



NEXT exists to guide and support high-growth, high-potential entrepreneurs and their businesses in Greenville and across the Upstate of South Carolina. Our goal is to be the #1 hub in the Southeast for innovation and technology-enabled startups, generating job opportunities and creating wealth across the ecosystem.

165

supported
companies in
2021

Who We Support

High growth, high-impact companies headquartered in the Upstate areas with a Greenville-first focus

26%

Female and/or
minority-led

Top Industry Verticals

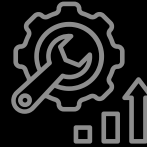
of supported companies



Information
Technology &
Services



Business
Services



Advanced
Manufacturing



Life
Sciences



Consumer
Packaged
Goods

The Impact of Entrepreneurship

NEXT-supported companies were responsible for:

349

new jobs

148

interns
employed

2,017

total full time
employees

\$96,829

avg wages of FTEs

1.8x

GVL county avg

\$195,303,938

total annual payroll

What We've Been Up To

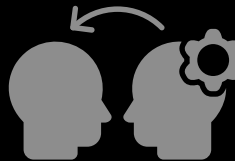
We're a small, scrappy squad coordinating and executing programs for an ecosystem of founders and their teams. Everything from one-on-one meetings, small group settings, to 100+ person conferences. 2021 brought challenges but in the true spirit of entrepreneurship, our region overcame and flourished.

Our bespoke services

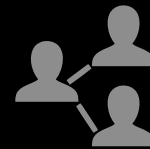
for member companies



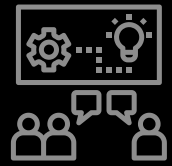
Access to
Flexible Space



Venture
Mentoring



Direct
Connections



Founder
Workshops

Venture Mentoring Service

20
ventures mentored
in 2021

32
volunteer mentors
in 2021

1,378
hours volunteered
by mentors

Our team-based mentoring program is based on the model licensed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Mentors have helped participants:

- find and apply for grant funding
- navigate acquisition by private equity
- secure patents for IP

Founder Workshops

With content curated specifically for founders, we focus on providing what entrepreneurs need, when they need it.

16
events hosted
in 2021

473
founder attendees
in 2021

These events include formats such as:

- Entrepreneur Exchange
- Learning Labs
- Fireside Chats

NEXT Venture Pitch

Our annual conference has evolved over the last 6 years. Born out of a need to recruit venture capital to the region, the day-long event hosts educational workshops, world-class keynotes, and a showcase of the top-growing startups in the Carolinas.

308
conference attendees

21
venture capital investors hosted

\$34Billion+

in funds represented

80+
applicants

30
semi-finalists

9
finalists

Thank you to our foundational supporters:

