

2020 Impact Report

For the year ending December 31, 2020



2020 Impact Report



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Executive Summary



Transforming our Region's Economic Future Through Innovation

Since Tampa Bay Wave launched its downtown Tampa venture center and accelerator programming in 2013, the region's technology sector has seen transformative change. In just seven short years, the local ecosystem is hardly recognizable as the region seems to regularly boast about its startups getting national attention with partners like Rise of the Rest, while also celebrating some sizable exits and other funding deals for local companies like Connectwise, KnowBe4, A-LIGN, Reliaquest, and more.

Thanks to continued generous support from the Tampa Bay community, Wave certainly has seen the fruits of our labor these past few years. Wave still runs the only GAN.co member accelerator program in the state of Florida, an association of only the most successful accelerators around the world, which helps us consistently attract startups from across the US, even some from Latin America. As our reputation grows, so does our regional and national media coverage, which helps us recruit even more companies into our programs, as well as help us recruit companies that relocate to Tampa Bay. For example, 13 Wave startups have relocated to Tampa Bay thus far, and there are several more actively exploring moving in the coming year.

With so much momentum going into FY2020, Wave began the year with big plans to further our vision for Tampa Bay to become a nationally-recognized hub for tech jobs and startups... that is, until COVID hit.

Even so, just in the past 12 months, we are proud to report:

Wave held **372** events for **4,026** entrepreneurs
Wave supported **122** technology startups
562 jobs were created & retained by these tech startups
\$89 million in investment capital raised by these tech startups

In addition, despite these challenging times, Wave launched an emergency fund and raised \$40,000 to assist our startup members while they pivoted their offerings when state and national programs omitted them from funding opportunities. We also continued growing our volunteer Mentor network to over 100 mentors, bringing in more talent and expertise, as well as growing our investor network. We also broadened and formalized our community partnerships throughout the region, especially partnerships to help ensure we are building a more inclusive innovation economy in our region.

In other words, at a time when innovation is needed now more than ever, Wave has continued to foster that innovation [here](#) and successfully deliver on our mission of driving prosperity and opportunity by helping entrepreneurs build, launch, and grow breakout tech companies in Tampa Bay.

With 2021 around the corner, we expect next year will be our biggest year ever!

Continue fostering the overall growth of Tampa Bay's tech community
Further our commitment to removing barriers for under-represented founders
Amplify efforts to recruit more startups and talent TO Tampa Bay
Plus! **Many exciting post-COVID friendly renovations of our downtown Wave Venture Center.**

Economic downturns tend to ignite entrepreneurship, and necessity is the mother of invention. Thus, in the coming months, as more innovation solutions are coming to market, we want to continue to ensure those companies that start here can stay here and grow here. Plus, with more than a dozen tech startups who have moved to Tampa in the past few years due to Wave's programs, we believe that trend will explode in the coming years, as long as our community can provide the resources they need to reach breakout success.

We attribute all of this success to the inspiring entrepreneurs we serve, and the generous support of our community partners!

But don't blink.... The best is yet to come!

Linda Olson, CEO/Founder,

2020 Recap



As Seen in the Press!

Tampa Bay Wave and Embarc Collective Partnership Awarded 2-Year \$500,000 Grant from JPMorgan Chase to Support Women Tech Entrepreneurs in Florida ", Tampa Bay Business Journal (February 2020).

Tampa Bay Wave name top accelerator in the Southeast US for the "most deals", BIP Capital's State of Startups in the Southeast Report (October 2020).

According to BIP Capital's most recent annual "State of Startups in the Southeast Report ", "Tampa-based Tampa Bay Wave had the most deals for its companies, with 36 investments completed"

Tampa Bay Wave's new CyberTech|X Accelerator program named one of the top 3 cybersecurity accelerators to watch, Forbes (October 2020).

Tampa Bay Wave's new Rising Tide Relief Fund named a 2020 finalist for Tampa Bay Journal's Inno on Fire Awards, Tampa Bay Business Journal (October 2020).

See full list on page 23.



"The Wave presented the best opportunity for SPHER to enhance several useful skills including capital investment communication, networking, and sharpening our vision towards growth. The strong commitment from staff, mentors, and community set the Wave apart from every other Accelerator we looked at joining. We are deeply grateful for the guidance and ongoing contributions to our success."

