HIGHLIGHTS OF 2018

Creating an innovative ecosystem for students, entrepreneurs and businesses to compete in the 21st century

“Red Wing Ignite’s role and leadership in driving initiatives and outcome that improve the competitiveness of Red Wing, the Region and Minnesota is truly commendable. Ignite Minnesota has brought national attention to Red Wing as a statewide hub developing a rural model supporting innovative ecosystems.”

- Tina Smith, US Senator

Our Programs:

BUILDING OUR FUTURE WORKFORCE

CONNECTING STUDENTS TO BUSINESSES
- Awarded a grant from Department of Labor and Industry only 1 in 5 pilots in MN
- Formed, led and convened 7 school districts, 20 students, 14 businesses and MN State College SE
- Certified 20 students with an industry recognized credential (OSHA 10)

ELEVATING STEAM LEARNING
- Drove the dialogue with academic and community partners to fund and implement a sustainable model to teach 21st Century skills
- Influenced high school career pathways on STEAM learning and entrepreneurship
- Mentored students ages 7-17 through a Coder Dojo program

RECRUITING STUDENTS TO SOLVE TECH CHALLENGES
- Facilitated 3rd annual paid tech internship
- Connected 2 college students to local businesses
Thank You to our Funders:

ADVANCING OUR ENTREPRENEURS

PARTNERING WITH REGIONAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL NETWORKS
- Served as statewide hub for US Ignite and National Science Foundation (Ignite MN)
- Created and launched an Agriculture Tech Challenge
- Convened multi-sector business and organization leaders

CREATING A NEW WAY TO SUPPORT ENTREPRENEURS
- Led and organized a 20 county pilot in Southern MN
- Assisted entrepreneurs to navigate and connect to resources
- Increased efficiency and sustainability of entrepreneurial efforts

RAISING PRIVATE INVESTMENT DOLLARS
- Raised $500,000 to support and launch businesses
- Introduced 13 businesses to Golden Triangle Fund
- Hosted 10 investor events and meetings

STRENGTHENING OUR BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

HOSTING A CO-WORKING SPACE TO WORK AND MEET
- Hosted 150+ meetings
- Welcomed 15+ co-working members
- Managed about 8,000 square feet of offices, conference rooms and amenities

MANAGING A REGIONAL MAKERSPACE
- Recruited 7 lab managers
- Secured woodworking, metalworking, CNC Machines, 3D and other tools
- Partnered with MN State College SE for designated space to learn, create & innovate

GROWING THE TALENT PIPELINE
- Supported 19 established businesses
- Facilitated a college technology internship
- Convened and coordinated the Learn and Earn Program
- Led High School Career Pathways

Increase in entrepreneurs supported. Up from 10 in 2014 to 73 in 2018.