



## IMPORTANT NEWS FROM ALWAYS BEST CARE

### **Guidant Financial Aims to Put \$350 Million to Work For U.S. Small Businesses in 2015**

***Potential to Add Up to 25,000 Jobs to The Economy and \$1.2 Billion Toward Overall GDP***

BELLEVUE, Wash., Jan. 29, 2015 – Guidant Financial today cements its mission to increase the number of people who succeed in small business by committing to put \$350 million in financing to work for U.S. small businesses in 2015. The company – which is the premier provider of rollovers for business start-ups (ROBS) in addition to traditional funding options such as SBA loans, portfolio loans and unsecured credit – helped entrepreneurs secure approximately \$290 million in funding in 2014.

To help project the estimated impact of a \$350 million pledge, Guidant Financial looked at an Economic Impact of Franchised Businesses report produced by the International Franchise Association. According to the report’s formula, an infusion of \$350 million in capital could add up to 25,000 U.S. jobs to the economy, \$1.2 billion toward overall GDP and produce \$2.2 billion in economic output.

“With consumer confidence at its highest since 2008 and the unemployment rate dropping, 2015 is poised to be an explosive year for America’s small businesses,” said David Nilssen, CEO of Guidant Financial. “Nothing is more vital to the U.S. economy, job creation and community revitalization, and Guidant is committed to empowering people from all walks of life to take the first step in business ownership.”

The startup economy saw significant momentum in 2014, with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) 7(a) Loan program setting a record in fiscal year 2014, and SBA loans \$150,000 and under increasing 23 percent in number of loans and 29 percent in approved dollars over FY 2013. Likewise, Guidant Financial saw a 258 percent increase in SBA and other lending.

“We have developed a rich lender network to support America’s entrepreneurs and will continue to look for high-quality capital sources,” added Nilssen. “We encourage even more partners and lenders to join our effort to help entrepreneurs access the funding they need to purchase small businesses or franchises in 2015.”

To date, Guidant Financial has helped 10,000 entrepreneurs in all 50 states to deploy nearly \$3 billion in funding to start or acquire a small business or franchise. These businesses have in turn created more than 60,000 U.S. jobs.

#### **About Guidant Financial**

Guidant Financial works with entrepreneurs to identify, evaluate and deploy intelligent business financing strategies. Their services include, but are not limited to, rollovers as business start-ups (ROBS), SBA loans, unsecured credit and portfolio loans. Visit Guidant on the web at [guidantfinancial.com](http://guidantfinancial.com).