Ray Ribble
Founder and CEO of SPHER
Industry: Cybersecurity for Healthcare

Thanks to Our Generous Supporters

Federal Supporters



Economic Development Supporters



Hillsborough
County Florida



Pillars of Innovation Sponsors



JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.



Tidal Wave Sponsors



“ ”

Why I support Tampa Bay Wave...

I believe it's important to empower the next generation of business leaders so that we can continue to foster a vibrant culture of innovation and growth, right here in our community.

Chuck Sykes
CEO, Sykes Enterprises

The COVID-19 Impact



COVID-19 Led to Increased Demands for Support from Startups

While many traditional businesses were dealing with layoffs and sharply declining sales, the majority of Wave's tech companies instead found new markets and increased demand for their products and services because of COVID. Many had solutions for some of the most pressing needs in our country – including solutions in healthcare, telemedicine, mental-telemedicine, online education, remote workforce support, and more.

Thus, as many of them faced exciting new opportunities, they needed far more coaching and other support to help them navigate the uncharted waters. And true to the entrepreneurial spirit upon which Wave was founded, our staff and mentor network stepped up in unprecedented ways to help these companies grow.

Impact on Wave Operations (No Layoffs!)

COVID impacted nearly every aspect of Wave's staff and programs:

While Wave was able to avoid layoffs, plans for key hires in 2020 were put on hold in March.

Without the additional team bandwidth, staff & volunteers stepped up tremendously to meet the growing demand from client startups.

Given the health and safety of Wave staff is top priority, all travel plans to key conferences were cancelled.

With no in-person events or programming options, Wave staff quickly pivoted to a 100% virtual environment.

Wave also closed its downtown Tampa venture center to the public in March and has worked closely with our landlord to implement stringent cleaning and mask protocols.

NOTE: As with prior years Wave was able to manage its financials well by cutting spending, attracting new sponsors and donors, as well as tapping into various COVID relief efforts. As of this report date, both positions that had gone unfilled earlier in the year are now funded, and cash reserves are on target to meet goal.

The Show Must Go On!

Even with a global pandemic, Wave stayed focused on delivering, not just one but, two 90-day programs in 2020: our signature *TechDiversity Accelerator* and our new *TechWomen Rising Accelerator*.

Without the ability to travel to prospect-rich conferences or other events, Wave still managed to attract hundreds of applications to this year's programs. Further both programs were converted to 100% virtual, which created both extra challenges but also created some new exciting opportunities. For example, without the burden of travel, many of the workshops included in this year's programs were delivered by nationally-recognized best-in-class speakers from across the US (and beyond) including

National Experts & Speakers in Wave's 2020 Accelerator Programs & Events:

[Jeff Hoffman](#), Chairman of the Board, Global Entrepreneurship Network, & former CEO of Priceline.com

[Gregarious Narain](#), founder of FounderCraft, and an innovation ecosystem leader from Denver.

[Ramit Singh](#), Techstars London Mentor, new Wave mentor.

[Maria Ogniva](#), Director of Online Customer Experience at FinancialForce

[Nathan Beckord](#), CEO and Founder of FounderSuite

[Keith Woods](#), Chief Diversity Officer, NPR

[Andy Stoll](#), Kauffman Foundation, Sr. Program Officer

Impact on Investing – attracting new / national investors

Wave's investor network now exceeds 300 investors, and has continued to grow in 2020. Although capital for some startups remains tight, several successfully raised capital during COVID. Thanks to partnerships around the state, as well as a 3-year federal grant from the U.S. EDA awarded in 2019, Wave continues to connect with new capital sources and work to expand the amount of startup capital, especially for our startups led by women and other underrepresented entrepreneurs.

Further, Wave continues to drive conversations around the community highlighting the need for meaningful solutions to help foster a more inclusive innovation-driven economy in Tampa Bay.

The COVID-19 Impact



Supporting Tampa Bay Startups in Times of Crisis!

NEW in 2020! Rising Tide Relief Fund (Raised \$40k and counting...)

By their nature, few startups qualified for governmental programs like those under the CARES Act. Many were slipping through the cracks of PPP and EIDL loan options. Thus, Wave saw the growing economic impact of our member companies due to COVID-19, and we quickly responded by launching the **Rising Tide Relief Fund** in April in order to raise funds and offer microloans to help bridge timing gaps while founders applied for other resources.

