

Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc.

CODI...Helping Businesses, Creating Opportunities.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CODI Funding Making the Difference for Business in Chautauqua County

Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc. (CODI) is pleased to provide a \$12,000 loan to Catherine Skrok, owner of SK8*DK, located at 268 East Lake Shore Drive in Dunkirk. The loan provided start-up capital which allowed for repairs to the building, fixtures, and inventory for this locally owned and operated business.

SK8*DK (pronounced as Skate and DK for Dunkirk) is the only professional skateboard supply store in Dunkirk. Conveniently located near the Cliffstar Skate Park near Wright Park/Beach, the store offers a wide variety of skateboard equipment, parts, components, and accessories. Also offered are protective gear, clothing, skate shoes, backpacks, and novelties such as stickers. There are also plans to include snowboarding, ice skating and hockey equipment, as well as rollerblades, in the near future.

SK8*DK offers board repair and construction services as well. And if your old board has taken too many hard landings and cannot be repaired, they'll offer you a 10% discount on a new board and mount your old one on their ceiling. Although they haven't had their grand opening yet, there have already been quite a few boards retired to the ceiling, allowing for great storytelling opportunities.

Parents and families of skating and boarding enthusiasts, who are looking to buy that gift of a skateboard, snowboard, or just the right accessory, now have a place where they can get assistance from the experienced skateboarding staff at SK8-DK.

The store's owner, Catherine Skrok, has owned and operated "Cattoos", a local tattoo shop, also located on Lake Shore Drive, since 1999. At SK8*DK, her son, Timmy, was the main inspiration for the shop. Timmy has been a skater since he was a boy and so brings a lot of enthusiasm and knowledge of all aspects of skateboarding to the store. SK8*DK is open 11:00 am until 9:30 pm Monday through Saturday. The shop will also be open 11:00 am until 5:00 pm on Sundays during the summer months. You may contact the shop at 716-366-5000 or by emailing SK8-DK@hotmail.com. Look for the upcoming website which will be coming soon.

CODI was instrumental in financing the start up of this locally owned and operated business. "CODI is dedicated to increasing economic development in Chautauqua County," says Diane Hewitt, CODI's Director of Economic Development. "We strive to help small businesses overcome one of their biggest challenges—obtaining funds. We are pleased to be able to assist yet another small business in Chautauqua County in realizing their dream."

If you have questions about the services that CODI offers or are interested in applying for a business loan with CODI's Microenterprise Loan Fund or the Women & Minority Loan Fund, contact CODI at 366-2334 ext. 10.