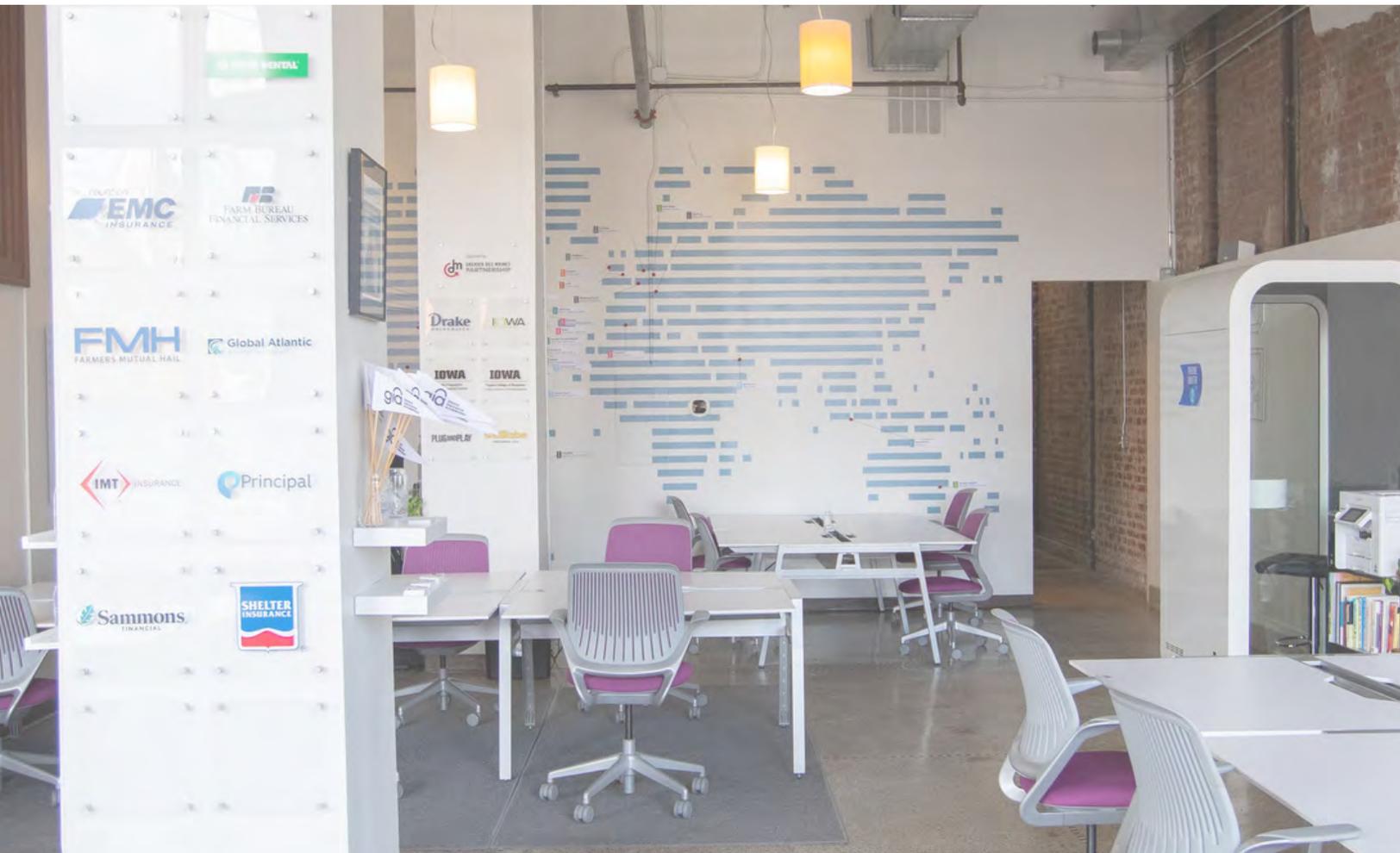




The Epicenter of Insurance Innovation

TEN YEAR REVIEW
2014 - 2024





Forward from:

DAN HOUSTON—CEO, Principal Financial Group®

Long known as an insurance hub in the U.S., Iowa has arguably become the nation's insurance capital and for the last 15 years, the state has experienced a boom in its business sector—boasting GDP growth of 57% in the insurance and financial services sectors alone.¹ This places Iowa first among the 50 states in insurance industry output as a percent of GDP.¹ More recently, Iowa has nurtured a thriving Insurtech ecosystem, recognizing that as our world continues to evolve, it's imperative our industry does, as well.