This new relief fund offered an entirely new channel for donor and media engagement. All proceeds were allocated to the emergency fund, and all microloan repayments will be used to replenish the fund for future crises. Our board and mentors were the first to step up, followed by a \$25,000 contribution from Valley Bank. *Note: Wave is still open to subsequent corporate donations which will allow for more loans now or in the future.*

As a result of early contributions, Wave was able to offer microloans to two member companies who are on track for repayment in 2021. The additional donation will allow for more loan approvals.

In October 2020, the **Tampa Bay Business Journal** named Tampa Bay Wave's new Rising Tide Relief Fund one of it's **2020 Inno on Fire finalists**. Winners will be announced on November 16, 2020.

Supporting Tampa Bay Entrepreneurs in Times of Crisis

Tampa Bay has seen tremendous growth within its tech sector in recent years, including innovative companies who are already finding ways to use technology to solve some of society's most critical COVID-19 challenges. Such companies are vital to Tampa's long-term economic growth by creating high-wage jobs and helping the local economy rebound quickly.

RISING TIDE RELIEF FUND

TAMPA BAY WAVE

Category:
Coronavirus heroes

Why they were picked:
In addition to helping their own startups, the Tampa Bay Wave launched the Rising Tide Relief Fund to help entrepreneurs specifically in the interim of waiting for federal relief funding.

Tampa Bay Wave
Tampa Bay Business Journal

2021 Plans – Our Biggest Year Yet!

2021 Major Themes

While our plans are still being finalized, we can share with you our important themes for Tampa Bay Wave going into 2021.

1

Growing Tampa Bay's Tech Community

2

Building a More Inclusive Local Tech Scene

3

Recruiting More Tech Startups To Tampa Bay

4

Modernizing Wave's Innovation Center for Tomorrow's Tech Workforce (post-COVID)



Growing Tampa Bay's Tech Community

Size Matters! The Importance of Reaching Critical Mass

Helping Tampa Bay reach greater critical mass of tech startups is essential for our community to tip the scales and become a more sustainable innovation ecosystem that can both attract and retain startups, talent, and capital.

Since launching our programs in 2013:

Thanks to our partnership with the University of South Florida, along with financial support from community partners such as Sykes Enterprises, Florida Blue, AVI-SPL, and more, Wave was able to launch its tech startup accelerator programs and collaborative innovation center in early 2013. Incredibly, in seven short years, Wave's programs have made a significant impact on the region.

320+

Total Startups
Supported

\$300 Million

Total Venture
Capital Raised

2,000+

Total Jobs Created
& Retained

Largest Tech Entrepreneurial Support Organization in Tampa Bay

Given Wave's history dating back to its early days as a meetup in 2008, no other organization in Tampa Bay can match the size and breadth of startups and other resources than Wave offers:

100+

Active Member
Companies Today

120+ Mentors

(Wave Mentor
Network)

300+ Investors

(Wave Investor
Network)

Doubling Down on the Region's Top Industries

By coalescing our resources with regional partners on a few key industries, we can foster stronger collaboration and see faster acceleration in the growth of our region's tech sector.

Key industries would include: **HealthTech, EdTech, FinTech, AI** and **Cyber**.



Key New Hire: Ramit Singh hired November 2020

Ramit Singh is an experienced entrepreneur and mentor who will help us double the overall portfolio of tech startups in the coming year. This position will provide both additional support to our year-round programming (called our CORE Membership), while also providing additional ecosystem leadership.

Growing Tampa Bay's Tech Community

Collaboration is Key to Growth

As many locals know, there are no six degrees of separation in Tampa Bay. Those who live here know that phrase all too well, but it does not necessarily refer to the size of the region, so much as to the “small town personality” that permeates Tampa Bay, including our business community.

Doing business here is like doing business with friends, creating a culture unlike most other regions in the country. Ultimately, this culture supports an incredible spirit of collaboration that will ultimately propel Tampa Bay's tech community onto the national map.

Wave's partnerships are extensive:

Global and national recruiting partners such as GAN.co, Gust, F6s, and more.

Local community partners including: **Tampa Bay Tech, Synapse, University of South Florida**, etc.

