



Ben Franklin
Technology Partners
Central and Northern Pennsylvania

2024 PROGRAM OVERVIEW



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CNP.BENFRANKLIN.ORG

X-HAB 3D CONCRETE PRINTING, LOCATED IN STATE COLLEGE PENNSYLVANIA
A BEN FRANKLIN TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS PORTFOLIO COMPANY

"WE'RE DEDICATED TO FUELING THE DREAMS OF INNOVATION-BASED ENTREPRENEURS AND SMALL MANUFACTURERS."

A MESSAGE FROM STEPHEN BRAWLEY, PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF BEN FRANKLIN TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS, CENTRAL AND NORTHERN PENNSYLVANIA

OUR FEATURED COVER PORTFOLIO COMPANY: X-HAB 3D

X-Hab 3D leads innovation in the construction industry with cutting-edge 3D concrete printing technology. Their solutions address conventional building challenges by reducing build times, costs, and waste, while enhancing sustainability and resilience. Leveraging dual-use technology for government (civil and military) and commercial applications, X-Hab 3D offers a versatile approach suitable for a wide range of applications, from residential and commercial buildings to public infrastructure, disaster reconstruction and protective structures for US military contingency bases. It can even print eco-friendly artificial reefs to protect coastal infrastructure from storm damage.

X-Hab 3D's mission is to revolutionize the construction process at the systems level with semi-autonomous, mobile robotic platforms, advanced construction materials and digital design software. By employing construction automation, X-Hab 3D solves problems such as skilled labor shortages, supply chain uncertainties, and the ability to source and produce its 3D concrete printing material at or near the construction site, however remote. X-Hab 3D streamlines the construction process from concept to completion, empowering clients to achieve exceptional project outcomes. [Learn more at www.xhab3d](http://www.xhab3d)



BEN FRANKLIN TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS OF CENTRAL AND NORTHERN PA
2024 PROGRAM OVERVIEW | CNP.BENFRANKLIN.ORG

LEADING INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE IN PA

As we reflect on the remarkable journey of the past year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the ongoing impact that our program has had in driving economic development and fostering innovation throughout Pennsylvania. Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Central and Northern PA (CNP) has remained steadfast in its pivotal role, bolstering local tech-based enterprises, small manufacturers, and entrepreneurs by continuing to provide essential business support services, training, and capital investments. Through initiatives such as virtual contests and our renowned TechCelerator Startup Boot Camps, we have not only created and retained jobs but also facilitated the development of new products and processes, resulting in a remarkable revenue of \$210 million by portfolio companies.

A SPOTLIGHT ON REGIONAL INNOVATION

In a significant achievement, the North Central Regional Planning and Development Commission, in collaboration with Ben Franklin CNP and key educational institutions, secured a \$400,000 Strategic Development Grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. This groundbreaking grant, part of a nationwide initiative, is poised to revolutionize Northcentral PA's Pressed Materials Industry, enhancing its global competitiveness. With only 29 grants awarded nationwide, this accomplishment underscores the collaborative vision of the region's stakeholders and Ben Franklin's steadfast commitment to fostering innovation.

I am also thrilled to announce the introduction of the GO PA Fund, a major stride in our pursuit of innovation. This initiative signifies our commitment to securing up to \$100 million in capital commitments, strategically aimed at follow-on investments within the extensive portfolio of Ben Franklin Technology Partners across Pennsylvania. Focused on investments ranging from \$1 million to \$5 million per company, the GO PA Fund is poised to significantly contribute to the growth of over 600 current and future portfolio companies within the Ben Franklin Network.

As we stand at the forefront of innovation and economic growth in Pennsylvania, Ben Franklin CNP remains unwavering in its commitment to excellence. We have successfully navigated challenges, secured new achievements, and initiated pioneering funding endeavors. Positioned as a catalyst for collaboration, our program continues to shape the state's technological landscape, embodying resilience and a relentless pursuit of progress.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we embark on another year of transformative innovation and economic prosperity.

Warm regards,



STEPHEN BRAWLEY





**SPOTLESS MATERIALS,
LOCATED IN CENTRE COUNTY**

INVESTING IN PENNSYLVANIA'S FUTURE.

