



**Contact:**  
Vince Vicari  
973-417-2173

## AMERICA'S SBDC RECOGNIZES SBDC BUSINESS LEADERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

### *SBDC Regional Director at Ramapo College of New Jersey Receives "State Star" Award*

**September 6, 2017** (Mahwah, NJ) – America's SBDC "State Star" award was presented to Regional Center Director Vincent Vicari of NJSBDC at Ramapo College of New Jersey during America's SBDC national conference in Nashville, Tennessee (September 4-8).

Each of the 50 state SBDC networks nominates their staff members who exhibit excellence in assisting entrepreneurs and small businesses, promoting greater opportunities for growth, thereby, contributing greatly to the state and national Small Business Development Center program. Vicari was recognized from New Jersey's SBDC.

*"We recognize Vincent Vicari for his strong efforts and leadership in assisting small business owners and entrepreneurs who seek help with their business operations,"* said Brenda B. Hopper, NJSBDC network chief executive officer and state director. *"The Center provides quality support for its business clients and also delivers specialized assistance for veterans."*



*Regional Center Director Vincent Vicari of NJSBDC at Ramapo College of New Jersey was named the recipient of America's SBDC "State Star" award for his outstanding work with Bergen County entrepreneurs and small business owners is seen here listening to Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno at a recent business expo for Hispanic small business owners.*

*"We are grateful for Vince's leadership at the Center,"* said Anisfield School of Business Dean Ed Petkus of Ramapo College, located in Mahwah, NJ. *"We are extremely proud to have our Center's Director recognized at the national conference of America's SBDC. His strong passion to help business owners leads to great results. He has made our Ramapo Center and its services very visible throughout Bergen County."* The Anisfield School of Business is AACSB accredited.

*"Vincent Vicari's contributions to the statewide Small Business Development Centers program are appreciated,"* said Deborah Smarth, NJSBDC network chief operating officer and associate state director. *"His diligence with small business owners and his strong advocacy with various public and private stakeholders in the Center's service region add value to our program."*

*"I am honored to receive this recognition,"* said Vincent Vicari, regional director of the NJSBDC at Ramapo College. *"Providing advice and guidance to small businesses to help them develop and grow is rewarding. The staff of regional centers statewide and the support by*

*NJSBDC Headquarters enhances the program's impact. The success of our clients statewide illuminates NJSBDC's success, also."*

Vince Vicari is a Bergen County native who joined the NJSBDC network in 2008 as assistant director. He was appointed as Center Director a few years later. Vicari's successful and wide-ranging career includes positions in retail management, sales, food service, higher education and consulting. His credentials include an M.B.A. from National University in San Diego, a B.A. from William Paterson University, and an A.A.S. from Bergen Community College. Mr. Vicari continues to pursue education in specialized areas like land surveying, tax, technology, and international trade. He has many years of teaching experience as an adjunct faculty member at four-year higher education colleges/universities in the area of business management and has co-authored and published academic papers in this field.

### **About America's SBDC New Jersey (NJSBDC)**

The New Jersey Small Business Development Centers network, one of the first pilot projects in the nation, has provided comprehensive services and programs for small business in New Jersey for 39 years; SBDC experts help businesses expand their operations, manage their growth, or start new ventures. Expert staff and practicing business consultants help small business owners and entrepreneurs to develop business plans, find financing, accounting and financial analysis, identify new markets, initiate marketing strategies, find procurement and international trade opportunities, learn green sustainability practices, commercialize technology and develop an E-commerce presence. This non-profit network, a federal-state-educational partnership, leverages funding from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), the N.J. Business Action Center, the educational institutions that host the 12 centers as well as other private sponsorships and additional private/public grants. The NJSBDC Headquarters, located at the Rutgers Business School in Newark, NJ, oversees the network which is an accredited member of the national network of America's SBDC. Up to 1,000 centers and satellite offices serve small businesses across the country, generating jobs, new businesses and economic development. Visit [www.njsbdc.com](http://www.njsbdc.com).

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