In 2018, Wave and **StarterStudio** (Orlando) collaborated on a 3-year \$300,000 federal grant from the US Economic Development Administration (US EDA), in order to build a stronger network of early stage investors “from the Space Coast to the Skyway”

In 2019, Wave and **Embarc Collective** collaborated on a \$500,000 grant from JPMorgan Chase in order to support the growth of women-led tech companies throughout Florida

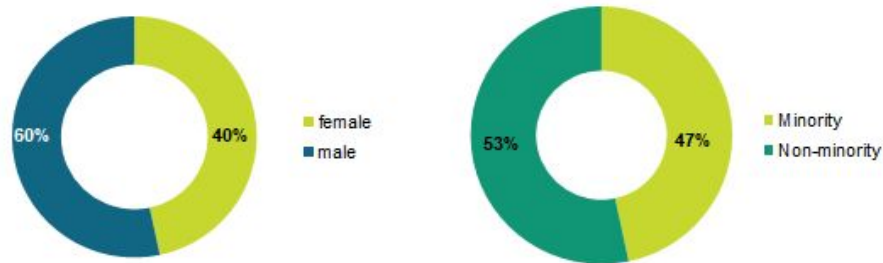
In 2020, Wave led the collaboration with with USF Women in Leadership & Philanthropy, Synapse, Embarc Collective, Tampa Bay Business & Wealth (TBBW), WUSF, and more to produce the inaugural **IN AWE event** to help foster a stronger cluster of women-led tech businesses in Florida.



Building a More Inclusive Local Tech Scene

Diversity and Inclusion Fosters Stronger, More Resilient Economies

Wave continues to make strides in attracting more female founders and founders of color, as well as diversity both geographically and by industry, helped by its growing reputation and broadened recruiting strategy.



Leading the Diversity & Inclusion in Tampa Bay's Tech Community since 2018

With generous support from the Nielsen Foundation, Wave launched its nationally-recognized TechDiversity Accelerator program in 2018. Now in its third year, this program is designed exclusively for early-stage tech companies that are 51% owned, controlled, and operated by a minority; woman; veteran; LGBTQIA person, or combination thereof.

Since this program launched in 2018, Wave has supported a total of 36 companies across three cohorts. However, as the reputation for this program has grown, the applications have become more competitive. In 2020, maybe our strongest cohort of companies yet, we attracted many high quality founders and startups:

Half of the companies are generating over \$50k MRR.

The companies include health tech, fintech, AI, and more.

Several have also graduated from other top tier program such as YCombinator, TechStars, etc.

Multiple companies include founders who have had prior exits.

Many founders also have experience working with or for Fortune 100 companies such as [IBM](#), [Oracle](#), [Amazon](#), [Visa](#), [Cisco](#), and [Deloitte](#)



“

The Tampa Bay Wave TechDiversity Accelerator really helped us level up our company development. They bring tremendous value and a strong network that has helped us learn and grow.

Tran T. Huynh, D.O.
OpticSurg, President

Building a More Inclusive Local Tech Scene

Hosted National Events Focused on Removing Barriers for Founders

As with many events in 2020, we pivoted our signature accelerator events, such as Pitch Night and Demo Day events, into 100% virtual format. This has allowed Wave to attract a bigger, more national audience of early stage tech investors for the benefit of the companies we serve, as well as to host important conversations around the need for solution-based thought leadership and solutions for our underrepresented founders.

For example, in June Wave hosted a kickoff event for our 2020 TechDiversity Accelerator program. This virtual format allowed us to attract speakers from around the US.



MODERATED BY:



KEITH WOODS
CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER, NPR



ANDY STOLL
SENIOR PROGRAM
OFFICER, KAUFFMAN
FOUNDATION



ANNA MASON
PARTNER, RISE OF THE REST
SEED FUND AT REVOLUTION
LLC



DR. JOSE MOREY
HEALTH AND TECHNOLOGY
SPEAKER, CONSULTANT FOR
NASA, IBM, HYPERLOOP
TRANSPORTATION, AND
LIBERTY BIOSECURITY



LAKENDRIA ROBINSON
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS
CONNECT & COMMUNITY
OUTREACH, TAMPA BAY
SUPER BOWL LV HOST
COMMITTEE

In September Wave hosted its first-ever virtual Demo Day for our 2020 TechDiversity Accelerator program which attracted investors from both within and outside Florida.



Building a More Inclusive Local Tech Scene



NEW in 2020! TechWomen Rising Accelerator & Other Women-Focused Programs

Wave launched its inaugural *TechWomen Rising Accelerator* in August 2020, thanks to the generous support of **JPMorgan Chase**. In August, we selected 15 female-led businesses from an applicant pool of >500 startups for this new 90-day accelerator program. Pitch Night was held on October 29th and Demo Day will be held November 17th.