For over 40 years, Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Central and Northern Pennsylvania has been at the forefront of nurturing innovation, empowering entrepreneurs, and driving economic growth. We're the go-to resource for those seeking startup funding and business support

services to turn their business ideas into reality. We're committed to fostering an innovative, community-wide infrastructure that propels Pennsylvania's business technology economy forward, ultimately creating high-paying, sustainable jobs in our local communities.

SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1983, BEN FRANKLIN TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS (STATEWIDE) HAS INVESTED IN MORE THAN 4,500 TECHNOLOGY-BASED COMPANIES AND BOOSTED THE STATE'S ECONOMY BY MORE THAN \$25 BILLION, HELPING TO GENERATE 148,000 JOBS THROUGH INVESTMENTS IN CLIENT FIRMS AND SPINOFF COMPANIES IN PENNSYLVANIA.

WE'RE NOT ALONE IN THIS ENDEAVOR.

Ben Franklin Technology Partners is a dynamic network of four independent organizations, each covering a distinct geographic territory in Pennsylvania. Together, we collectively and collaboratively work to stimulate growth in the Pennsylvania economy by offering unwavering support to innovative startups and manufacturers throughout the Commonwealth.



**BEN FRANKLIN TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS OF CENTRAL AND NORTHERN PA
2024 PROGRAM OVERVIEW | CNP.BENFRANKLIN.ORG**

OUR MISSION IS CLEAR- TO CULTIVATE A THRIVING ECOSYSTEM THAT FOSTERS INNOVATION AND EMPOWERS ENTREPRENEURS.

We provide the essential building blocks for your startup's success: funding, valuable connections, and expert guidance. Whether you're just starting out or an established manufacturer looking to innovate, we're here to offer unwavering support to help your small businesses thrive.

01

WE PROVIDE INVESTMENT

We provide essential seed and risk capital to fuel the growth of small businesses, serving as a respected catalyst to attract follow-on funding required to launch innovative products.

02

WE PROVIDE KNOWLEDGE

Our team of experts provides mentoring and support in a variety of business topics. This comprehensive support often gives client companies a critical competitive edge.

03

WE PROVIDE A NETWORK

We cultivate ecosystems that unite ideas and talent, connecting entrepreneurs to business incubators, colleges & universities, venture capitalists, economic development organizations, and more.



WOVE - THE JEWELRY COMPANY THAT CRAFTED TAYLOR SWIFT'S VIRAL 'TNT' BRACELET, LOCATED IN LANCASTER

INVESTING IN LOCAL INNOVATIONS

HERE IS A SNAPSHOT OF OUR 2023-2024 COMPANY INVESTMENTS ACROSS A DIVERSE RANGE OF INDUSTRIES.

ADAMS COUNTY

Ambient Homes, LLC (dba BeeCentral Technology)

BLAIR COUNTY

InspectionGo, Inc.

CENTRE COUNTY

Atoptix, Inc.

*Impulse Technology, LLC

Nanospec Instruments, LLC

*Phiex Technologies, Inc.

*REWIRE Health, Inc.

X-Hab 3D, Inc.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

BowlNow, Inc.

Forma Medical, Inc.

DAUPHIN COUNTY

*Arcana Recovery, Inc.

CPNet, LLC

ERIE COUNTY

Anova Innovations, LLC

*Blind Tiger Spirit Free Cocktails, Inc.

Elements Aligned, LLC

PSNergy, LLC

FRANKLIN COUNTY

*AccountAbility Tech, Inc.

LANCASTER COUNTY

AutoOps Technology, Inc.

Benefix, Inc.

Boostpoint, Inc.

*ERApapeutics, LLC

Reflexion Interactive Technologies

SnapHealth, LLC

Sustainable Composites, LLC

Wove Made, Inc.

MCKEAN COUNTY

*HMS Technical Development, LLC

Wilds Sonshine Factory, Inc.

MERCER COUNTY

*Dub Diversified, LLC

MIFFLIN COUNTY

*CIGNAL, LLC

YORK COUNTY

CyberconIQ, Inc.

Envision BioMedical, LLC

SR Solutions, Inc.

*WOMAN FOUNDED



OUR 2023 ECONOMIC IMPACT

WE SURVEY OUR PORTFOLIO COMPANIES ANNUALLY ON THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS RESULTING FROM OUR INVESTMENT.

