

muskegon innovation hub

2019

annual
report





MUSKEGON
INNOVATION HUB



who we are

The Muskegon Innovation Hub (The Hub) is a business innovation center that helps businesses and entrepreneurs achieve their true potential.



what we do

Coaching, funding, networking, and providing a synergistic work environment.



how we do it

Business incubation, coworking space, funding assistance, events and programming, and meeting space rentals. We are a key partner in the region's innovation ecosystem, supporting start-up businesses, entrepreneurs, and corporate innovation teams.

team members



Kevin Ricco
Director



Tom Hopper
Associate Director



Allison Dile
Business Incubator
Manager



Rose Bennett
Administrative
Coordinator



Thomas Hull
Maintenance
and Operations

advisory committee

Ken Johnson

Waddell & Reed Financial, Inc. and
Muskegon City Commission

Cynthia Langlois

Muskegon Community College

Joe Finkler

Michigan Inventors Coalition

Jonathan Wilson

DTE Energy

Laurie Supinski

Start Garden

Bobby Fisher

Shelby State Bank

Katherine Roskam

Varnum LLP

Jake Eckholm

City of Muskegon

Renae Hesselink

Kitchen 242/Nichols

Melissa Wikman

Muskegon YMCA

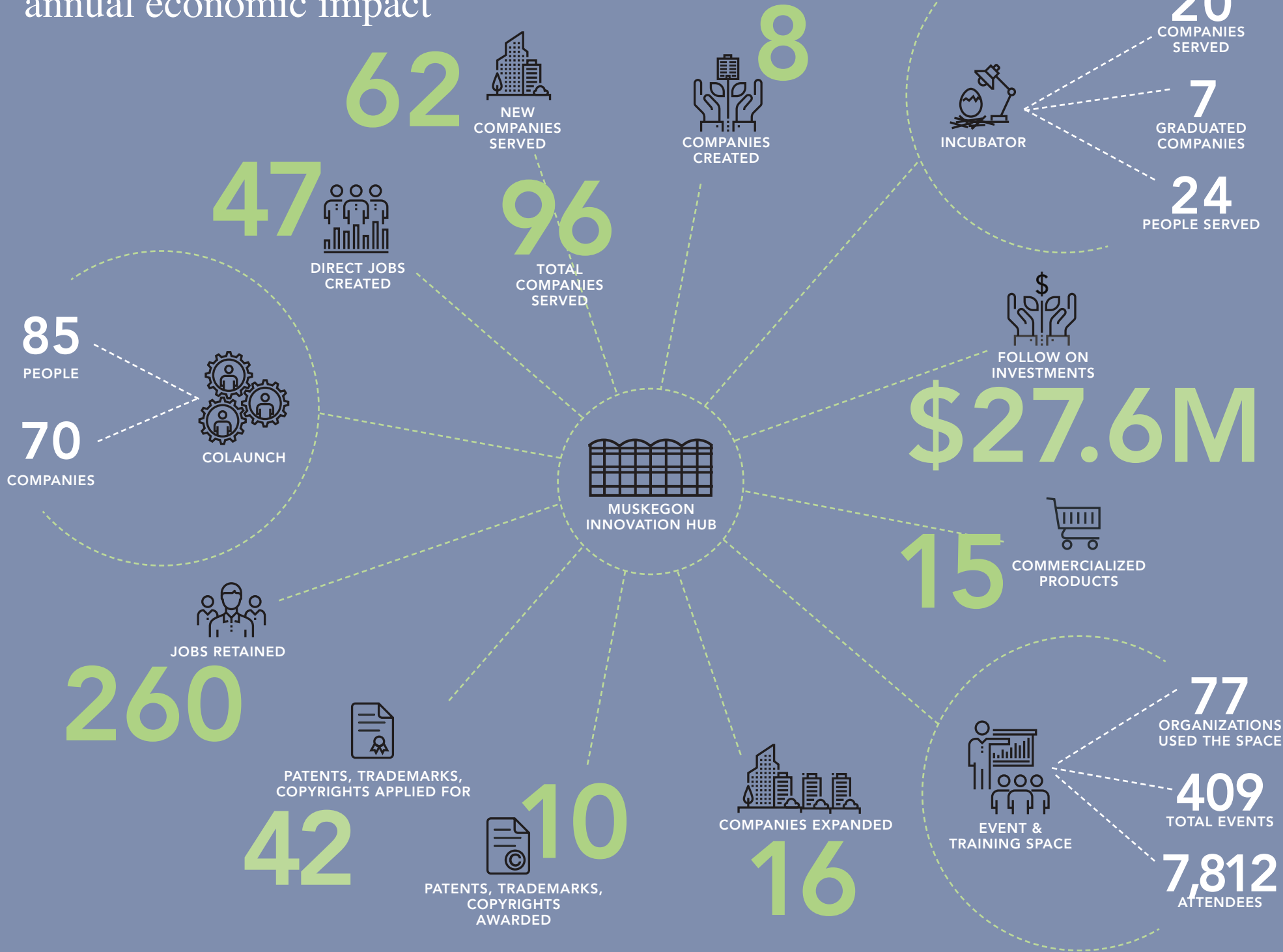
Jennifer Wardrop

Grand Valley State University

Mickey Wallace

Kemetic Kings Mentoring

annual economic impact



programs and events

Hub Programs/Events Members-Only Events

Marketing Mondays

Once-a-month seminars that provide valuable tools, techniques and knowledge to help small businesses effectively engage with customers and increase sales revenue.

Launch Lecture Series

Semi-annual lectures providing insights, ideas and experience that can help entrepreneurs grow their business.

Innovator of the Year Awards

An award program that recognizes and celebrates the most innovative ideas on the lakeshore.

Ted Talk Tuesday

An inspirational TED talk viewing, followed by a guided panel discussion with some of the area's most vibrant entrepreneurs.

5x5 Night

West Michigan's monthly traveling pitch event where five contestants compete for \$5,000.

Pitch Perfection

Entrepreneurs hone their pitch in front of a panel of real judges, receiving real feedback.

Annual Community Open House

The community is invited to learn about our work, tour our facility, and hear about what we have planned for the year ahead.

Taco Tuesday – A community-building lunch held once a month in our CoLaunch space.