Additionally, on October 22, Wave led the effort to co-host **IN AWE** (Investing in, Nurturing and Accelerating Women Entrepreneurs) in partnership with **USF's Women in Leadership & Philanthropy, Embarc Collective, Tampa Bay Business & Wealth Magazine** and **Synapse**. The goal of this inaugural free virtual conference, which attracted 320 attendees, was to bring together aspiring women entrepreneurs with women of influence to ignite awareness and conversations, with a call to action to get involved. Follow ups will be designed for early 2021. Sponsors include **Frontier, Raymond James, and Florida's Women in Energy Leadership Forum**.



“”

Tampa Bay Wave has been a refreshing and resourceful community that thrives in helping its entrepreneurs grow their companies while enriching their knowledge. Wave has helped Guest Box establish a strong voice in the hospitality and the entrepreneurship community.

Shuchi Vyas
GuestBox

© TechWomenRising Powered by JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.

Recruiting More Tech Startups TO Tampa Bay

Nationally-Recognized Accelerator Programs Attract Startups to Region

Wave's TechDiversity Accelerator program has attracted ~700 startup applications over the past three years, including companies from across the US and Latin America. Building upon that success, Wave will be kicking off our new CyberTech|X Accelerator program in January 2021 which will also recruit startups from outside Florida as well as outside the U.S. This exciting new program will partner with cybersecurity giants A-LIGN, KnowBe4, EY, Cyber Florida, Jabil, Sykes and more, plus the University of South Florida, in order to support a stronger cyber-reputation for the Tampa Bay region.

Thanks to Wave's growing national reputation, our programs continue to attract top talent and startups from across the US and beyond. Proudly, many of the best recruits in the past two years have come from referrals, further evidence of the quality programming at Wave. However, local partnerships have been critical to helping attract so many startups, including the Tampa Bay EDC and Pinellas County EDC.

13 Relocations and Counting Since 2013

Without designing any programs with the intention of attracting startups to Tampa Bay, collectively 13 tech startups have relocated or open a significant presence in Tampa Bay after participating in one of Wave's programs. Recent examples include TheIncLab, Lazarillo, and JustProtect

Massive National (& International) Exposure for Regions as a "Major Tech Destination"

Now that Wave's 90-day accelerator programs has been expanding its engagement and visibility through a mix of paid digital advertising, email campaigns, and social media. In 2020, our national media exposure which benefits the Tampa Bay market includes:

The New York Times
Entrepreneur Magazine
Inc.om
Forbes
Grit Daily
Yahoo News
BOLDTV
California Business Journal



"We are very proud of our decision to move to Tampa due to its burgeoning technology and cybersecurity industry and abundance of highly-qualified talent. "We spent a fair amount of time in the Tampa/St. Petersburg area in the past six months establishing key relationships and meeting with strategic partners to ensure the success of our expansion."

Adriana Avakian
Founder and CEO of TheIncLab
Industry: Cybersecurity / AI

Recruiting More Tech Startups TO Tampa Bay



Tampa Bay Wave diversity program attracts companies to area

CHRISTOPHER CURRY | TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

SHARE    



Rene Espinoza of Lazarillo.

Courtesy of Lazarillo



3

Recruiting More Tech Startups TO Tampa Bay

Wave's accelerator programs recruited companies from across the US & beyond again in 2020.

> 600 Startups

Applied to Wave's Programs in 2020

Of the 600 applicants,
61% came from outside of Florida, and
14% came from outside the U.S.



Ultimately, of the **28** total new companies that Wave added to its programs in 2020:

46%

Outside
Florida

7%

Outside U.S.

Recruiting More Tech Startups TO Tampa Bay



NEW in 2021! Wave's New CyberTechX Accelerator Launching this January

Tampa Bay Wave, along with many other community leaders, share a vision to grow Tampa Bay into a nationally-recognized hub for cybersecurity talent and innovation. Out of this desired birthed Wave's new 90-day accelerator program called the *CyberTech|X Accelerator*.

This new program was formed with help from a \$100,000 gift from the Bellini Better World foundation. Other key funding partners include A-LIGN, KnowBe4 and EY; plus strategic partners: Cyber Florida, USF Muma, Jabil, Sykes and Aditum.

The new CyberTech|X Accelerator is yet more evidence of the region's potential as a significant hub for tech talent and tech startups and is another game-changer for the Tampa Bay tech community. By coalescing around the cybersecurity industry sector at a time when Tampa Bay's cyber giants are experiencing exponential growth and demand for cybersecurity talent is growing at record pace, the region can better attract new talent and capital, ultimately creating many new high-wage jobs in the area.

