

# BRIDGING THE GAP

MEASURING THE IMPACT



# Importance



## Collaboration

Vital for community  
engagement



## Barriers

Common challenges  
faced today



## Budgets

Limited resources  
hinder progress



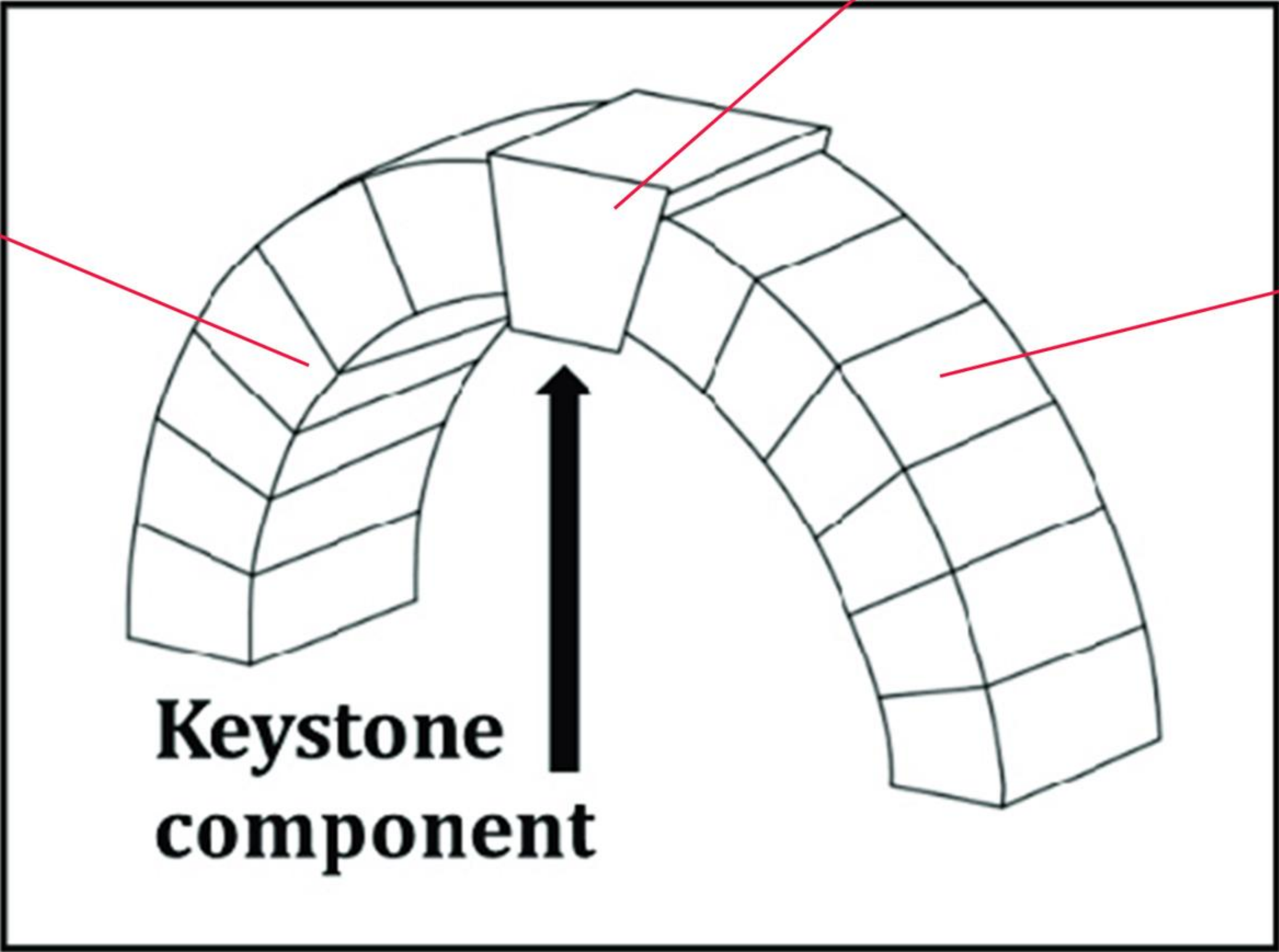
## Goals

Misalignment  
between  
stakeholders'  
objectives

**Education, community,  
workforce**

**The iHub**

**Business &  
Employers**



# You're Invited!

Innovators Roundtable (Industry Edition)



