

## **LaunchTN Announces Creative Communities Grantees**

Nashville, TN, July 25, 2016 – Launch Tennessee (LaunchTN) announced today the recipients of their Creative Communities Grants program. This initiative was created to connect rural and underserved populations with entrepreneurial education, tools and resources. All grantees will be using their awards to run entrepreneurial or workforce development programs.

Applicants were encouraged to collaborate with other local partners to customize their programming based on the demand and niche in their communities. LaunchTN provided a "tool kit" with ready-to-deploy curriculums, such as <a href="CO.STARTERS">CO.STARTERS</a>, <a href="100 Girls of Code">100 Girls of Code</a> and <a href="Dev Catalyst">Dev Catalyst</a>, that organizations could utilize when creating proposals.

Creative Communities was a competitive application process and grantees were selected by a review committee made up of LaunchTN staff, board members and external partners. Proposals were scored on plan and feasibility, partner engagement, program demand, goals, and reach (populations/counties touched).

There was a total of \$250,000 awarded to 13 organization with sums of up to \$25,000 each. The award recipients include: the CO (Jackson, TN), Knoxville Area Urban League (Knoxville, TN), Cumberland Business Incubator – Roane State Community College (Crossville, TN), Knoxville Entrepreneurship Center (Knoxville, TN), BizFoundry (Cookeville, TN), Hancock County Board of Education (Sneedville, TN), Live.Love.Hope (Knoxville, TN), Grundy County School District (Altamont, TN), AccelNow (Kingsport, TN), Fentress County Schools (Jamestown, TN), United Way of Coffee and Moore County (Tullahoma, TN), Junior Achievement of East TN (Knoxville, TN) and Entrepreneur Center Northwest TN, INC (Martin, TN). Click here for a breakdown of the recipients and the awards granted.

For more information on the Creative Communities program and updates on future application opportunities, please visit <a href="mailto:launchtn.org/entrepreneurship/creative-communities">launchtn.org/entrepreneurship/creative-communities</a>. LaunchTN expects the next opportunity for funding to open up in Fall 2016.

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