402

COMPANIES ASSISTED

36

NEW COMPANIES FORMED

1,427

JOBS RETAINED BY CLIENT COMPANIES

313

JOBS CREATED BY CLIENT COMPANIES

73

NEW PRODUCTS COMMERCIALIZED

32

PATENTS & SOFTWARE COPYWRITES

45

NEW PROCESSES LAUNCHED

20

LICENSES GRANTED TO OTHER PA COMPANIES

\$35k+

CLIENT R&D INVESTMENTS

\$350k+

CLIENT COMPANY REVENUE

\$177k+

PRIVATE FUNDS LEVERAGED

DID YOU KNOW... independent economic analyses show that every dollar invested by the state into Ben Franklin generates \$3.90 in additional state taxes.

FORMA MEDICAL IS REVOLUTIONIZING ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

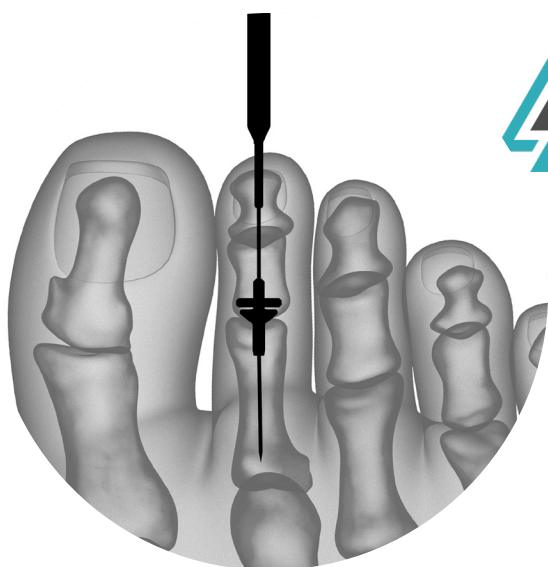
CUMBERLAND COUNTY | \$250,000 INVESTED | FORMAMEDICAL.COM

Forma Medical is making innovative advancements in orthopedic surgery techniques and medical devices. Their patented “Silver Bullet” component allows surgeons to accurately visualize implant placement during minimally invasive procedures like hammertoe and bunion surgeries, contributing to Forma’s comprehensive IP portfolio.

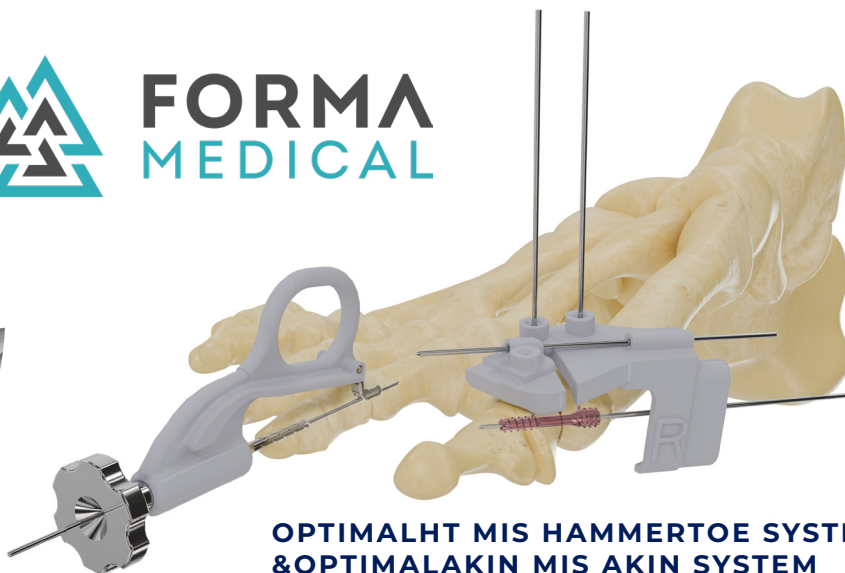
Forma Medical’s groundbreaking technology reduces the need for large incisions, eliminates the need for painful wires, minimizes scarring, reduces swelling, and accelerates recovery time. This approach allows patients to attain their desired hammertoe correction through a significantly less invasive surgery, resulting in better overall outcomes and enhanced patient satisfaction.

