



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, over the past 17 years in the United States, small businesses have created over two-thirds of all new jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, roughly 25 million start-up companies in the United States have no employees; and

**WHEREAS**, SSN Small Business and Nonprofit Development Group (SBND) is training and educating committed start-up entrepreneurs, as well as helping to create revenue streams for their companies; and

**WHEREAS**, primarily located in economically distressed communities, these start-up companies are contributing to the economic turnaround of these communities, in part through generating tax revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, SBND is working to achieve its mission in collaboration with sponsors and supporters such as the following: Presbytery of Chicago's Committee on the Self-Development of People, West Point Missionary Baptist Church, Chicago State University's Illinois Small Business Development Center, Dante L. Mosely, Vice President of Business Development, Hyde Park Bank, University of Chicago's IJ Clinic on Entrepreneurship, Fifth Third Bank-Hyde Park Financial Center, Chicago Bee Branch of the City of Chicago Public Library, Yvonne Orr, United Way, Chief Professional Officer/South-Southwest Suburban Region, Continuing Education Department of Harry S. Truman College, Genesys Unique Kreations, John Porter and Resources Plus; and

**WHEREAS**, on Monday, April 16, 2012, SBND will host its Premier VIP Network Reception and introduce its comprehensive plan to provide strategic organization development education, mentoring support, and financial sponsorship grants to help grow start-up businesses and grassroots nonprofit enterprises.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that I, Toni Preckwinkle, President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, do hereby express my gratitude to SSN Small Business and Nonprofit Development Group for living up to their faith in entrepreneurs by providing guidance and financial support to these individuals, and do hereby urge all residents, prominent executives and professional executives of Cook County to invest in the success of start-up and small businesses and nonprofit enterprises.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Toni Preckwinkle".

**TONI PRECKWINKLE**, President  
Cook County Board of Commissioners