Almost a decade ago Principal®, along with another six insurance companies, agreed to participate in Des Moines' new, early-stage, insurance-focused accelerator. We were motivated by the idea of creating an ecosystem of support around visionary founders looking to drive change, innovation, and business in insurance. And we embraced the strategy of combining mentor-led programming and early-stage capital to truly accelerate progress on some of the most pressing issues in the industry. The vision was always to expand the reach of this program beyond our state and attract participation from across the U.S. and key international markets.

The opportunity to bring such influence and innovation right to our doorstep was also exciting. At the time, there were no other insurance focused accelerators in Des Moines, or elsewhere, and certainly no other accelerators created by a partnership between industry incumbents. This was an opportunity to lead. Thanks to the Global Insurance Accelerator and its many supporters, over the past decade, we've done just that. The program has attracted founders from five continents and invested more than \$3 million in early-stage Insurtech companies.

And today, continued innovation is an even more pressing issue. A quick look at just about any industry offers a glimpse of how innovation is driving change, disrupting the status quo, and creating opportunities. Our industry is no different. We know innovation is crucial to our growth, and our collaboration with the Global Insurance Accelerator plays an integral role in that success.

For nearly 145 years, Principal has been focused on making financial security more accessible to people and businesses in the communities where we work and live. We have long been a proponent of removing barriers that prevent people from having access to the tools and education they need to establish financial security for themselves and future generations. The Global Insurance Accelerator is a clear example of how our collective efforts are making a difference, helping us close the financial inclusion gap.

As a community, we value the Accelerator's commitment to supporting passionate, early-stage founders, dedicated to implementing needed change within the industry. We are proud of our partnership and look forward to continuing to drive change via the entrepreneurial and cooperative spirit on which this program thrives.

Insurance products and plan administrative services provided through Principal Life Insurance Company®, a member of the Principal Financial Group®, Des Moines, IA 50392.

¹ Iowa Economic Development, April 20, 2023.



“We know innovation is crucial to our growth, and our collaboration with the Global Insurance Accelerator plays an integral role in that success.”

A DECADE OF INSURANCE INNOVATION

2	Forward: Dan Houston, Principal Financial Group®
4	Message: Dan Israel, Managing Director
6	Message: Sheldon Ohringer, Board Chair
7	Impact: GIA's Mission and Reach
12	Reflection: GIA Over the Last Decade
17	Program: Helping Founders Succeed
22	2024 Cohort Showcase
23	Looking Forward: GIA in the Next Decade
25	Appreciation

Message from:

DAN ISRAEL – Managing Director

“For ten years, the Global Insurance Accelerator has endeavored to bring innovation, change, and fresh ideas to the insurance ecosystem.

We're proud of what we've built over the past decade and thank you for being a part of what has made the GIA such an amazing organization. The connections made between some of the most innovative and influential financial services companies, insurance carriers, founders, mentors, and ecosystem participants, have produced successful start-ups, growing valuations, and real change within the industry.

As I look back on the last two years of my career, I am honored to have been asked to lead this organization. Our mission of driving innovation provides us with the guideposts to focus on the unique role we have built in this ecosystem.

If you haven't had the opportunity to visit our offices in Des Moines, I encourage you to do so. The walls there are filled not only with decades worth of stories of change, but the marks of those who have come before. Our handprint wall showcases many of the founders, Board Members, staff, and mentors who have come together over the last decade, and it's one of the most meaningful signs of what we do.

Taking time to reflect on the foundation which has been built has allowed our team to recognize just how impactful this organization has become in its existence. From starting as a joint effort between seven innovative firms, local government, and the Greater Des Moines Partnership, to growing one of the most respected mentor programs globally, and being recognized in 2023 as a top two accelerator in the world, the GIA has grown from an idea to a major player in innovation. Our investors, sponsors, and supporters have helped us to not only create a niche, but to set the standard for what an accelerator program can and should be.

Over the past several years, we've introduced new roles and responsibilities for our team to maximize our ability to bring value to the industry. We're focused on refining our programs, producing opportunities to connect alumni with our growing network, cultivating existing partnerships alongside new and innovative ones, and ensuring that anyone who wants to play a role in what we are building can find the right way for themselves and their companies.