Forma’s mission centers on three pillars: driving rapid innovation with speed to market, providing cost-effective surgical solutions, and promoting less invasive techniques that minimize patient trauma and recovery times. From innovative implant designs to advanced surgical instruments, they continuously explore new ways to make orthopedic procedures less disruptive and improve outcomes for patients. Forma’s cutting-edge products like Optimal HT and Optimal Akin are setting new standards for minimally invasive hammertoe and bunion repair surgeries.

“Ben Franklin’s investment and support was crucial for getting us off the ground,” said Andrew Davison, Chairman and CEO of Forma Medical. “It allowed us to hire staff, register with the FDA, obtain product clearances, build inventory, and launch our first device, Optimal HT.” The team at Forma Medical also credits support from partners like Ben Franklin Technology Partners as profoundly impactful drivers of their growth journey. For entrepreneurs, “Ben Franklin serves as an amazing starting point for guidance.”



FORMA
MEDICAL



**OPTIMALHT MIS HAMMERTOE SYSTEM
& OPTIMALAKIN MIS AKIN SYSTEM**



REIMAGINING POWDER METAL FOR AN ELECTRIFIED WORLD

ELK COUNTY | \$510,000 INVESTED | HORIZONTECHNOLOGY.BIZ

Horizon Technology, established in 2001, has been at the forefront of small metal parts manufacturing, pushing the boundaries of what's possible with powder metal technology. With a dynamic and imaginative team, Horizon Technology has developed complex and cost-effective solutions that enhance performance and create previously unimaginable components. The company's innovations have significantly advanced the design of electric motors, solenoids, and high-strength structural applications.

THE ROLE OF BEN FRANKLIN TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS IN HORIZON TECHNOLOGY'S JOURNEY.

The support from Ben Franklin Technology Partners has been instrumental in Horizon Technology's growth. Here's how their collaboration has made a difference:

Funding for Growth and Development: Horizon Technology utilized the funds to hire key personnel and continue their technological advancements, which was crucial in further developing their market presence and capabilities.

Investment in Specialized Equipment: With the funding, Horizon Technology purchased specialized testing equipment, allowing them to validate their processes and provide customers with confidence in their products' performance.

Intellectual Property Protection: The company has filed four provisional patents, with more filings in progress, thanks to Ben Franklin CNP resources. This protection safeguards their innovations and establishes a continuous revenue stream.

Beyond financial support, Ben Franklin CNP provided invaluable resources and services, such as guidance on developing a global strategy and expertise in managing intellectual property.

WORDS OF WISDOM FOR FELLOW ENTREPRENEURS.

Horizon Technology encourages other entrepreneurs to consider partnering with Ben Franklin CNP. "We have worked with Ben Franklin CNP for about three years and have yet to find a topic they were not able to offer some level of support," said Jennifer Thorwart, Director of Marketing & Sales at Horizon Technology. "Their assistance has been invaluable, including facilitating international business discussions and providing strategic guidance."

Horizon Technology's journey exemplifies how strategic support and funding can propel a company forward, fostering innovation and growth in the field of powder metallurgy.





**TECHCELERATOR CLASS MEETING
TO DISCUSS CREATING PITCH DECKS**

INVESTMENT, CAPITAL, & SUPPORT SERVICES

WE PROVIDE A VARIETY OF INITIATIVES FOR ENTREPRENEURS IN MANY INDUSTRIES AND STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT.

01 TECHCELERATOR PROGRAM

Our 10-week TechCelerator programs provide pre-launch business and market research services. Designed to assist inventors, faculty, and very early-stage entrepreneurs, this program helps you convert your business ideas and concepts into operating ventures.

03 ANNUAL BIG IDEA CONTESTS

Our annual BIG IDEA contests provide a fun, no-risk opportunity for entrepreneurs who have innovative ideas and who are at the beginning of their startup journey. It's also a tool for prospecting for entrepreneurs who might not be aware of the support Ben Franklin provides.

02 TRANSFORMATION BUSINESS SERVICES

A team of business professionals offering free mentoring to entrepreneurs on topics like: strategic planning, market validation, financial management, accounting, human resources, and marketing. This one-on-one consulting would likely not be affordable to these business owners who need it most.

04 BEN FRANKLIN LEARNING CENTER

The Learning Center provides free, live and recorded training designed to assist emerging entrepreneurs as well as portfolio clients with a variety of relevant business-related topics. Example topics include how to apply business management, digital media, marketing, and new technology to any business.