This session will focus on gathering input from our regional industry professionals as we finalize equipment and programming for the iHub. We'll be seeking your feedback and recommendations on our proposed tool list, planned programming, and competency-based credentials.

Enjoy coffee and donuts while we walk through our current plans and open the floor for a true roundtable discussion—your insights are vital to ensuring we build something meaningful and responsive to industry needs.

Please RSVP as we have a cap on the number of seats available inside the space.

Date: 06/19/2025

Time: 9:00 - 10:00 AM

Location: Intersect Coworking and Incubator 509 W Norfolk Ave, Norfolk NE 68701

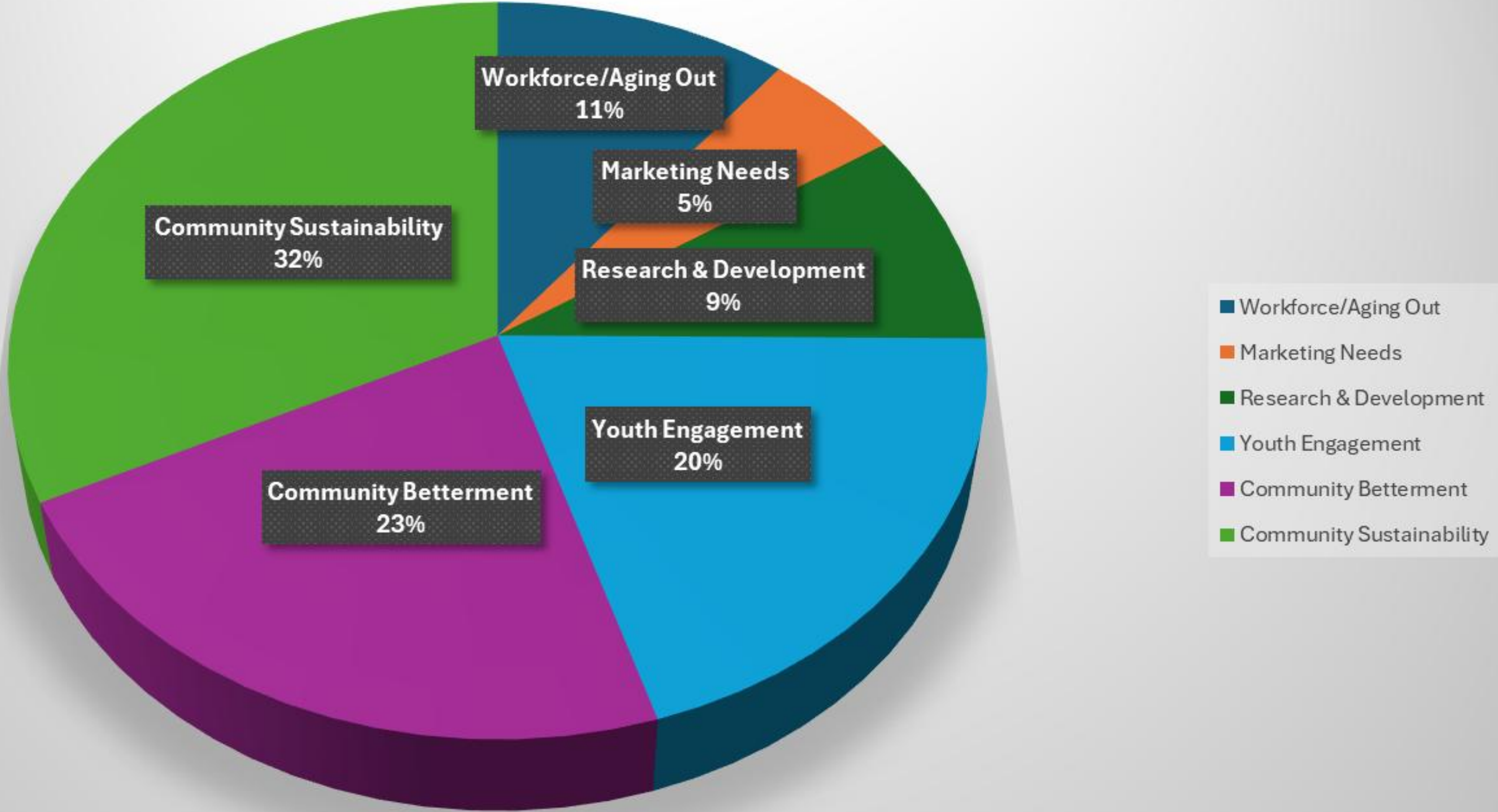
[RSVP HERE](#)