The past ten years have laid an incredible foundation and I'm grateful to the former Managing Directors—Brian and Nicole—for all that they built. To our Board Chairs, Jeff, Dave, and Sheldon—thank you for your leadership. To our Board Members, former staff, all of our investors, sponsors, and partners, thank you. The GIA exists today because of what all of you have put into this organization, and I can't wait to see how far we'll go in the next ten years!”



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Israel'.

Dan Israel,
Managing Director



Message from:

Sheldon Ohringer – Board Chair

“Ten years of the Global Insurance Accelerator’s existence signifies both a time to celebrate and a time to reflect on a decade of insurance innovation.”

Seventy-two Insurtech start-ups have come through the GIA’s 100-day Program looking to innovate and reshape insurance. From the first cohort to the most recent, the GIA, and its founders, have impacted the industry in Des Moines and beyond.

The GIA as we know it today would not have been possible without the work and leadership of the Greater Des Moines Partnership, the seven executives of industry leading companies, and the government leaders, who worked alongside each other with the understanding and belief that our city’s greatest industry was ready for transformation and acceleration.

Following in the footsteps of other business accelerators that had morphed from general acceleration to industry specific accelerators, this group of leaders moved forward with its sights set on an insurance specific accelerator. With the seven insurance carriers convinced the time was right to make a significant difference in the industry, the Global Insurance Accelerator opened its doors to the first cohort in January, 2015.

Behind the scenes, the seven insurance carriers united as members and investors, and formed the GIA Board. Jeff Russell, who was the CEO of Delta Dental at the time, took the helm as the first Board Chair. I was fortunate to be asked to be an independent Board Member beginning with the selection of the first cohort, and have continued to play an active role with the GIA ever since.

Over the past ten years I have been lucky enough to witness the development and growth of the GIA through many different facets; from participating in all ten cohort selections, to mentoring founders, to working with the Managing Directors, to now serving as Board Chair, it has been an honor to have been there for it all.

The GIA has benefited from the leadership of its three different Managing Directors, all of which have brought the right leadership at the right time for the organization. These directors, the investor companies, along with all the founders, have worked tirelessly to forge the way for insurance innovation. It is safe to say that the decision to create the GIA was the right decision at the right time.

To all who have invested, served as a Board Member, been a mentor, or an employee, thank you! Our accomplishments over the course of a decade were possible thanks to your help, support, and guidance. The GIA is what it is because of you. I can’t wait to see all the innovation that comes out of future cohorts, as these last ten years were just the beginning.”



Sheldon S. Ohringer,
Board Chair



IMPACT

The GIA is uniquely positioned to filter, refine, and connect early-stage Insurtech innovators with leaders in the insurance industry that must continually discover new ways to make the world safer and smarter.

Our Values:

Crave innovation, always.

Filter. Refine. Connect.

See through the lens of the investor.

Celebrate the successes, even the small ones.

Rejuvenate and enjoy the journey.

The Global Insurance Accelerator is the early-stage business accelerator focused on driving innovation through the insurance industry. Our mentor driven program brings together the best early-stage founders from around the globe to participate in an immersive 100-day Program where, along with our insurance and financial services company investors, sponsors, and ecosystem partners, we provide the network, connections, and solutions to help drive real change and solve real problems facing the industry today.

Impacting Founders

We live and breathe insurance and innovation.

MISSION:

Based in Des Moines, Iowa, widely acclaimed to be the insurance capital of the United States, our mission is to drive innovation through the insurance industry with our multi-faceted program, seed funding, and connection with our investors. As an early-stage accelerator, our program brings together passionate founders and their ideas to change the industry, with established and innovation-minded carriers; combining mentor-led programming and early-stage capital to truly accelerate the best founders in the industry.

INVESTORS:

Our investors are top insurance and financial services companies, and their teams provide essential customer insight, clarity of needs, pilot programs, and ongoing opportunities to our cohorts throughout the 100-day Program.

PROGRAM:

The GIA operates a multi-faceted program that includes: our flagship 100-day Program, a world renown mentor program, and an alumni program with dedicated resources to support our alumni's ongoing success. We invest in our founders and work side-by-side to validate product market fit and prepare companies for growth.

GLOBAL INSURANCE SYMPOSIUM:

The 100-day Program concludes at the Global Insurance Symposium in Des Moines, where each founder makes a final presentation to a large audience of: insurance carriers, investors, professionals focused on insurance innovation, and others adjacent to the industry.