Powered By



Strategic Partners



Upgrading Wave's Innovation Center for Tomorrow's Tech Workforce (post-COVID)

Wave's Venture Center was First of Its Kind in Tampa Bay Region

As one of the first major innovation hubs in the region, Wave's venture center has consistently attracted some of the region's brightest tech and entrepreneurial minds with its flex office space, creative content studio, and other shared resources. The venture center has also hosted several events with several hundred attendees each, including major political and business leaders including US Congressmen and Congresswomen, U.S. Department of Commerce staff, Mayors, and more. Plus, Wave's venture center typically hosts more than two dozen workshops and other educational and networking events each month.

Collectively, pre-COVID, Wave's venture center has enjoyed incredible foot traffic:

120,000+

Unique visits since 2013

25,000

Unique visits annually

500+

Event attendees monthly

An Innovation Hub to Keep Up with Our Region's Future Tech Talent & Startups

In the Post-COVID world, the demand for coworking has increased as business everywhere are accepting, if not struggling with, remote work forces. This is especially true for tech startups. Our Venture Center has remained closed to the public since mid March 2020, however the demand for flexible and safe coworking space continues to grow - especially as the fatigue of working from home continues to grow..

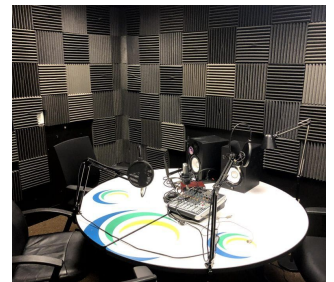
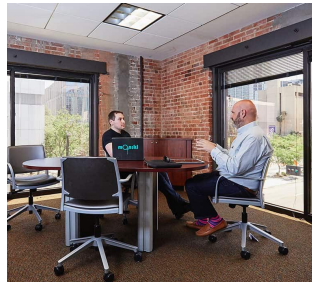
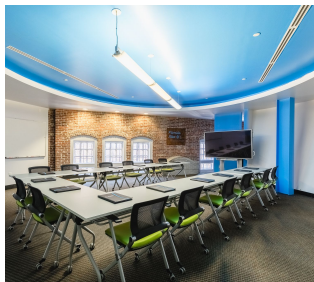
COMING 2021: Design Competition for Wave Venture Center (by Tampa Bay chapter of AIA)

The Tampa Bay chapter of the American Institute of Architecture (AIA) will be hosting a design competition with local architects to help Wave's venture center in downtown Tampa better support the startups and innovation workforce of the future.

The goal of the competition will be to develop new configurations and other upgrades to Wave's 10,000 square foot venture center:

- .To optimize the foot print to better support our 100+ tech startups
- .To ensure the health and safety of coworkers, visitors, and staff

This exciting competition will culminate with festivities to include celebrity judges, media exposure for these up & coming architects, as well as broader awareness building for the region's burgeoning tech scene. A final reveal event will also take place in late 2021 to coincide with the 100-year anniversary of our building..



Impact Spotlight



Neuroflow (TechDiversity Cohort 2019)



2019 TechDiversity alum Neuroflow has continued their rapid growth even with the COVID crisis. In 2018 revenues for Neuroflow were roughly \$100,000, and in 2019 revenues topped \$1,000,000. Much of this was due to connections forged through the Wave and the Wave community, including an introduction to the Air Force Innovation team by Dr. Richard Munassi, Wave Cohort Director. In fact, the introduction to AFWERX resulted in 3 contracts: an initial \$50,000 SBIR followed by a \$1,000,000 contract, and a soon to be closed \$1,500,000 contract.

Neuroflow is slated to hit close to \$5,000,000 in revenue for 2020, and will raise a Series B sometime in 2021. In addition, when accepted into the TechDiversity Accelerator cohort, Neuroflow had a total team size of 15 servicing less than 25,000 patients. Currently the team sits at 48, and they are servicing over 250,000 patients.

Upcoming Opportunities



Sneak Peek for Exciting 2021 Opportunities:

Wave has a lot on our plate to deliver on our 2021 priorities, including new opportunities for collaboration and sponsorships. We would be open to hearing your thoughts and suggestions on the items listed below.

Cybertech|X Accelerator (launching Jan 2021) – opportunity for additional key sponsors

Venture Center updates in preparation for our building's 100th anniversary in 2021 – A contest to modernize and redesign our innovation center is being hosted by the local AIA chapter. Sponsors are being sought for naming rights to several enhancements. – opportunities for conference room sponsorships and more.

