

## **Mission Statement**

"Ann Arbor SPARK will advance the economy of the Ann Arbor region by establishing the area as a desired place for business expansion and location... by identifying and meeting the needs of business at every stage, from those that are established to those working to successfully commercialize innovations."





SPARK@nn arbor usa



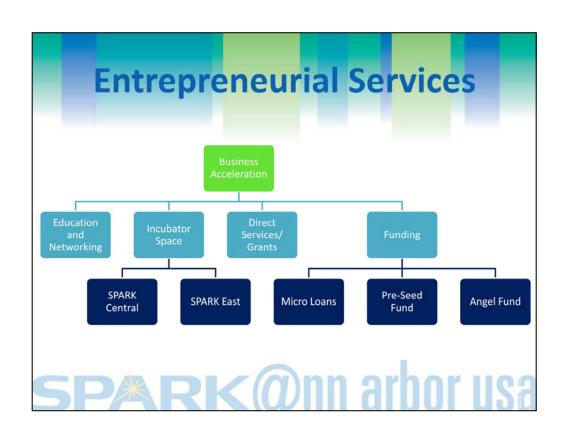












#### Who Does What in Our Region? Bus. Plan SBDC MICH Bio Edu's Offerings SPARK NEF ввс Comps CHL\* Grants X Loans Χ Χ Equity Consulting X X Χ Prize Money Talent Recruitment Χ Χ Χ Networking х Х Х Х Х Х Training/Education X X X Х X X Mentoring Х Х Х Х Х Х Marketing Х Х Research X X Х X Incubator Services X Micro loans IP Licensing Assistance **Business Critical Introductions** X X \*CHL=Coolhouse Labs

## What are the options for entrepreneurs? Case Study: Seelio

- Seelio's co-founders dreamt of a way to help students tell their stories and see a better return on investment in their college educations.
- In late 2011, Moses Lee, David Jsa, and Jerry Wang founded the company.
- With only 3 employees, the cofounders needed guidance to find funding, office space, and opportunities for partnerships.





## Physical Infrastructure Spark Central



- First Floor
  - 100% capacity for all the desks and the side office
- Third Floor
  - Bursting at the seams with three companies who are all adding full time employees and interns monthly
  - Message Blocks, AMF Nano, and Seelio
- Fourth Floor
  - Further expansion opportunities for rapidly growing companies

SPARKONN arbor usa

## **Ypsilanti & SPARK East**

- 10 cubes
- 100% full capacity
- · Capacity will be increasing
  - Two additional cubes next month
  - Six more cubes (all cubes from SPARK Central as they do their renovations) in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015
  - Increase capacity to a total of 18 companies/individuals/cubes.
- · Common space for virtual tenants and walk-ins
- · Three meeting rooms



# What funding opportunities are available for entrepreneurs? Case Study: Seelio

 Seelio needed access to funding opportunities to grow the company.

 The co-founders were interested in partnerships and were looking for support.





seelio

It's your story. We help you tell it.

## **LDFA** Microloans

LDFA Funds received	\$950,000
Micro Loans Given Out	\$(1,253,461)
Repayments	\$377,394
Misc. Expenses	\$(6,048)
Bank Balance	\$67,885

 Total current FTE for microloan companies: 146.5

 Jobs retained during the term of the loans: 76

Jobs created: 63

Number of Loans to Date	Total Value of Loans Provided to Date	Loans Written Off in Full	Loans Partially Written Off	Value of Loans Written Off – Including Interest	Loans Paid Back in Full	Partial Payments of Loans	Loan Amount Repaid to Date – Including Interest
37	\$1,253,461	5	3	\$181,177	6	4	\$377,394

## Michigan Pre-Seed Fund 2.0 2015 YTD & 2015 Goal

	2015 Year To Date	2015 Goal	
Ann Arbor Applications	6	24	
Ann Arbor Funded	4	10	
Invested Amount	\$275,000	\$1,000,000	
Ann Arbor % of total	50%	50%	
Leverage	\$1,650,000	\$8,000,000	
Annual Revenue	\$266,000	\$4,000,000	
Retained Jobs	26	72	
Created Jobs	1	40	

# Where can entrepreneurs find talented workers? Case Study: Seelio

 Seelio was in need of talented, knowledgeable workers to join their team.

