

2021



SUPPORTING
ENTREPRENEURS, BUSINESSES
AND STUDENTS

ANNUAL REPORT

ADVANCING OUR ENTREPRENEURS

- 2** Lean Startup Cohorts delivered by ILT Studios to 20+ entrepreneurs
 - 3** Regional entrepreneurs won their division at the MN Cup statewide business pitch competition
- Live Give Save Inc., a financial-technology company based in Red Wing, that helps consumers save money as they spend it, was purchased by Michigan State University Federal Credit Union (MSUFCU). RWI is a long time supporter of Susan Langer and her company
- Served as the SE MN Hub for Launch MN, E1-Entrepreneurs First Executed Regional E1 Expo and Showcase
- 61** Training Sessions across the SE region with 755 participants, including 484 women
 - 5,932** Hours of 1:1 support and mentoring provided across the 11 county region

STRENGTHENING OUR BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

- Awarded the DEED Small Business Partnership Grant-Southeast Entrepreneur Development Initiative, valued at \$542,056 to deliver high impact, professional business development and technical assistance services to build the critical skills that entrepreneurs, startups and small businesses need to grow
- Operated Makerspace RW, in partnership with Minnesota State College Southeast
- Hosted a Lead for Minnesota Fellow
- Awarded Goodhue County Grant
- Hosted 6 sessions of R.E.D., (Reinvention, Entrepreneurship, Determination) Talks, sharing the stories and impact of local businesses
- Provided Coworking Space for 15+ Small Businesses and hosted a wide range of meetings for local and regional companies
- Delivered Girls Woodworking Workshop
- Administered local, state and federal grants
- Awarded Xcel Energy Foundation Grant

BUILDING OUR FUTURE WORKFORCE



- 3rd** year facilitating the Goodhue County Collaborative Youth Skills Training/Learn & Earn Grant through the MN Department of Labor and Industry
 - 5** participating school districts
 - 10** students earned college credit and OSHA 10 credentials
 - 21** employer worksite learning placements for students
 - 6** local companies provided virtual industry tours to students
 - 3** students are working with regional employers- 2 entry level machinists, 1 electrical apprentice
- Participated in RWPS District Advisory Committee and Winger Flight Paths program implementation

OUR TEAM



Left to right:

- Stacy Nimmo, Executive Director
- Burke Murphy, Workforce Lead
- James Young, Entrepreneur Lead
- Renee Sievers, Marketing Lead
- Jennifer Hoffman, Entrepreneur Support
- Randii Waddell, Entrepreneur Specialist
- Shannan Harris, Operations and Program Manager



"I enjoyed the event (E1 Expo)! I liked the schedule of beginning at noon. It was reassuring to be among other entrepreneurs who are experiencing the same issues and feelings as they work to build their businesses. I will definitely attend a future event."



E1 Ignite Cup

6th Annual Pitch Competition-Virtual-April 6th

5 regional startups pitched to the 5 judges

- Clear Water Nitrate Reduction
- Collaborative Commons
- JockLab
- Pretsl
- Sole View

JockLab was the winner and advanced to the Semi-finalist round of the MN Cup



"I'm wonderfully grateful to Red Wing Ignite and am excited for the opportunity to launch and grow my small business as a result of the Technical Assistance Grant."

-Johanna F



THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS



Entrepreneurs First (E1) Partnership

RWI helps create connections and partnerships for new startups through the E1 initiative. Educational offerings include Design Thinking and Lean Startup classes as well as 1:1 mentorships and funding guidance. We are proud to support this region-wide approach, benefiting cities, business and entrepreneurs.



Our E1 Partners

