a large, ethnically mixed group of diversified agricultural businesses and also brings services to communities from Honoka'a to Naalehu."



SBA KAUA'I COUNTY FINANCIAL ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Haviland Wright, Kaua'i Center Director received the Kaua'i County Financial Advocate of the Year Award for this year. Wright was noted for his experience and expertise making him a valued asset for the small business community on Kauai.