Honoring Tampa Bay's Legacy Innovators (New annual event) – opportunity for a named sponsor

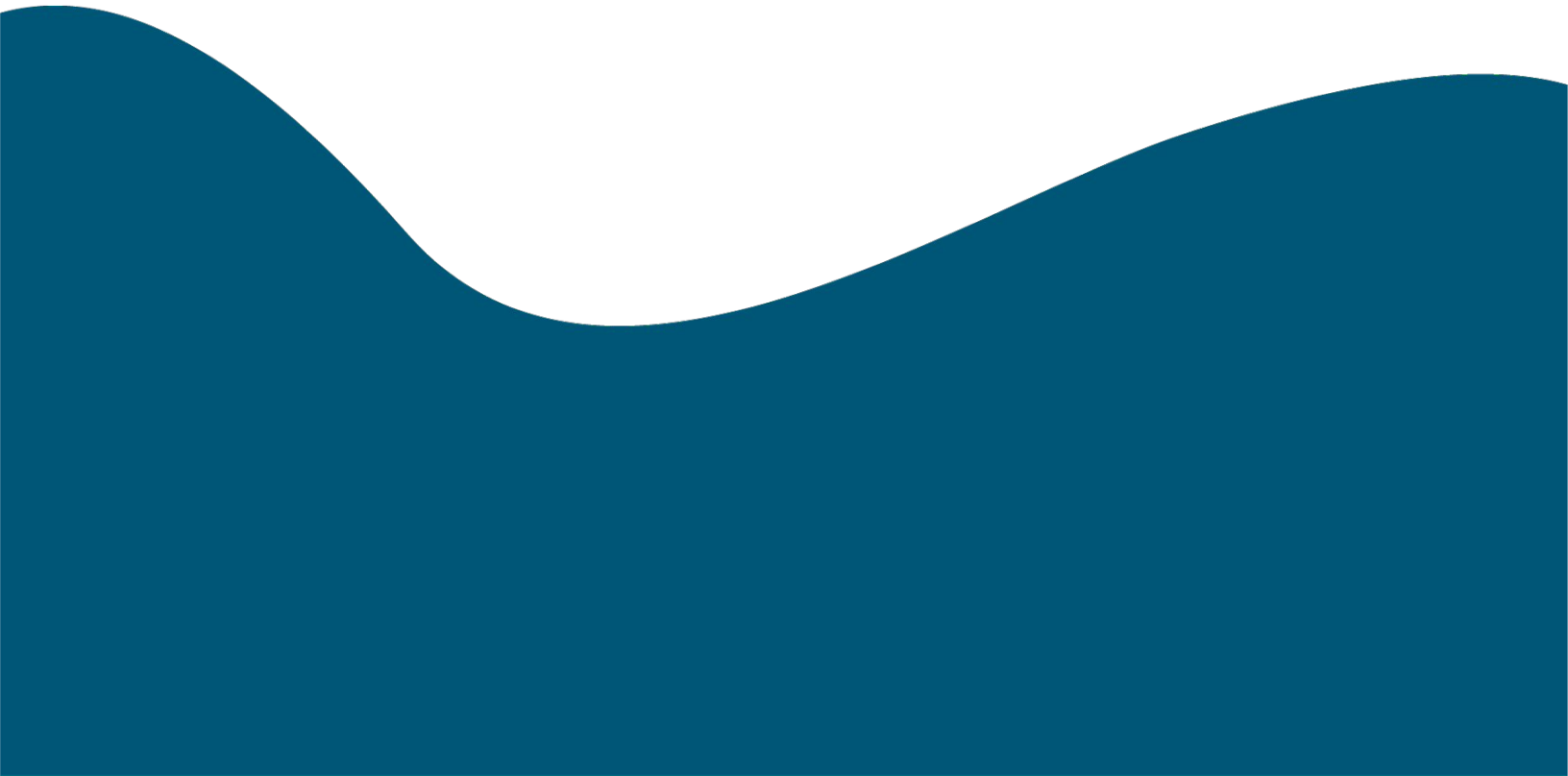
Wave's LinkedIn Live "Innovation Spotlight Segments" – opportunity for a named sponsor

Mentor Network, expanding in 2021 to twice monthly meetings and several more events (ex: Mentor Speed-Dating Events with Wave Startups) – opportunity for a named sponsor

Investor Network – opportunity for a named sponsor

Rising Tide Relief Fund – opportunity for additional named sponsors (Note: A name change is possibly in the works. We are open to suggestions as well.)