Hub Holiday Party – A festive potluck held annually to celebrate the holiday season.

Hub Happy Hour – A networking happy hour held once a month at The Hub to let members get to know each other in a fun, casual setting.

Collaborative Events and Programming

Business Resource Team
Resource Day

Small Business Development Center
Business Workshops and Seminars

Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women
Trainings

Muskegon Inventors Network
Monthly Meetings

resource partners

Michigan Economic Development Corporation
www.michiganbusiness.org

Start Garden
www.startgarden.com

Business Resource Team
www.muskegon.org/section/business-resource-team

Downtown Muskegon Now
www.downtownmuskegon.org

SCORE
www.muskegon.score.org

Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women
www.growbusiness.org

Kitchen 242
www.kitchen242.com

Muskegon Area First
www.muskegonareafirst.org

Muskegon Inventors Network
www.muskegoninventorsnetwork.org

Small Business Development Center
www.sbdcmichigan.org

Lakeshore Advantage
www.lakeshoreadvantage.com

Muskegon Angels
www.muskegonangels.com

Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce
www.muskegon.org

Muskegon Community College
www.muskegoncc.edu

Michigan Business Innovation Association
www.michiganincubation.org

Seidman College of Business
www.gvsu.edu/seidman

lakeshore innovator of the year

Debuting in 2019

The Lakeshore Innovator of the Year Award was created to share the volume and quality of innovation happening along the lakeshore, and to celebrate the success of this area and the selected finalists.

Julie Raynor
Camp Shout Out





Jacque Edwards, *Clean Ocean Clothing*

"If it wasn't for the Hub I wouldn't have my retail store. I use it for my office, and to connect with other business owners with whom I share learning experiences and trade services"

Glen Miller, *Kids Read Now*

"I appreciate the Hub's leadership, the networking opportunities, and the state-of-the-art facility. It's a great place to work and be creative."



La'Rue Layton, *Seaway Tours*

"The Hub staff is always ready to help, and being around other CoLaunch members is very inspiring. Being here has improved my communication skills 100%. The scenery and the building are both beautiful!"



**GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY**
MUSKOGON
INNOVATION HUB

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