

NEWSLETTER Q2 2020 July 17, 2020

From the Director

July already? Hard to believe that half of the year has slipped by. While the pandemic has created a lot of uncertainty, it is more important than ever to stay focused and productive. In our July Leadership Profile Charleston entrepreneur and globetrotter, <u>Justin Fulcher</u>, offers the following words of wisdom - "Now is the time to move the world forward and solve some big problems we are facing".

COMMUNITY





While the COVID-19 crisis has the world awash in terrific digital content, we believe it is important to offer our members relevant content. To that end, we are bringing back our insightful monthly <u>Leadership Profile</u> series. We are also working with our partners and members to identify and develop digital materials to further strengthen Charleston's tech community. We would love to hear <u>your</u> <u>thoughts</u> on what's valuable to you.

On the business assistance front, our recently introduced <u>Entrepreneur in</u> <u>Residence</u> program has assisted just under twenty entrepreneurs. Our goal is to increase the success of start-up ventures so feel free to ping Shawn Jenkins with your questions.

TALENT



In a recent poll and direct conversations with the leadership at our tech companies regarding hiring, the majority of them are in a wait and see mode due to the current macroeconomic conditions. A few have laid off some employees while several companies continue hiring. Our <u>CharlestonWorks</u> platform allows you to view tech companies in the Charleston region that are hiring while allowing you to share your talent profile if you are seeking employment.

Speaking of talent, in conjunction with the launch of the Flagship3, the Charleston Digital Corridor is exploring business and technical education offerings to level up the employment skills of our workforce. If you have ideas for course offerings, <u>let me know</u>.



While the pundits are speculating that we will all be #WFH in a post COVID world, the reality is that the need for physical space to anchor a company and collaborate will never go away. We experienced this firsthand as the Charleston Digital Corridor's WestEdge facility was oversubscribed less than 30 days after it opened in April.

By positioning our <u>Flagship3</u> facility at the <u>Charleston Tech Center</u> for smaller agile teams with flexible lease terms and adding hospital grade ventilation throughout the building, we are the future of workspace. <u>Call me</u> to learn more or reserve your space.

CAPITAL



Congratulations to <u>Flagship-WestEdge</u> resident company <u>Vendr</u> on successfully completing two capital rounds this year. Although the capital markets are under pressure in the current economic environment, deals are getting done. The federal government's <u>Small Business Administration</u> offers several non-dilutive programs to help small business.

Members & Investors

As a public-private partnership we are grateful and honored for the members of our tech community, public agencies and private citizens who steadfastly support the mission of the Charleston Digital Corridor. Our supporters include:

<u>City of Charleston</u> <u>Blackbaud</u> <u>Wired Island</u> <u>Charleston County Economic</u> <u>Development</u> <u>Phishlabs</u> Gale Force Vikor Scientific Lynker Technologies BoomTown Cantey Technology Cloud on Tap

Our Sponsors







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Flagship3

The <u>Flagship3</u> business incubator at the Charleston Tech Center in

Downtown Charleston is a landmark office developed to serve the exclusive needs of tech and lifescience companies in the Charleston region. Scheduled to open January 2021, <u>email me</u> to learn more or grab a tour.



Thank you!

Thank you for your continued support of the Charleston Digital Corridor. Our collective achievements are a reflection of your unwavering commitment and and collaboration. Continued success!

- Ernest Andrade, Director

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