GLOBAL REACH:

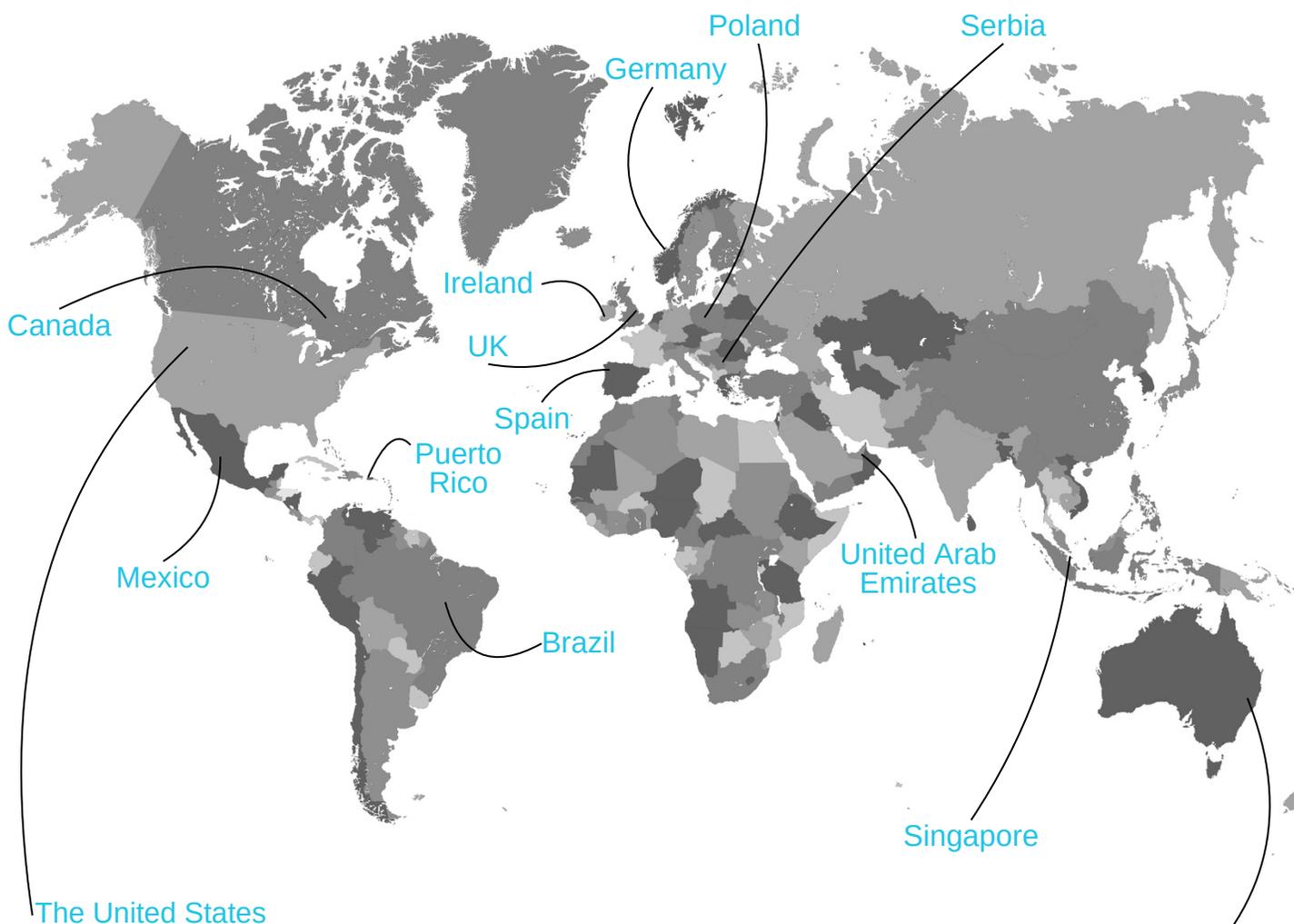
The GIA has attracted founders from five continents and invested over \$3 million in early-stage Insurtech companies.

The GIA walks the start-up journey with founders, as they navigate the road to impact and success.