You're Invited: Q2 Innovators Roundtable - Facility Equipment & Programming

**Join us for the Innovators Roundtable!**



# WHAT WE HEAR FROM BUSINESS





## Stay Consistent

Have regularly scheduled touch bases with your stakeholders this can be monthly, quarterly, etc. but keep something on the calendar.



## TB Between Meetings

Utilize things like your regularly scheduled newsletters to engage with your business and industry partners in between the in-person meetings.



## Share Out Your Data

Provide numbers on your impact. Business and Industry love to know how many people you are impacting and how. Now they start to tell your story to other colleagues.



# Metrics



## Students

Number of students  
engaged annually



## Hours

Total hours of  
participation tracked



## Partnerships

Collaborations  
established with local  
businesses



## Media

Coverage received in  
local publications

# Our 2025 Impact

- 939 K-12th Students directly engaged with hands-on STEM activities
- Hosted 14 Summer Camps across 5 locations
- Hosted 28 hands on events for K-12<sup>th</sup>
- 1,658 students impacted through youth outreach events
- 83 incumbent workers received upskilling and training





# Where We've Been & Where We're Going



## By the Numbers: April through September Impact

From youth camps to industry training, the last six months have been full of activity and progress across the iHub. Each number represents more than participations it reflects real people gaining skills, exploring new technologies, and finding pathways to opportunity. Thank you to our industry and community partners, together our impact will continue to grow across Nebraska.

Industry Training & Upskilling	Our Applied Engineering trainer has provided training to <b>27 incumbent workers</b> in disciplines ranging from Alternating Control Systems, PLCs, AC & Control Systems and more.
Micro-Credentials Earned	Our Robotics Trainer has issued <b>13 industry recognized Micro-Credentials</b> in Robotics and Automation ranging from UR Core Robotics to SACA Robot Systems & Operations.
Youth Engagement	The team has engaged students Kindergarten through College with direct hands on activities in Robotics and STEM from half-day activities to camps ranging several days. In the past six months over <b>573 students</b> have been directly engaged.
Community Outreach	From speaking engagements, community events, and robotics events the iHub staff have engaged with roughly <b>1,058 community members</b> across the state of Nebraska in the last six months.
Speaking Engagements	The iHub team has been grateful to engage with community, business & industry, and elected officials by <b>speaking at 18 events</b> from panels to break out sessions and guest speaking at meetings.

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## Capturing Your Data

Capturing Data is difficult especially when you are a small team with limited funding and resources. However, our data is a key piece for us to leverage our impact, connect with business, and make the case for grants and donations.



## What Data is Important?

What is important to your community? Those are the data points you should focus on. Estimates are okay the important thing is telling our story.



