

---

## **Director's Report – DRCI**

### **August 2023**

### **Entrepreneur Program Update**

There are currently 15 *Program Companies* in the Don Ryan Center with several others in the pipeline

- STARTUP companies
    1. Wheeler Trucking (Hardeeville)
    2. Capital Chiropractic (Hardeeville)
    3. Prime IV Hydration
    4. Hardee Greens (Hardeeville)
    5. Gullah T's n Tings (BlacQuity graduate)
    6. ChangePoint Software
    7. Elite Support Americas
    8. ChangePoint
    9. Petitek
    10. Phytogenix
  - GROWTH
    1. Barbers of the Lowcountry
    2. Universal Bookkeeper
    3. LoCone
    4. Custom Audio Visual
    5. 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
  - Meeting scheduled with James Labrot for prototyping
  - Meeting with Dixon Gurley on potential STARTUP
  - PETITEK Pitch completed. Accepted to STARTUP
  - Pytogenics Pitch completed. Accepted to STARTUP
  - Diligence meeting with Bluffton Electric

## **Operations and Marketing**

- Paul appointed to SBAC Board
- Optimized DRCI staff
- Prep for DRCI Executive Session meeting on August 31<sup>st</sup>
- Presented at Professional Womens Network of the Lowcountry
- Planning on hosting Professional Womens Network of the Lowcountry in late September
- Attended various ribbon cuttings
- Working with Town of Bluffton to cross-pollinate social media sites DRCI/TOB Social Media
- DRCI Lunch and learn planned for September 19<sup>th</sup>
- Attended TCL's - Starting your Own Business - Legal Options and Pitfalls

## **Mentor Program**

- 67 Mentors

## **Partnerships**

### **Hardeeville**

- Kickoff meeting with Hardeeville for Year 3
- Met with media team to do a series of videos on our Hardeeville entrepreneurs
- Working with City of Hardeeville to cross-pollinate social media sites DRCI/HDV

### **BlacQuity**

- Classes begin in September

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

- Working with them on multiple projects

### **SCORE**

- Minority Small Business Program Presentation at The HUB August 30<sup>th</sup>
- Attended EMP presentation by Rod Casavant

### **Greater Bluffton Chamber**

- Scheduled lunch and learns at The HUB thru November

- Working with our STARTUP Client Prime IV and GBCC on Prime's Ribbon Cutting September 7th

#### **BusinessATTRACT**

- Attended BusinessAttract monthly meeting
- Meeting with Carlton Dallas (Business Attract) and Karen Gilbert (BCSD) about next "Silicon Garden" event

#### **Beaufort County School District**

- Meeting with Karen Gilbert (BCSD) about Michelin Design event at DRCI on September 12th

#### **Entrepreneurial Thought of the Month**