Making a Global Impact

GIA cohort companies have come from:

14 different countries and territories and 20 US states + Washington DC



- *Arizona (Phoenix, Tempe, Tucson)
- *California (Calabasas, Costa Mesa, Huntington Beach, Long Beach, Orange, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, San Ramon)
- *Florida (Jensen Beach, Miami, Miami Beach)
- *Georgia (Atlanta)
- *Illinois (Schaumburg)
- *Iowa (Ames, Coralville, Des Moines)
- *Kansas (Wichita)
- *Maryland (Baltimore)
- *Massachusetts (Boston)
- *Michigan (Detroit, Traverse City)
- *Minnesota (Minneapolis)
- *Missouri (Kansas City)
- *Nebraska (Lincoln, Omaha)
- *New York (NYC, Woodbury)
- *Oklahoma (Oklahoma City)
- *Oregon (Portland)
- *Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh)
- *South Carolina (Columbia)
- *Texas (Dallas)
- *Wisconsin (Denmark, Madison, Milwaukee)
- *Washington D.C.

Impacting the Industry

As an early-stage accelerator, our goal, and the goal of our founders, is to drive innovation within the insurance industry. Companies enter the GIA at varying stages of their start-up journey, get support from our vast ecosystem, and exit our program with the momentum to push forward.

\$3.4M

Invested through the program

\$180M+

Raised post-program across all cohorts

The GIA is a Top 2 Insurtech Accelerator in the World

*As ranked by Insurtech Digital, 2023

76%

Active or exited companies

72

Companies from 10 cohorts

45

Pilots or partnerships secured with GIA affiliates

REFLECTION

Over the past decade, the Global Insurance Accelerator has created an ecosystem that has left an imprint not only on the founders that have come through our doors, but the entire insurance industry.



Reflecting on a Decade

What started ten years ago as an idea between seven innovative firms, local government organizations, and the Greater Des Moines Partnership, has grown into a major player in insurance innovation.

From being recognized in 2023 as a top two accelerator in the world, to having cultivated one of the most recognized mentor programs globally, and continuing to connect innovators with leaders in the industry, the GIA has set the standard for what an accelerator program should be.

The past decade has shown that with the right partners, and commitment to innovation, incredible success is possible. Ten years after it's inception, the GIA has become the preeminent early-stage, insurance-focused accelerator, and continues to drive innovation throughout the industry.

2014

GIA Formation:

- Idea Pitched: Leaders at the Greater Des Moines Partnership pitched the idea to Jeff Russell—then CEO of Delta Dental of Iowa.
- GIA Announced: Jeff Russell, Larry Zimpleman, and John Matovina announced the creation of the GIA on stage at the 2014 Global Insurance Symposium.
- Interim Director: Tej Dhawan stepped in as the interim Managing Director.
- Fall of 2014: Brian Hemesath became the first full-time Managing Director.
- The First Cohort: Selected in the Fall of 2014, the first 100-day Program was scheduled to begin in January 2015.

Original In-Person Program:

- The first Global Insurance Accelerator 100-day Program was held in 2015 with six start-ups making up the first cohort.
- The 2015 program was the first of five cohorts held for 100 days entirely in-person, in Des Moines, Iowa.
- There was a lot of benefit to having the founders in Des Moines for the entirety of the program, like easy access to Des Moines based carriers and mentors.
- It also limited what companies would be willing to commit to the GIA because relocating to Iowa for 100 days over the winter months could be a challenge.



Founder Spotlight: Lana Fox (2015) ClinicNote

“ClinicNote is an electronic medical record made for university and private practice therapy clinics. When the company was founded we were planning to serve one discipline, but we now serve 14 disciplines, have over 7,000 daily active users representing 100 unique universities, and 175+ therapy clinics. We have a team of eight and we have over ten business partnerships that help us serve these therapists well. We are creating worry-free solutions that help you, help others. Our team is focused, people first, honest, and invested in creating ClinicNote to be all it can.

Trying to quantify the impact GIA has had on ClinicNote as a business, and me personally, is hard to put into words, because it has been such a significant impact on both. Some of my most valued mentors and friendships have come from being a part of this GIA community. I was introduced to humans who started as mentors and have become great friends. Their inspiration has fueled my aspirations, encouraging me to dream bigger and contribute back to this start-up community. I am profoundly grateful the GIA was dreamed up and created, and that I get to call it our original ClinicNote home.”

2015

Inaugural Cohort

The first GIA cohort was held and included a 100-day, in-person, program featuring six companies, with a final demo day at the Global Insurance Symposium.

2016

Expansion

For the first time, additional events like Insurtech Week were held; the team expanded with the hiring of the first Program Manager—Megan Brandt.

2017

Housing

In order to better serve the needs of the founders, housing was provided to founders for the first time.