05 ENTREPRENEURIAL NETWORKING GROUPS

We bring together local entrepreneurs, those interested in entrepreneurship, and the entrepreneurial support system to foster meaningful connections, ignite inspiring discussions, and create a social environment that prioritizes support.

06 SPARK GRANTS & THE INNOVATION ADOPTION FUND

Empowering existing regional manufacturers, these funding opportunities provide crucial R&D support, addressing a common challenge for small businesses. Our current focus is on expanding access to these funds, fostering innovation and growth for manufacturers.

07 INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP

The Innovation Partnership (IPART) is a group of organizations dedicated to helping early-stage technology companies win federal grants. With funding from SBA, the partners stimulate economic development with outreach and technical assistance to science and technology-driven small businesses, helping them to compete in federally funded research and development through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs.

08 KEYSTONE INNOVATION FUND

A new venture fund merging State College's 1855 Capital and York's White Rose Ventures. Backed by a grant from the US Economic Development Administration, it propels Central PA's entrepreneurial landscape forward, fostering early-stage ventures with ties to Penn State University.

09 GO PA FUND

This fund provides follow on capital to companies from Ben Franklin's statewide portfolio of more than 600 ventures throughout Pennsylvania.

10 LOCAL INNOVATION FUNDS

Several regional innovation funds, including the Mercer County Innovation Fund, The Erie Innovation Fund, Bright Bradford Fund, and Hartman Innovation Fund, provide funding to tech startups, entrepreneurs, and small manufacturers for new product development, business growth initiatives, and exploring new markets in their respective areas. These funds aim to drive economic development, innovation, and job creation by offering investment capital to eligible local companies and startups with promising ideas that meet criteria around innovation, feasibility, management experience, and economic impact potential.

FIND THE RIGHT PROGRAM FOR YOU.

Not sure which program or funding source aligns with your needs? We're here to help! Check out our website to explore our programs further, understand eligibility criteria, and application processes. Our team is ready to assist you in choosing the path that best suits your entrepreneurial journey. [CNP.BENFRANKLIN.ORG/RESOURCES](https://cnp.benfranklin.org/resources)



REVOLUTIONIZING BRAKING: THE SPHERE BRAKE INNOVATION

ERIE, PA | \$103,447 INVESTED | [SPHEREBRAKEDEFENSE.COM](https://spherebrakedefense.com)

Innovation often springs from unexpected sources, driven by those daring to challenge the status quo. One such innovation is the Sphere Brake, a revolutionary braking system developed by Sphere Brake Defense (SBD).

Initially conceived as a sphere within a cylindrical housing, akin to an engine, the evolution of the Sphere Brake into a vehicle brake system required overcoming steep learning curves. "A pivotal meeting facilitated by Ben Franklin [CNP] connected me with an industry leader," shared Aaron Lewis, Founder and CEO of Sphere Brake Defense. "This encounter sparked a trajectory shift, propelling our innovation towards automotive applications."

With its ability to facilitate rapid brake pad replacement without wheel removal, the Sphere Brake seamlessly integrates into military logistics, providing a strategic edge to the US Marine Corps and Army.

THE BEN FRANKLIN ADVANTAGE.

In addition to financial support, SBD received invaluable resources from Ben Franklin's Transformation Business Services Team, providing essential support in financial planning, HR compliance, marketing, and strategic guidance.

When asked about advice for other entrepreneurs and the value of partnering with an organization like Ben Franklin during the critical startup stages, Lewis's advice was clear: "Don't hesitate. They're your cheerleaders when others aren't. They keep you focused and honest, serving as a crucial sounding board. They'll always have your back!"

The Sphere Brake stands as a testament to ingenuity, perseverance, and collaborative innovation. Aspiring entrepreneurs, small business owners, and supporters of innovation alike can draw inspiration from SBD's journey, underscoring the transformative potential of daring ideas and steadfast partnerships in reshaping industries and driving progress.

As SBD approaches an inflection point in its growth trajectory, fueled by recent funding and strategic partnerships, its vision extends towards transformative growth. Anticipated expansions into civilian markets, mirroring military applications, promise to unlock new opportunities in off-road, electric vehicle, and commercial segments.



