

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Local Disability Tech Startup Selected as an American Small Business Champion by SCORE

**[Minneapolis, MN]– 6/1/2018** A Minneapolis-based tech business which assists organizations facing ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) lawsuits, founded and operated by digital experts who live with disabilities, [WeCo Accessibility Services \(WECO\)](#), has been named a winner of The 2018 American Small Business Championship by [SCORE](#). SCORE is the nation's largest network of volunteer, expert business mentors. The competition is being sponsored by [Sam's Club](#).

WECO was selected for this honor based upon the company's community investment to a dual mission: to help organizations make their websites accessible while providing professional employment for a segment of the population that is often under and unemployed at a rate of 80%: people living with disabilities. And, the organization's dynamic growth since its inception in 2011, including an expanding client list of Fortune 500 companies, some local like [3M](#) and [Deluxe Corporation](#).

[WECO Founder and President, Lynn Wehrman](#), one of the first digital accessibility specialists in Minnesota government, who lives with a lifelong cognitive disability, commented on the honor, "As a company made up of professionals living with disabilities, this is a rare honor. It's not easy to draw attention to disability employment issues and the successes that some of us have had. SCORE's recognition of our company as one of competent professionals delivering a service that enriches our community, and world, as well as one that serves social justice, is exciting and gratifying."

"SCORE congratulates and celebrates American Small Business Champions, who represent some of the best small businesses in America," said **SCORE CEO Ken Yancey**. "We are proud to reward these passionate and hardworking entrepreneurs with business mentoring, publicity and additional networking and training opportunities, and we look forward to watching them utilize these tools to further grow their business success."

"Supporting entrepreneurs has been a part of who we are for nearly 35 years," said **Tracey D. Brown, Senior Vice President of Operations and Chief Experience Officer at Sam's Club**. "Many of our members own a small business and we appreciate having the opportunity to help them as they find creative solutions to problems they face on a day to day basis. The 102 winners celebrated through the American Small Business Championship are excellent examples of how innovation, persistence and knowing your customers can help an entrepreneur overcome obstacles and we congratulate them on their accomplishments."

WECO is also eligible to win one of three additional \$15,000 grand prizes, by being named Grand Champion. A judging panel of small business experts will select three Grand Champion from the group of small business champions this summer. Selection will be based on how effectively Champions utilize their prizes to grow business revenue or operations, as well as how effectively the winners promoted the Championship in the media and social media.

## About WeCo

Founded in 2011, WeCo Accessibility Services is digital consulting firm which trains people living with disabilities to test websites, software and mobile applications for digital accessibility including the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act). We are a mission-based for-profit company which focuses on employing people who live with disabilities as subject matter experts to guide organizations toward meaningful accessibility.

Learn more about WeCo on our website at: <https://theweco.com>

Follow us on Twitter: @WeCo5

## About SCORE

Since 1964, SCORE has helped more than 10 million aspiring entrepreneurs. Each year, SCORE's 10,000 volunteer business experts provide 450,000+ free small business mentoring sessions, workshops and educational services to clients in 300 chapters nationwide. In 2017, SCORE volunteers provided 3.6+ million hours to help create more than 54,000 small businesses and 116,000 full-time, part-time, owner and contractor jobs.

For more information about starting or operating a small business, visit SCORE at [www.score.org](http://www.score.org). Follow @SCOREMentors on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for the latest small business news and updates.

To learn more about The American Small Business Championship and to view the complete list of Champions, visit [www.championship.score.org](http://www.championship.score.org).

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