2015 Cohort Companies



2016 Cohort Companies



2017 Cohort Companies





Founder Spotlight: Jack Kudale (2019) cowbell®

“Cowbell celebrates its 5th anniversary this year, and the reminder of how it all began always brings the GIA to mind. We have built a strong brand, and become a leader in Cyber Insurance for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the US and UK, with abundant supply lines backed by 20+ prominent global (re)insurers, an omnichannel distribution network comprised of 4,000+ agencies, and an underwriting precision that withstands both the hard and soft market cycles.

The GIA demonstrated a rare blend of vision and faith in our mission to revolutionize this emerging line in commercial insurance. It served as a guiding light, leveraging its incredible team of experts, and a vast network of mentors. Without the GIA, we would not be where we are today: providing robust cyber insurance coverage, and AI-driven closed-loop risk management to tens of thousands of SMEs.”

2018

Mentorship Grows

Mentor matching grew considerably with investor companies; mentors began leading insurance-focused panels, becoming a key part of the program.

2019

Leadership Change

After five programs, Brian Hemesath stepped down and Nicole Gunderson was selected as the second Managing Director.

2020

Covid-19

With six weeks left in the program, the founders were sent home to complete the remainder of the program virtually.

2018 Cohort Companies



2019 Cohort Companies



2020 Cohort Companies





Founder Spotlight: Kathy Hubble (2023)



“The GIA is so unique in its program and its offering of specific mentors that know the insurance industry inside and out, love working with founders and their start-ups, and are excited to help GIA cohorts navigate the world of Insurtech. I wanted every mentor that I met, but I ended up with a powerhouse of ten incredible mentors, including: Travis Grassel, who introduced me at the GIS pitch. We were both so nervous, but smashed it. Working with mentors like him was an excellent experience.

Since arriving back in Australia, we have not stopped. With so much momentum from the GIA and the GIS, we have been riding a wave of publicity. On New Year’s Day, I presented on an Australian breakfast television show, and we were smashed with referrals on our website. Recently I presented at a workers’ compensation conference in Melbourne, Australia and have had a great uptake from regulators and insurers alike. It has been all go, go, go for us, thanks to the support, mentorship, and knowledge of the GIA.”

2021

2022

2023

Virtual Program

As Covid-19 continued, the 100-day Program was held completely virtual. The virtual program was attractive to founders that were unable to relocate to Des Moines for 100 days.

Hybrid Program Implementation

The change to a hybrid program opened the doors for founders, mentors, and investors from across the country to be involved in the program.

Alumni Director Position Created

This new position was created to provide dedicated support to alumni companies following the 100-day Program.

2021 Cohort Companies



2022 Cohort Companies



2023 Cohort Companies





PROGRAM

The GIA's multi-faceted program, refined over the last decade, continues to attract the industry's brightest innovators. From our flagship 100-day Program, to the three-tired mentor program, to our dedicated support of alumni, the GIA is committed to full life cycle support of the companies that come through our doors.

The 100-day Program

Our nearly 15-week flagship program is a hybrid model, splitting time between in-person in Des Moines, Iowa, and virtual. It is structured into three distinct phases to support the founders during the entirety of their program.

<p>Phase 1: In-Person</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cohort joins the GIA team in Des Moines for roughly three weeks in January. • The cohort participates in a three-week-long process called “Mentor Speed Meetings”. • Throughout the process, each founder meets up to 75 different mentors. • Founders and mentors meet for 30 minutes, either in-person, or virtually, to see if they have an interest in working together. • After Mentor Speed Meetings, preference forms are submitted by both the mentor and founder. • Each founder receives their personalized, diverse team of seven to eleven mentors.
<p>Phase 2: Virtual</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cohort returns home for the virtual portion of the program during the entirety of February and March. • Founders begin working 1:1 with their mentors during this time. • This phase incorporates workshops with industry leaders such as: business models, actuarial science, sales, and more. • Workshops with GIA alumni are also incorporated and focus on how to be a successful founder.
<p>Phase 3: In-Person</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cohort joins the GIA team back in Des Moines during the month of April to close out the program. • Pitch practice sessions are held with investor/sponsor companies, as well as with mentors to help founders perfect their pitch. • The cohort gives their final pitch on stage at the Global Insurance Symposium.

Mentors Matter

GIA's expansive network of mentors, and the extensive collaboration between mentors and founders, differentiates the 100-day Program.

At the core of GIA's 100-day Program are the mentors. The GIA incorporates a proven, and curated, ecosystem of insurance professionals, Insurtech leaders, and global organizations that work with founders across phase two and phase three of the 100-day Program. The mentor program consists of three groups of mentors; including alumni and investment mentors to support founders after they exit the program.