## Where to Store Data


If you have software to track data, GREAT! If not, don't panic there are plenty of free and safe paper versions to get started with.

# iHUB Internal Monthly Reporting


This will help us stay aligned on tracking metrics for grants and future grant writing. It will also help ensure that I don't bug you too much via email.

Hi, Erin. When you submit this form, the owner will see your name and email address.


\* Required

1. Any Outreach Events in last 30 Days? If so, please include demographics, location, partners, and number of people reached. \* 

Enter your answer

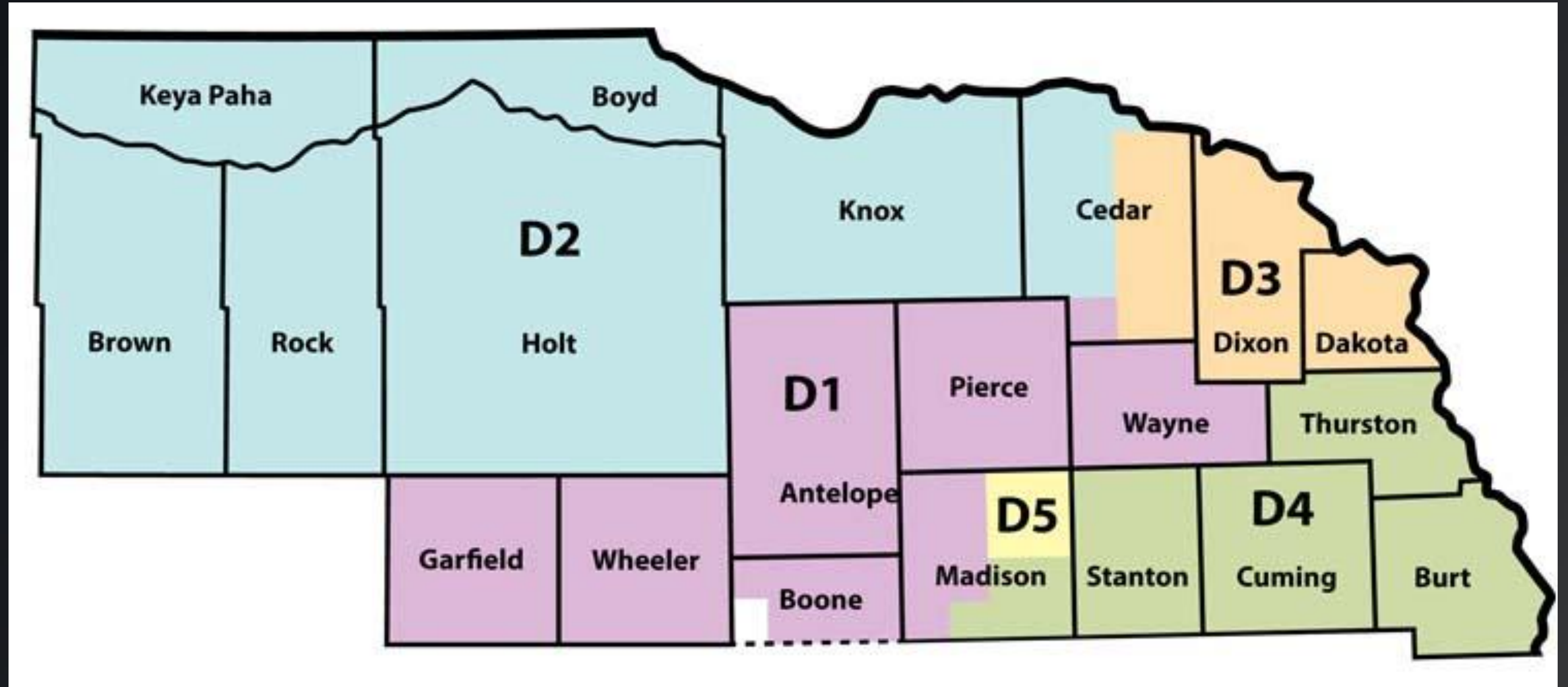
2. Progress made on programming or Upskilling in last 30 days? Can be deliverables or behind the scenes progress. \* 

