



# <u>Director's Report – DRCI</u> July 2023

## Entrepreneur Program Update

There are currently 14 *Program Companies* in the Don Ryan Center with several others in the pipeline

- STARTUP companies
  - 1. Hilton Head Coffee Roasters
  - 2. Wheeler Trucking (Hardeeville)
  - 3. Capital Chiropractic (Hardeeville)
  - 4. Prime IV Hydration
  - 5. Hardee Greens (Hardeeville)
  - 6. Gullah T's n Tings (BlaQuity graduate)
  - 7. ChangePoint Software
  - 8. Elite Support Americas
- GROWTH
  - 1. MXM Productions
  - 2. Barbers of the Lowcountry
  - 3. Universal Bookkeeper
  - 4. LoCone
  - 5. Custom Audio Visual
  - 6. Beachside Tires
  - Standing meetings with every company at least 2 times per month
  - Multiple screening calls with leads that are interested in learning about our Programs
  - Kickoff meeting with new STARTUP ChangePoint
  - Diligence meeting with Petitek. Pitch scheduled for July 26th
  - Diligence meeting with Sheronica Gavin STARTUP Candidate
  - Resiliency meeting with Ashcot Farms and assigned a mentor
  - Attended soft opening for STARTUP client Prime IV located in Belfair Town Village
  - STARTUP Pitch presentation for Petitek

## **Operations and Marketing**

- Prep for DRCI Board meeting on August 10th
- Presented quarterly update to Council on July 11th
- Updated DRCI job positions for HR
- Updated DRCI information for TOB Annual Report
- Upcoming meeting with DRCI finance committee to discuss forecasts, budget and possible DRCI endowment contribution
- Attended various ribbon cuttings
- Hosted GBCC Lunch and Learn at The HUB (#4 out 7 for 2023)
- Working with Town of Bluffton to cross-pollinate social media sites DRCI/TOB
- Social Media
- Working on setting up Lunch and Learns for the fall. Kickoff is September 19th

### **Mentor Program**

• 72 Mentors

## **Partnerships**

#### Hardeeville

- Signed new contract with Hardeeville. Annual commitment that renews every year through 2026
- Working with City of Hardeeville to cross-pollinate social media sites DRCI/HDV

#### BlacQuity

- Ongoing classes at DRCI
- Guest speaker at Motivation Monday for BlacQuity

#### **Beaufort County Economic Development Corporation**

- Working with them on multiple projects
- Attended BCEDC Board Meeting

#### SCORE

 Working with SCORE to schedule their Minority Small Business Program Presentation in August

#### **Greater Bluffton Chamber**

• Scheduled lunch and learns at The HUB thru November

#### BusinessATTRACT

- Attended BusinessAttract monthly meeting
- Planning Fall 2023 event with us and BCSD Aerospace, manufacturing and Healthcare focus