Over the last decade, the GIA has been supported by more than 1,100 mentors, 500 of whom have been matched with a cohort company, and more than 3,500 hours of 1:1 mentoring during the program have occurred. The GIA mentor program sets the standard for mentor-based support, and is vital to founder growth during the program.

Program Mentors

- Matched mentors support founders during the 100-day Program
- Meet 1:1 weekly

Alumni Mentors

- Support alumni founders on an as needed basis
- 13 alumni mentors in 2024

Investment Mentors

- Provide advice to alumni founders specific to investment and fundraising
- Eight investment mentors in 2024

2024 Mentor Program

- **138** total mentors
- **117** program mentors and **64** of those mentors were matched with a 2024 cohort company
- **66** program mentors from investor/sponsor companies
- **63** different companies, including GIA investor/sponsor companies, are represented in the program mentor pool
- **51** program mentors from our insurance ecosystem
- **318** hours of 1:1 mentoring completed in 2024 100-day Program
- **82** mentors helped the founders perfect their pitch
- **14** hours of pitch practices held with mentors
- **16** hours of pitch practices held with investor/sponsor companies

University Partnerships

Our partnerships with two major Iowa universities, highlights our commitment to provide life cycle support for founders.

The University of Iowa

In 2023, we announced a unique and innovative partnership between the GIA and The University of Iowa Tippie College of Business, the Emmett J. Vaughan Institute of Risk Management, and The John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center at The University of Iowa.

This partnership brought together the best in academics, start-ups, and industry in order to challenge the status quo and drive meaningful and positive change. It also brought a new co-branded curriculum, joint event sponsorship, project opportunities for students, and more. As this partnership continues to grow, we believe it will reshape the tools available for cohort companies, as well as create opportunities for students interested in growing a career in insurance.



Drake University

With its close proximity to our offices, the GIA has cultivated a special relationship with Drake University in Des Moines. Their specialty in Actuarial Science, Data Analytics, and Business degrees provides amazing students and faculty which support our program.

Each year during our 100-day Program, we have the privilege to bring two Drake students on as interns to partner with the cohort companies and solve real challenges for these start-ups. Over the past several years, many of these interns have gone on to careers in insurance, including with start-ups and founders they worked with during their time at the GIA.



Alumni Program

As an early-stage accelerator, we know the work is not done once the founders exit the 100-day Program. Our goal is to provide life cycle support, with dedicated resources, for our alumni's ongoing success long after the completion of their program.

Accountability Networking Conferences
GIA Sponsored Events Educational Workshops

Connection. Support. Success.



2024 GIA Cohort

AppEase is a digital health data platform that exchanges electronic health data between medical providers and insurance carriers for underwriting of life, disability and long-term care insurance, and property, casualty and workers' compensation claims. The digital exchange securely aggregates and organizes disparate data, improves turnaround times and stabilizes pricing. Our predictive analytics solution arms decision makers with robust underwriting and claims decision-making tools for improved workflows.



Cybercade's platform combines the excitement of gaming with the science of learning and assessments. With 82% of data breaches rooted in human error, Cybercade's innovative approach transforms end-users from the weakest link into the strongest shield against cyber threats, making cybersecurity highly engaging and effective for everyone.



Innocuous AI offers an easy-to-use conversational AI assistant to help claims personnel at insurance carriers comply with state regulations with ease. The smart assistive AI tool surfaces relevant state statutes along with interpretations, timelines, tasks and letter templates for timely compliance enforcement, all in one place which streamlines their workflow. The business impact: claims managers and claims adjusters save time, and insurance companies save money and enhance profits with improved customer satisfaction.



Lotus Fertility Insurance is the next-gen insurance solution for proactive fertility health management. We're an early-stage, women-led company on a mission to create a new insurance product designed for fertility. In alliance with globally renowned research partners specializing in fertility and women's health, we're building an affordable, supplemental insurance designed to help cover the out-of-pocket costs for fertility treatments and services.



Starup by Sehteq offers a new insurance experience to start-ups in the US, UAE and Saudi . Starup is a management general underwriter (MGU) curating six insurance products, coupled with concierge services and powered by technology to take care of the stars—the founders—so they can take care of the start-ups. The founder, or the sponsor, pays a monthly subscription for the bundled services.