- They needed people who shared Seelio's values:
  - Students
  - Honesty
  - Selflessness
  - Courage
  - Impact
  - Passion
  - Judgment
  - Communication
  - Curiosity

Innovation





### **Talent Services**

#### **Companies**

- Recruiting services to candidates through targeted job postings
- · Workforce availability and compensation research
- Access to pool of CXO candidates

#### **Entrepreneurs**

- Job/Co-founder/Advisory Board members
- · Training programs
- Access to pool of CXO candidates

#### **Opportunity Seekers**

- · Job postings and opportunities
- · Career Change Boot Camps
- Networking events

#### Community

- · Strategic workforce research and planning
- · University graduate talent attraction and retention programs



## December 2014 Dashboard Talent Services

YTD	2014 Goal	% Toward Goa	
2148	1200	179%	
49%	50%		
Page Views: 333,887 Unique Page Views: 256,057	Unique Page Views: 240,000	107%	
98,481	108,000	92%	
12,426	12,000	104%	
346	180	192%	
	2148 49% Page Views: 333,887 Unique Page Views: 256,057 98,481 12,426	2148 1200  49% 50%  Page Views:     333,887 Unique Page Views:     256,057  98,481 108,000  12,426 12,000	

### **Education & Events**

#### Types of Events:

- Series: Annual Meeting, SPARK Event Series, Michigan Energy Forum, Michigan Marketing Minds, Selling Smart Workshops
- · Networking and Mentorship
- Sponsorships: Hackathons, Startup High School, Startup Career Fair
   Approach
- Increase series event attendance through social media advertising
- Promotion to area startups via weekly event e-newsletter, website event calendar and social media tool
- Education Resource: Maintain Video Library for entrepreneurs and early stage companies





## **Entrepreneur Survey**

#### 2014 Survey Highlights

- 563 Entrepreneurs surveyed, 122 (21%) completed.
- Average opinion of SPARK was 4.29/5.

#### **Company Information**

- 76% have city of Ann Arbor as primary business location.
- 26% of companies have patents issued, 47% have patents pending.
- · 26% of companies have licensed intellectual property.

#### **Employment**

- 40% hired in 2013, an average of 2 FTEs per company.
- 55% plan to hire in 2014, an average of 3.3 FTEs per company.
- 73% plan to hire in 2015, an average of 4.4 FTEs per company.
- Average wage is \$65,200 per year, median wage \$60,000.
- · Employees are, on average, 38.5 years old.

## **Entrepreneur Survey**

Entrepreneur Needs: Successes and continuous improvement themes identified in survey comments

#### Collaboration

- Between ecosystem partners and with UM 9 comments
- "Keep working with our resource and service providers across the state of MI and better connect/collaborate/share what you are doing with shared startup clients."

#### **Talent Services & Networking**

- Opportunities for matchmaking and networking 22 comments
- "More activities that are focused on developers, designers, and attracting young talent."
- "Increase networking opportunities to bring entrepreneurs and professionals together."

#### Business Accelerator

- More and broader resources available and increased efficiency- 28 comments
- "I would welcome even more "how-to" classes like those currently provided"
- "Continue to streamline/accelerate the approval process."
- "Continue providing expert consulting services"

#### Incubator

- Space and amenities 3 comments
- "Adding additional physical space would enhance SPARKs ability to support new entrepreneurs."



## **Entrepreneurial Success Stories**

Algal Scientific Corporation



- Wins AMIC 1<sup>st</sup> place in November 2012
- \$3 million series A raised in 2014

Estrakon, Inc.



- Raised \$2.3 million in 2006
- \$250k PSF investment with \$160k Angel match in 2011

Atterocor, Inc.



- \$16 million series A raised in 2012
- Clinical trials of adrenal cancer drug in June 2013

## **Entrepreneurial Success Stories**

Hygieia, Inc.



- \$1.5 million raised in 2001, Oakwood Medical Investors
- \$1.5 million raised in 2011, VC Convertible note Angel Investors Convertible
- Insulin Guidance System approved for European use in October 2012

Ornicept, Inc.



- SPARK Incubator client 2012-2014.
- Occupied a cubicle all the way through the suite
- Graduated to market office space in Ann Arbor
- \$900k raised in May 2014, Angel round

## **Entrepreneurial Success Stories**

#### Pixel Velocity, Inc.



- Over \$6.7 million raised in 2009
- \$250k Pre-Seed Fund raised in March 2007
- Over \$800k Angels, \$1.5 million in Series A in 2007
- \$385k, \$2.5k, and \$4.1k from Angels, \$18.9 from founders & employees in 2011

#### RetroSense Therapeutics, LLC



- Granted Orphan Drug
   Designation for Lead Product
   RST 001 for Retinitis
   Pigmentosa in October 2014
- \$6 million Series A: Nerveda, Blue Water Angels, SDL Ventures, Tech Coast Angels, MEDC in 2015

### **Seelio Succeeds**

Seelio has joined the PlattForm family, allowing the company to expand, impact more students, and obtain more partnerships with universities.