Addendum



Laptop Donation Drive

Wave Joined Community Partners to Ensure No Child Left Behind!

With so many school-aged children being forced into e-learning for the 2020-2021 school year, there is growing concern about whether low-to-moderate income households have a sufficient number of laptops or other devices so that all children have the proper tools they need. Thus, Wave joined several local organizations with a goal to ensure no child left behind! And the laptop donation drive was born.

The 3-day donation drive held in early September yielded 120 donated devices to be refurbished for the local Boys & Girls Clubs children. However, inquiries continue to pour in, for both cash and in-kind donations.

Given the success of our first year, the community partners now plan to host an annual laptop drive every summer to benefit local children.



LAPTOP & TABLET DRIVE

HELP STUDENTS STAY CONNECTED AT THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS AND THINK BIG FOR KIDS BY RECYCLING YOUR OLD LAPTOPS AND TABLETS.

SEPTEMBER 1ST-3RD

(12:00PM-7:00PM)

**DROP OFF LOCATION: TAMPA BAY WAVE
500 E KENNEDY BLVD, TAMPA, FL 33602.**

VISIT WWW.ESMARTRECYCLING.COM/COMMUNITY
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR REACH OUT TO
INFO@ESMARTRECYCLING.COM WITH QUESTIONS.



TAMPA BAY TECH



2020 Media Coverage



Tampa Bay Business Journal ["Tampa Bay Wave, Embarc unveil new program funded by JPMorgan"](#)

California Business Journal ["Ride The Wave How a small tech group of CEOs and entrepreneurs grew their innovative business model nationally."](#)

CBS Tampa Bay ["Minority-Founded Tech Startups Given Voice By Tampa-Based Non-Profit Co."](#)

Seedfunders ["Tampa Bay Wave panel: Diversity is an economic imperative"](#)

GritDaily ["Tampa Bay Wave Kicks off its 2020 Tech Diversity Accelerator Program"](#)

World Best News ["Tampa Bay Wave Kicks off its 2020 Tech Diversity Accelerator Program | Grit Daily News"](#)

Tampa Bay Business Journal ["Tampa Bay Wave to launch emergency loan program to help startups during coronavirus pandemic"](#)

Business Observer ["Business incubator launches COVID-19 aid program for area startups"](#)

News Break ["Tampa Bay Wave picks 15 tech startups for 2020 TechDiversity Accelerator"](#)

Tampa Bay Business Journal ["Tampa Bay Wave launches latest cohort, featuring the next crop of startups you need to know"](#)

Business Telegraph ["Tampa Bay Wave TechDiversity Accelerator Fosters Innovation By Underrepresented"](#)

ExBulletin ["Tampa Bay TechDiversity Wave accelerator drives innovation by being under-represented"](#)

Catalyst ["Care Valet, Oracle Health among the companies in Tampa Bay Wave's 2020 TechDiversity Accelerator"](#)

Grit Daily ["Tampa Bay Wave's TechWomen Rising 2020 Cohort: A Powerhouse of Female-led Innovation"](#)

Tampa Bay Business Journal ["Lakeland investment group introduces itself to the Tampa Bay tech scene with six-figure investment"](#)

Yahoo News ["Tampa Bay Wave has launched its inaugural TechWomen Rising Accelerator increasing venture capital investments in female-founded companies"](#)

Catalyst ["Area's biggest cyber companies back Tampa Bay Wave's new accelerator"](#)

Tampa Bay Inno ["Cybersecurity giants back new Tampa Bay Wave cohort focused on tech"](#)

Catalyst ["Tampa-St. Pete groups refuse to let Covid co-opt their celebration of women entrepreneurs"](#)

83Degrees Media ["IN AWE: Local startup groups pool resources to support women entrepreneurs"](#)

Tampa Bay Inno ["Report: Despite Covid, 'persistent maturation' has Southeast startups well positioned"](#)

Forbes ["Tampa Bay Wave, One of 3 Accelerators Solving COVID-19s Cybersecurity Crunch"](#)

Thank You!

For questions, please reach out to:

Linda Olson (linda@tampabaywave.org)

Dee Garcia (dgarcia@tampabaywave.org)

Follow Wave on social media:

