



2023 Annual Report

Digital Defiance: A Year of Foundation and Growth

Introduction

Digital Defiance, an Open Source Engineering Guild, was officially launched and incorporated on March 23, 2023. This year marked the beginning of our journey as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, dedicated to fostering innovation and collaboration in the open source community.

Key Milestones and Partnerships

- **Incorporation and 501(c)3 Status:** Achieved official incorporation and later secured 501(c)3 status, retroactive to our founding date.
- **Partnerships:** Formed crucial partnerships with organizations like TechSoup, MongoDB, NX (nrwl.io), GitBook, AirTable, GitHub, 1Password, Studio3T, Twilio, Salesforce, Amazon AWS, Microsoft, DonorPerfect, Zoom, Adobe, and Miro. These collaborations have been instrumental in providing resources and support for our operations.
- **Microsoft 365 Subscription:** Through TechSoup, we secured Microsoft 365 email subscriptions for nine members, enhancing our communication and productivity capabilities.

Financial Overview

As Chief Operating Officer, Jessica Mulein played a pivotal role in setting up and funding the operations of Digital Defiance. Key expenses included:

- **Incorporation and Legal Fees:** \$268.95 for incorporation documents and state registration.
- **Software Subscriptions:**
  - Microsoft 365: \$108 for 9 licenses.
  - Fiverr: \$90 for logo design.
  - WordPress: \$350 for website hosting.
  - QuickBooks: \$160 for financial management.
  - Zoom: \$100 for meeting facilitation.
  - Adobe: \$264 for design and promotional materials.
  - Studio 3T: \$350 for MongoDB application development.
  - DonorPerfect: \$60 for donation management.
- **Miscellaneous Expenses:** \$191 on various resources including FreePik, fonts, and website plugins.
- **OpenAI Subscription:** \$22/month for ChatGPT, utilized in open source projects.
- **Grants:**
  - Amazon Web Services: \$1,000 via TechSoup for a \$95 admin fee paid for by Rui Campos, one of our founders. An additional \$5,000 was granted via AWS Activate Portfolio using FoundersCard with an additional \$1,500 business support credit.
  - AirTable: \$2,000 via FoundersCard
  - MongoDB: \$350
  - Auth0 by Okta: Valued at approximately \$20,000
  - GitBook: Valued at \$12.50/user/month \* 10 users \* 12 months = \$1500
  - 1Password: Valued at \$7.99/user/month \* 10 users \* 12 months = \$958
  - GitHub: Valued at \$21/user/month \* 10 users \* 12 months = \$2520
  - NX: Valued at >\$249/month = \$2988
  - Twilio: \$100
  - Miro: \$1,000

Total operating costs as of November 18, 2023, were approximately \$1,930. Notably, many expenses were effectively halved due to Microsoft's corporate matching program, through which Jessica Mulein's donations were doubled. Counting grant value, Digital Defiance had a net value of \$36,986.

Challenges and Opportunities

While our initial funding primarily came from our President, Jessica Mulein, one of our primary goals for 2024 is to expand our donor base. We aim to engage more with tech companies and leverage donation matching programs to enhance our funding.

Looking Ahead

As we move into 2024, Digital Defiance is poised to expand its impact in the open source community. We plan to increase our outreach efforts, strengthen our partnerships, and continue to provide valuable resources and support to open source projects and contributors.

Conclusion

The year 2023 was a foundational year for Digital Defiance, marked by significant partnerships, strategic investments in resources, and a commitment to fostering a vibrant open source community. We are grateful for the support and contributions of our members, especially Jessica Mulein, and look forward to a productive and impactful 2024.



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