"Seelio is an exciting example of the entrepreneurial ecosystem at work. Thanks to the support that's available here in this region, the Seelio founders were able to develop a technology, receive support from the university, graduate, and find a home in the SPARK Central incubator where they refined their business plan and product."

- Paul Krutko, president and CEO of Ann Arbor SPARK

## Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in Ann Arbor

Talent, Capital, Acceleration, Incubation

Everything a business needs to start up and grow –

Available in Ann Arbor

## **Video**

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## Why Marketing?

 Brand Awareness: Promote LDFA services and reinforce position as destination for entrepreneurship

podcasts blog Facebook

AnnArbor PressRelease

AdWords eNewsletters

- Boot Camp
- Start up resources, loan programs
- Educational & networking events
- Talent attraction
- Promote Ann Arbor successes: Local, regional and global visibility
- Creates a platform for growth: Customers and Talent!
- Reach broad audiences: leverage traditional media and emerging new marketing tools



## **Effective Marketing Tools**



Website

- In US, we conduct **12 Billion online** searches per month



Google Adwords

- 7 out of 10 marketers increasing PPC budget. Adwords 73% market



Social Media

74% of online users and is a top activity across all age groups



PR & Media

- PR Newswire distributes to over 200K media points and 10,000 news outlets
- Increase visibility 552% with videos, photos and infographics



Video

More than 1 billion users. 300 hours uploaded every minute.

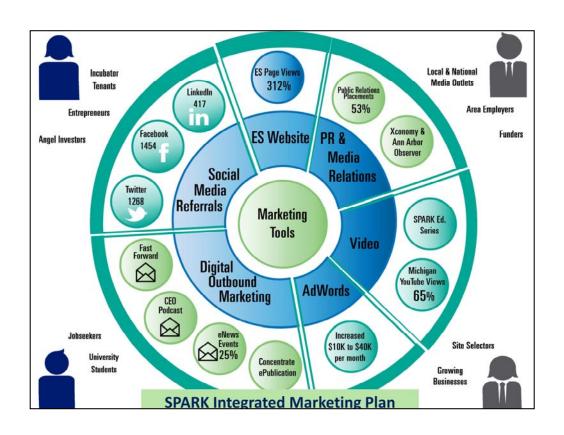


Digital Outbound

- At least 91% of consumers check their email everyday







## Website



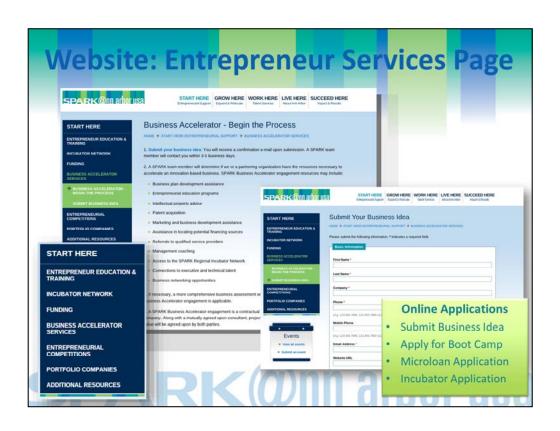
- Increase website visits from Ann Arbor by 5,000 annually above 2013-2014FY
- Increase ES webpage views by 3,000 annually above 2013-2014FY

312%

ES Website

#### Approach:

- Drive traffic to ES pages of SPARK website
- Integrate social media, video and PR to increase referrals
- Email communication linking to ES web pages- events, talent newsletters.