FROM CONCEPT TO MARKET: THE JOURNEY OF KIPOSTECH

KiposTech, located in Lancaster, PA and co-founded by Hema Ravindran and Raj Singh, emerged from Ben Franklin Technology Partners' TechCelerator Startup Bootcamp as a trailblazer in indoor air quality solutions and non-thermal plasma technology, leading the charge against airborne threats. Through rigorous mentorship and strategic guidance, KiposTech transformed their vision into reality, honing their business model and crafting a groundbreaking Minimum Viable Product (MVP) within the TechCelerator program's 10-week duration.

“THE EXPERIENCE ENRICHED OUR BUSINESS ACUMEN AND TAUGHT US MANY INVALUABLE LESSONS, ONE SPECIFICALLY IN CUSTOMER DISCOVERY,” SHARED HEMA RAVINDRAN, CO-FOUNDER OF KIPOSTECH. “THROUGH THIS PROCESS, WE FOUND A SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITY IN AGRICULTURAL ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, ALONGSIDE OUR INITIAL FOCUS ON HEALTHCARE. THIS REALIZATION MARKED A STRATEGIC PIVOT, FURTHER FUELING OUR MISSION TO FOSTER A HEALTHIER FUTURE FOR ALL.”

Ben Franklin CNP played a pivotal role as a supportive partner and mentor to KiposTech, providing invaluable assistance throughout their journey, from funding opportunities to strategic guidance.

“The TechCelerator served as a catalyst for our growth, empowering us to take the first step towards realizing our entrepreneurial dreams,” said Raj Singh, co-founder of KiposTech. “The expertise and resources provided us the necessary foundation to thrive in the competitive startup landscape.”

KiposTech's groundbreaking innovation has not gone unnoticed. Their exceptional efficacy in air disinfection earned them



RAJ SINGH



HEMA RAVINDRAN

the prestigious 2024 Small Business Achievement Award from the SCORE Chester and Delaware chapter. This recognition serves as a testament to their dedication, vision, and impact in the field of indoor air quality.

In addition to their achievements, KiposTech recently claimed the Grand Prize for Best Business Idea and secured First Place for Chester County Start-Ups at the 12th Annual Business Idea Pitch hosted by the WCU Cottrell Entrepreneurship Center at West Chester University.

KiposTech remains actively engaged in product testing and has initiated a SEED raise kick-off, with recent engagements with reputable deep tech/hard tech Venture Capitalists, Angel Investors, and Angel Networks in the mid-Atlantic region underscoring the growing interest in their innovative solutions.

Through dedication, innovation, and collaboration, KiposTech is shaping the future of indoor air quality and paving the way for safer environments worldwide.



**LEARN MORE ABOUT KIPOSTECH'S
JOURNEY AT [KIPOSTECH.COM](https://kipostech.com)**

UNLEASHING INNOVATION IN THE PENNSYLVANIA WILDS

In the heart of Pennsylvania's rustic beauty lies a hotspot for innovation and creativity - the PA Wilds. Here, where nature meets ingenuity, entrepreneurs are invited to showcase their boldest visions through the PA Wilds BIG IDEA Contest, an initiative fueled by Ben Franklin Technology Partners. With up to \$50,000 in cash up for grabs, participants have the essential resources to nurture and scale their ventures.

We caught up with Benjamin Kafferlin and Lisa Hagberg, co-founders of CiviLink, winners of the 2023 BIG IDEA Contest's grand prize, to learn about their journey through the program and beyond.

CAN YOU SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE PARTICIPATING IN THE 2023 BIG IDEA CONTEST AND WINNING THE GRAND PRIZE OF \$25,000?

Winning the BIG IDEA Contest was a thrill ride! Preparing for it meant relentless refining and rehearsing of our pitch, transforming feedback into fuel for improvement. As our 'big idea' evolved, the hard deadlines sharpened our focus, making every second count (and we had our presentation down to the second!) The contest atmosphere was electric—connecting with fellow innovators and feeling the rush of competition was truly invigorating.

WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER THE MOST VALUABLE ASPECT OF PARTICIPATING IN THE CONTEST?

Participating in the contest offered invaluable benefits beyond the prize money. Certainly, the funding was crucial—it enabled us to secure a lead coder who has been pivotal to our progress. However, the true value lay in refining our concept and gaining recognition. This notoriety wasn't just about visibility; it fueled our own self-belief and commitment. The contest transformed CiviLink from a dream to a targeted, actionable venture. Since winning, we've transitioned from treating this as a side project to embracing it as our calling.