Enter your answer

3. What assistance, if any, to be successful in programming, outreach, and training? \* 

Enter your answer

# NORTHEAST REGION



20-County Region

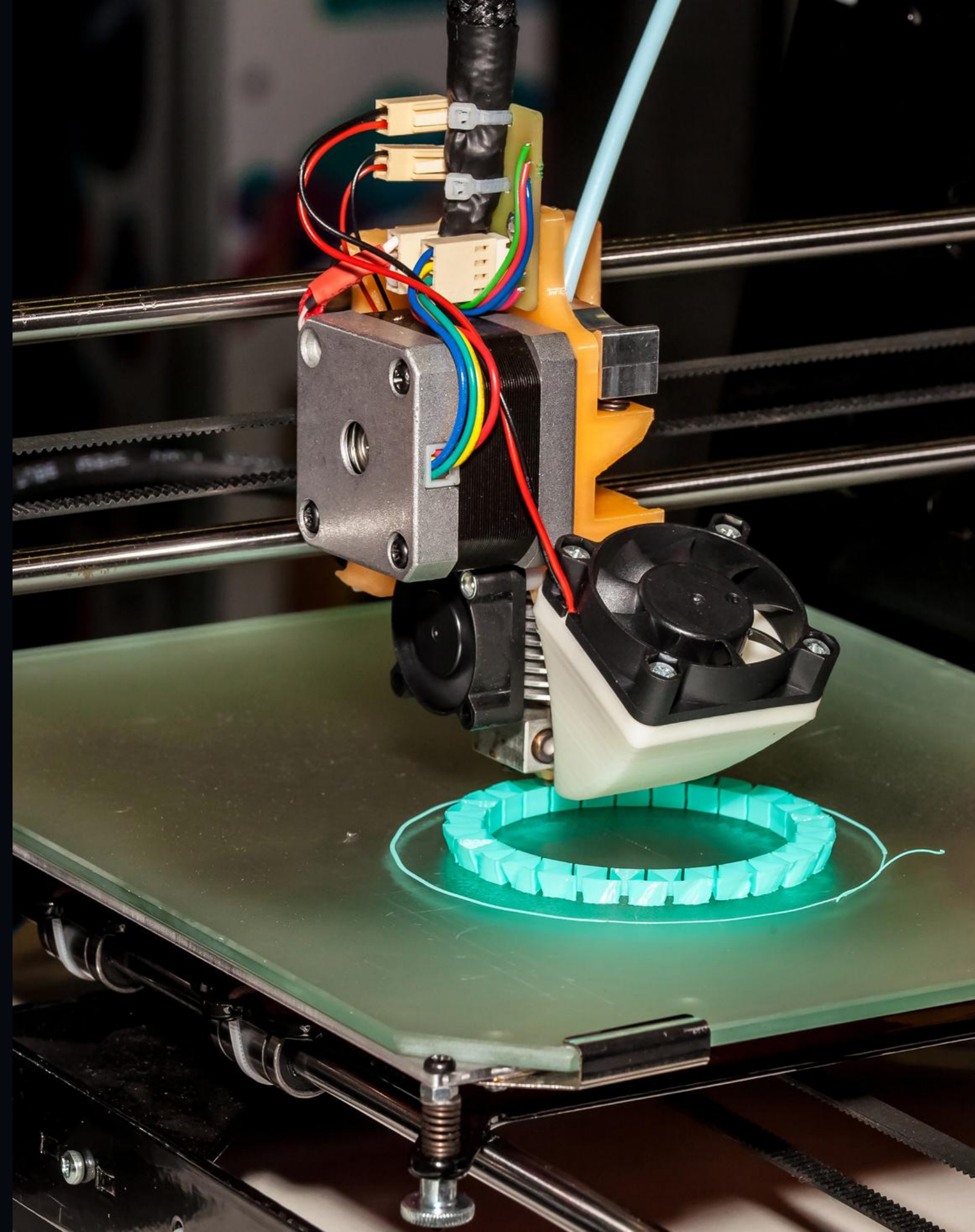
AGRICULTURE

MANUFACTURING

INSURANCE, FINANCE, ETC.