Tumbleweed is at the forefront of transforming end-of-life planning and post-loss care with a secure, user-centric platform that ensures individuals are prepared and organized, so that their final wishes can be honored. Our innovative approach extends to empowering workplaces, aimed at integrating thoughtful end-of-life preparations into employee wellness benefits. By leveraging advanced technology and providing personalized support, Tumbleweed is dedicated to redefining how society approaches life's final chapter, making the process accessible, respectful, and seamless for everyone involved.



Tylmen Tech is tackling the challenge that over 100 million Americans are without life insurance, largely due to concerns about medical exams and invasive tests, by leveraging smartphones to perform non-invasive body scans that capture essential health metrics. Tylmen's body scan not only improves the customer experience, but also allows underwriters to evaluate risks with greater speed and precision.



LOOKING FORWARD

We appreciate the past decade that built the foundation we sit on today, but our sights are set on the future. With an eye for growth, the GIA is ready for the next decade, as we look to bring innovation to the insurance industry through partnerships with companies, mentors, founders, and investors.



Aiming for the Future

From the first cohort through the tenth, the GIA has aimed to build a bridge between the insurance industry and the innovators that seek to improve it.

We believe in innovation and growth within the industry, and we strive to be at the forefront. As we head into the next ten years and beyond, we are excited to continue our mission to foster growth and innovation within the insurance industry, and support the founders that are at the helm.

REFINEMENT:

We're focused on refining our 100-day Program to produce start-ups who are hitting the ground running, driving value for investors, and entering the market ready to make change happen.

CONNECTION:

We're building new and innovative partnerships to connect the best parts of this ecosystem together—be that incumbents, start-ups, universities, providers, and more.

SUPPORT:

We're expanding opportunities to connect alumni with our growing network, and to ensure that anyone who wants to play a role in what we are building can find the right way for themselves and their companies.

GROWTH:

We are focused on our global reach, and aim to continue to expand our ecosystem to include founders, mentors, and partners that are working to meet the diverse needs of a global population. We know the more diversity we can bring to our ecosystem, the more impact we can make.

JOIN US:

As we turn the page to our next ten years, there has never been a better time to join the GIA ecosystem. The GIA network is composed of innovative organizations focused on driving the insurance industry forward. We create value by providing access to the best early-stage Insurtech deal flow, networking, and growth opportunities. Whether as an investor, sponsor, partner, or mentor, we're excited to have you join our organization as we continue to push forward the future innovations in insurance and beyond. Reach us using the code below.



APPRECIATION

The Global Insurance Accelerator would not be possible without the support of our amazing investors, Board Members, sponsors, and key partners. Over the past ten years, the ecosystem surrounding this organization has brought out the best in innovation, ideas, and opportunity. The GIA staff extends our sincere thanks to this year's investors, Board Members, sponsors, and partners who have made this such a successful 10th year!

Thank you to our 2024 Board Members:

Executive committee members:

Board Chair: Sheldon Ohringer (Independent Board Member)

Board Vice-Chair: April Schmaltz (Delta Dental of Iowa)

Board Secretary: Stephanie Wessman Lemmon (Delta Dental of Iowa)

Programming Co-Chair: Ann Dieleman (Independent Board Member)

Programming Co-Chair: John Rooney (Shelter Insurance)

Investment Chair: Mark Sandbulte (Farm Bureau Financial Services)

Aaron Madison (IMT Insurance)

Amanda Martin (Shelter Insurance)

Amy Teas (Sammons Financial Group)

Ann Balashaitis (Farm Bureau Financial Services)

Beth Nigut (EMC Insurance)

Brock Scheck (Global Atlantic Financial Group)

Casey Decker (Sammons Financial Group)

Christian Walk (Global Atlantic Financial Group)

Cory McAnelly (Principal Financial Group)

Dan Mulcahy (IMT Insurance)

David DeCapp (Farmers Mutual Hail)

Jeremey Harrington (Principal Financial Group)

Pavan Goteti (EMC Insurance)

Scott McEntee (Farmers Mutual Hail)

Thank You 2024 Investors!



* founding member

Thank you 2024 Sponsors!



To all of the investors, sponsors, and mentors, past and present, thank you! To the staff which built the foundation of what we are today—Brian Hemesath, Nicole Gunderson, Megan Brandt, and Jim Lewis—thank you for your leadership and vision.

The last decade has been great and here is to many more ahead!

The 2024 Global Insurance Accelerator Staff:



Dan Israel, Managing Director



Jess Louis, Program Director



Jenni Gruenisen, Alumni Director



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