



Implementing RAIN's Venture Catalyst Model

Contact:

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Description

The Venture Catalyst model involves a community inviting Oregon RAIN to assist in onboarding a Venture Catalyst (a local entrepreneur or angel investor committed to long term growth of the startup ecosystem in the region) to lead the charge in that community. The Venture Catalyst then partners with the community to catalyze entrepreneurial ecosystems, connect entrepreneurs to resources (including overlooked entrepreneurs), and contribute to the creation of prosperous economies.

The ultimate vision and end-goals of this model for Corvallis are the following:

- Corvallis supports, values, and celebrates entrepreneurs.
- Corvallis leaders recognize entrepreneurs as a primary creator of net new jobs.
- Corvallis has a thriving economy.
- A culture of possibilities is embraced in Corvallis.

You can learn more about the Venture Catalyst model at <https://www.oregonrain.org/our-model/>.

Timeframe

Initiative currently underway: RAIN has been providing venture catalyst services and programming since 2014 and expects to continue as long as communities continue to find value.

Funding

RAIN is funded in large part by Business Oregon, with additional funding from foundations, cities, counties, government agencies (e.g., USDA and EDA), and corporations.

Equity and Accessibility

Our startup portfolio has a good representation by gender (approximately 50/50) and ethnicity (approximately 90% white, 8% Hispanic/Latino, and 2% Black). We expect similar results going forward due to our inclusive approach to outreach and engagement.

Approvals

N/A

Community Action Plan (CAP) Objectives

IP1: Family & Living Wage Jobs
IP2: Nurturing Small-to-Medium Sized Businesses
IP4: Innovative Tech Businesses & Start-ups
IP7: Global Economic Impacts & Local Benefits

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Partners

Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute (ONAMI)
Oregon State University (OSU) and Oregon State University Advantage Accelerator (OSUAA)
RAIN Eugene
University of Oregon
Cascade Angels
Chambers of Commerce
Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
Linn County
Benton County