# Research & Development

- 3D Printers
- Laser Cutters
- CNC Machine
- Soldering Stations



# Low-Cost Collaboration Examples for Makerspaces



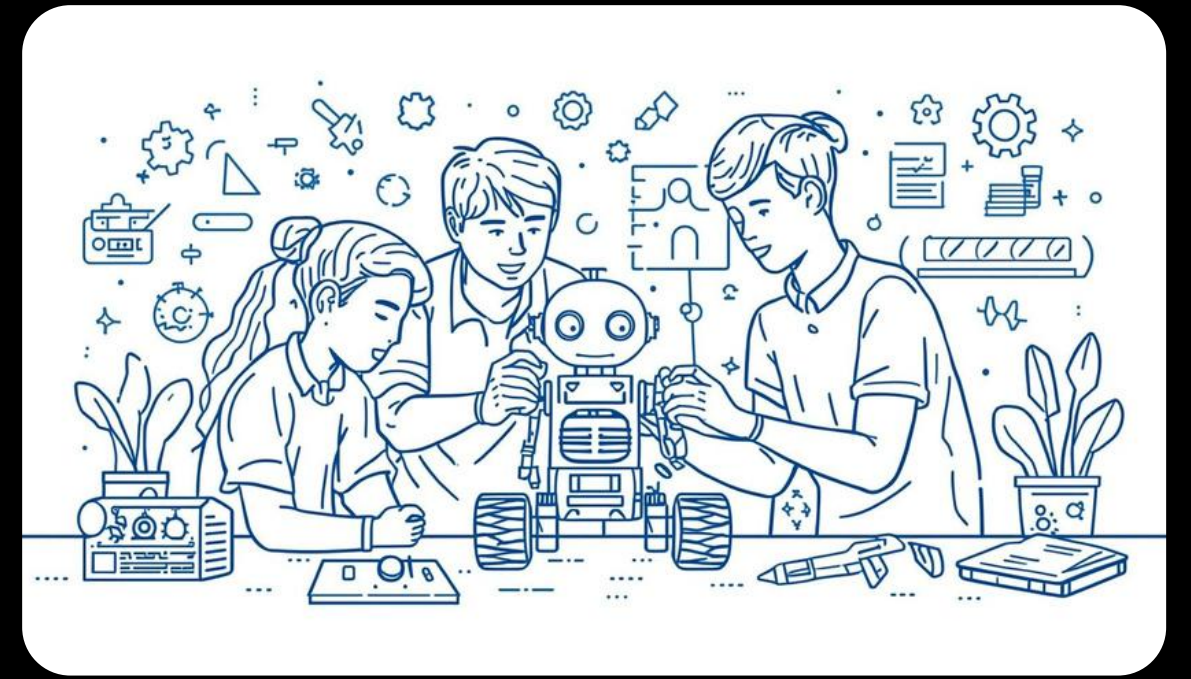
## Community Night

Engage local families in creative activities.



## Employer Workshop

Connect students with industry professionals directly.



## Robotics Mentoring

Foster skills through hands-on robotics projects.

# Communicating Impact

Combine stories, visuals, and data for success



# The Future of Work

## Preparing Youth for Tomorrow's Opportunities

Emphasizing collaboration and innovation in makerspaces equips students with essential skills, fostering adaptability and creativity for **thriving in automated** and technology-driven industries.



“THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT  
THE FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT.”  
-PETER DRUCKER



# Thank You

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