

The Emergence of Elevate Ventures

Elevate Ventures is a venture development organization that nurtures and develops emerging and existing high-potential businesses into high-performing, Indiana-based companies. Elevate uses its experienced team, including its Entrepreneurs-In-Residence (EIRs), to provide technical and business assistance to identified high-potential companies that have the intent and capacity to grow their company. Our team provides these services in the Northern Indiana Regions through our EIR Assistance Program, where Elevate's EIRs provide guidance, tool and resource development, their Economic Gardening Program and the Elevate Ventures Angel Network.

Economic Gardening Program: The Elevate Ventures Economic Gardening Program is designed to provide significant sophisticated technical assistance to identified second-stage companies that have the intent and capacity to grow their business. This Indiana program will provide economic gardening assistance to selected Indiana businesses statewide. These selected businesses will interact with an experienced national economic gardening team who will deliver economic gardening services tailored to each business' particular situation.

Elevate Ventures Co-Investment Angel Program: The Elevate Ventures Co-Investment Angel Program is the largest organized network of angel investors, angel groups, and other resources in the State of Indiana. It fosters investment in Indiana-based seed and early-stage ventures by providing deal flow, due diligence services, and co-investment capital. The program also helps connect entrepreneurs to growth-stimulating expertise and other valuable resources. These members contribute to the growth of Indiana's economy by supporting new entrepreneurial leaders with not only capital, but with technical expertise and support. In the end, this support system fosters business growth and employment opportunities in Indiana.

Activity in the Northern Regions:

In the short months since August 2011, the applications from the Northern Regions of Indiana account for over 38% (an average of 18 leads per month) of the applications reviewed by Elevate Ventures and have generated over 1000 hours of time spent with high-potential companies by Elevate's EIRs. Moving forward, Elevate intends to continue its focus on high-growth companies and the cultivation of a thriving ecosystem through their Regional Entrepreneurship Action Plan (REAP).

The REAP is a three year, \$18M plan that will be funded by national funders (\$9M), Elevate Ventures, the 21st Century Fund and other state capital programs (\$6M), and from regional organizations and investors (\$3M). Of this funding, 87% will go directly to services and investments in high potential startups and economic gardening companies.