CONGRATULATIONS ON RECEIVING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM BEN FRANKLIN- HOW HAS THIS HELPED PROPEL CIVILINK'S IDEA FORWARD?

The funding from Ben Franklin has been a game-changer for CiviLink. As non-coders who own a software company, it allowed us to assemble a talented coding team essential for turning our vision into reality. Additionally, the investment supported the creation of marketing materials and facilitated our presence at key trade conferences. In short, the financial backing was key to transforming us into a market-ready prototype.

COULD YOU ELABORATE ON THE PROCESS OF APPLYING FOR INVESTMENT FROM BEN FRANKLIN?

Applying for the investment from Ben Franklin (BFTP) was an intensive, eye-opening experience. It felt like building the plane while flying it—a challenging yet invaluable process. The rigorous back-and-forth review of our proforma and pitch deck by various staff perspectives was crucial. Each round of feedback allowed us to refine our business idea significantly. The BFTP team's critical insights helped us identify and rectify strategic flaws early, steering us away from potential missteps. This pressure not only shaped our business model but also sharpened our financial projections, setting CiviLink on a more sustainable path forward. And then, when we got past the evaluation process, we had confidence that we wouldn't have had if we went on the journey by ourselves.



HAS THE SUPPORT FROM BFTP HELPED CIVILINK BECOME PART OF AN ENTREPRENEURIAL NETWORK?

BFTP's support has ushered us into a vibrant ecosystem of investors, advisors, and innovators. Through BFTP, we've gained access to influential investors and essential services that were previously out of reach, from legal support at the Penn State legal clinic to various grants and student evaluations. The transformation team at BFTP has not only accelerated our growth but also deepened our integration into the entrepreneurial community.

HOW DO YOU ENVISION CIVILINK'S EXPANSION IN THE FUTURE?

Looking ahead, we anticipate a challenging yet exhilarating journey for CiviLink. With the recent success and funding, we're poised for exponential growth. Our goal is to revolutionize local government by digitally transforming bureaucracy, making it more efficient and accessible. We are excited to scale our solutions, expand our impact, and continue innovating within technology and civic engagement.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE OTHER ENTREPRENEURS WHO MAY BE CONSIDERING EMBARKING ON THEIR OWN JOURNEY?

If you're inspired by our journey at CiviLink and contemplating your own entrepreneurial venture, our advice is simple: just start. You'll never have everything perfectly planned or figured out. It's crucial to be strategic, but also important to begin taking action, experimenting, and adapting as you learn. Embrace the process with flexibility. And while you're at it, don't go it alone—whether as a business partner or through a supportive community, share your journey with others. Collaboration can amplify your efforts and enrich your experience.

The PA Wilds BIG IDEA Contest stands as a beacon of opportunity for entrepreneurs in Pennsylvania's rural regions—empowering visionaries like CiviLink to turn their dreams into reality, driving innovation and progress within their communities.



CiviLink is developing a cutting-edge Government Management System (GMS) tailored to meet the distinct performance and process management requirements of local government entities. Their intuitive, cloud-based Software as a Service (SaaS) platform offers modules designed to streamline various aspects of local government operations. The first module, nearing completion, focuses on managing public body agendas, while the second, currently in development and seeking funding, aims to standardize and customize templates with best-practice procedures for government roles, vetted by legal counsel. CiviLink plans to expand its SaaS product offerings in future rounds, including modules for fund accounting, budgeting, and project management.

LEARN MORE ABOUT CIVILINK'S JOURNEY AT [CIVI.LINK](https://www.civilink.com)

WE'LL HELP YOU DISCOVER THE BEST PROGRAMS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR NEEDS.

With four regional offices across our 32-county region, including Central, South Central, Northwest, and Southern Alleghenies, we're strategically located to better serve startups in each unique community.

NORTHWEST

CLARION, CRAWFORD, ERIE, FOREST, MERCER, VENANGO, WARREN

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SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES

BEDFORD, BLAIR, CAMBRIA, FULTON, HUNTINGDON, INDIANA, SOMERSET

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CENTRAL

CAMERON, CENTRE, CLEARFIELD, CLINTON, ELK, JEFFERSON, JUNIATA, MCKEAN, MIFFLIN, POTTER

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