## **Google AdWords**

AdWords

Increased \$10K to \$40K

### Strategy:

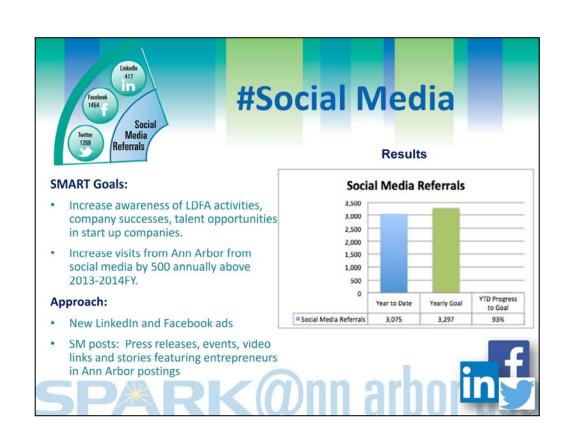
- Drive large volumes of targeted traffic entrepreneurs and job seekers to ES pages of website
- Promote bootcamp, educational, talent and networking events

#### Approach:

- June 2014, applied for/awarded Google Grants Pro Status\* Increased spend from \$10k to \$40k.
- Geographically target the city of Ann Arbor to promote LDFA activities, using half of SPARK's grant dollars.

\*This status awarded to high performing nonprofit AdWords campaigns that meet strict criteria, and requires dedicated staff for oversight and support.



















Low cost high reach maintain open rates with relevant content

# New Marketing: Talent Recruitment and Attraction

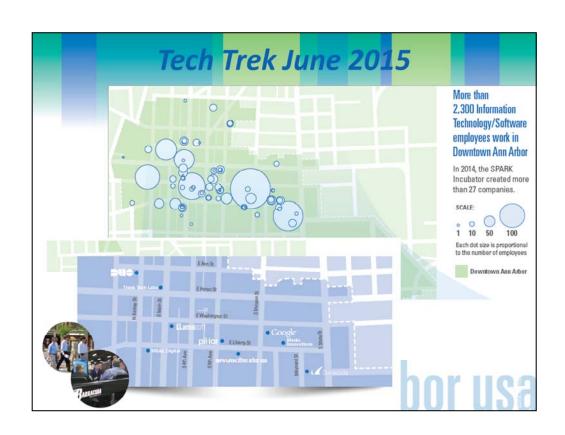




"There are so many good options in terms of neighborhoods and schools. In Ann Arbor, we can afford to live in a house in a safe neighborhood with good schools and a reasonable commute. In the San Francisco Bay Area, we would have to sacrifice at least one of those. I love that we can eat dinner as a family every night now."







## **Summary of Marketing Results**

Description	Year to Date	Yearly Goal	YTD Progress to Goal
Newsletter Open Rate*	25%	20%	Exceeded by 5%
Entrepreneurial Services Webpage Views	166,114	53,211	312%
Webpage Visits by Ann Arbor Residents	48,340	64,072	75%
Social Media Referrals	3,075	3,297	93%
Video Views	2,912	4,506	65%
PR Placements	19	36	53%

Talent, Capital, Acceleration, Incubation

Everything a business needs to start up and grow – Available in Ann Arbor

	SPARK	JumpStart	Tech Colu	ım.
Full-Time Staff	20	47	27	
Marketing Staff	3	7	3	
Social Media				SPARK Ann Arbor SPARK
Facebook	Х	Х	Х	@nn arbor usa Ann Arbor, MI
Twitter	X	Х	Х	
LinkedIn	Χ	Х	Х	
Pinterest		Х		JumpStart, Inc.
Digital Media				jumpstart Cleveland, OH
Podcasts	Χ	Х		
Flickr	X	Х		
YouTube	Χ	Х		TechColumbus
SlideShare	Х	Х	Х	(now called Rev1 Ventures
Blog	Χ	Х	X	Columbus, OH
Posts per Month	3	5	6	
Authors	1	36	4	
Newsletters	Х	Х	Х	Orbor Ho
# of Newsletters	6	6	1	53

	SPARK	JumpStart	Tech Colum.	i
Job Portal				<u> </u>
Statewide	Х	X		DAILY
Nationwide		X		JumpStart Partners Wit
Press Releases	Х	X	Х	Innovation America To Spo
Events	Х	X	X	The innovationDaily Newsle
Host	Х	X	Х	loredo Clevelan C
Sponsor	X	X	X	Frencht Cor
Interactive Calendar	X			Finday Mansfeld
Mktg Support for Entrepreneurs				Marion D O
Write/Edit PR		X		OBIO Wheel
Media Relations Training		X		ood Dayton Caster
Social Media		Х		McGertown Wigne National Forest Athens Ranger Planger
Collateral Design		X		jumpstart
Website Design		X		ENTREPRENEURIAL
Content Marketing		X		NETWORK
Entrepreneurial Network				Provides marketin
Separate Website		X		services
Separate Social Media		X		3cl vices 34

## **Thank You!**

### **Ann Arbor SPARK**

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