# Stavvy



#### **Most Recent Coverage:**

**Stavvy**, a greater Boston-based startup offering a platform for connecting mortgage lenders to their vendors, could be in a position to examine an equity raise in mid-2021, but is now focused on bringing customers online, said co-founder Josh Feinblum. (*Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article*)

## **Brief Summary:**

Stavvy is offering an all-in-one technology platform, Stavvy Connect, which helps lenders and their vendor partners connect during the underwriting and settlement process of home loans. Stavvy Connect includes a remote signature tool, Stavvy Notarize, which enables closing agents to use a vetted and approved tool to perform remote ink-signed, hybrid, or RON closings.

## Investors:

Morningside Group

#### Co-founder:

Josh Feinblum





#### Interesting Fact:

Ligris had previously founded a law firm and Feinblum worked in real-estate prior to pursuing a career in technology. The two first met while attending MIT Sloan and had a conversation on Christmas Eve of 2018 about developing tech that could make home closings more pleasant and modern in states that allowed virtual closings. The two began working together full-time on the idea in June 2019.





**PhomeZada**, an El Dorado Hills, California-based provider of personal finance software for homeowners, is ready to raise its Series A round, said John Bodrozic, CEO and co-founder. (Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article)

## **Brief Summary:**

HomeZada is a home finance app that helps consumers manage financial decisions regarding their homes. The app tracks a variety of home financial data such as estimated home values, property taxes, mortgage schedules, budgets, expenses, insurance costs, and home equity.

#### Investors:

Moneta Ventures

#### CEO and co-founder:

John Bodrozic





## Interesting Fact:

HomeZada is a home finance app that was founded in 2011, the company was initially bootstrapped by Bodrozic and his two co-founders. It raised \$2.1m in funding in 2014 from Moneta Ventures and angel investors. Prior to HomeZada, Bodrozic founded Meridian Project Systems, a construction project management company, which he bootstrapped until eventually raising \$13m in funding and then selling to Trimble in 2006.





**Proostify**, a San Francisco-based mortgage lending platform, is actively exploring its Series C raise, said Rajesh Bhat, CEO and co-founder. (*Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article*)

## **Brief Summary:**

Roostify offers a private label SaaS product for banks and lenders which launched in 2014. The company's technology is designed to improve the home buying experience by allowing buyers to complete the process digitally.

#### Investors:

Cota Capital, Point72 Ventures, Santander Innoventures, the venture capital arm of Banco Santander, JPMorgan Chase, Colchis Capital and a subsidiary of USAA

## CEO and co-founder:

Rajesh Bhat





## **Interesting Fact:**

The name Roostify comes from "roost," which means home and "ify," which means transformation, he explained. Additionally, one of the co-founders who was an ex-Google employee, felt strongly about including a "oo" in the name.

## Noah



## **Most Recent Coverage:**

**Noah**, a San Francisco-based home equity sharing platform, may raise its Series B in 12 to 24 months, said Sahil Gupta, founder and CEO. (*Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article*)

## **Brief Summary:**

Noah partners with homeowners to provide home equity sharing. Instead of the homeowner paying interest, Noah receives a share in the future appreciation of the house.

#### Investors:

Union Square Ventures, Breega Capital and Techstars Ventures

#### CEO and founder:

Sahil Gupta





#### **Interesting Fact:**

Gupta, an immigrant from India, received his master's from Carnegie Mellon University -Tepper School of Business in 2006. He then worked as an asset manager on Wall Street in 2008-10 during the financial housing crisis where he witnessed average Joes lose everything. He also served as a director at Motif Investing, which was acquired by Charles Schwab. Gupta founded Noah because he wanted to help consumers with their financial wealth.



website

\*\*Ubitquity, an enterprise-ready blockchain platform for real estate recordkeeping, lanning to expand into the South East Asian market. (Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article)

## **Brief Summary:**

Ubitquity introduced a recording and tracking system, which using blockchain, adds transparency to the process and to ownership and property information. It also reduced search time. With its blockchain platform, it aims to strengthen and not replace its existing analog counterpart: the physical or paper records in real estate and its client base includes title companies, municipalities/land records offices, the CEO said.

## CEO:

Nathan Wosnack





#### **Interesting Fact:**

Wosnack has been an entrepreneur since the age of 19 and has had a couple of successful exits. He considers Ubitquity to be the most fulfilling company he has ever started because it went from a startup with no money, no customers, and no platform to one that with a SaaS platform and API, a growing customer list and a healthy amount of revenue, he told FHM.



**Pzibo**, a Redwood City, California-based fintech focused on serving the rental property owners market, will look at raising Series A funding next year, said Chris Hsu, CEO and co-founder. (Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article)

#### **Brief Summary:**

The company's platform simplifies financial services for rental property owners by offering banking, bill payment, payment systems, security deposit services, lending and insurance services..

#### Advisors:

Fenwick

#### Investors:

Kholsa Ventures, QED Investors, and SVB Capital

#### CEO and co-founder:

Chris Hsu





## Interesting Fact:

The company expects to be cash flow positive in three to four years, Hsu said. Zibo does not anticipate this business being a "capital hole." Funding is needed for the technology platform and initial customer acquisition, and scale but beyond that, Zibo expects to be able to self-fund via revenue.





**Phomee**, a Tampa, Florida-based on-demand property maintenance technology company, will likely raise its series C round in 18 months, said Brandon Micko, vice president of marketing. (Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article)

#### **Brief Summary:**

Homee is an-demand property maintenance service that provides customers with instant access to electricians, plumbers, HVAC technicians and handymen from the convenience of their smart phones. The Homee app allows users to find GPS-located service providers and request immediate service.

Jun 27, 2019



## **Most Recent Coverage:**

**Finicity**, a Murray, Utah-based developer of digitized documents for home borrowers, may require more capital as it begins to expand its recent entry into the credit score arena, said Andy Capener, vice president. (Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article)

## **Brief Summary:**

Finicity Reports provide borrower-permissioned access to his or her financial account information while lenders can verify customer assets and income without exchanging documents. The system does not require a second request or verification and expedites the underwriting process, the executive said.

#### Jun 14, 2019





## **Most Recent Coverage:**

**Phabito**, a London-based online mortgage search and comparison site, is finalizing a growth round of equity capital, CEO Daniel Hegarty told this news service. (*Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article*)

## **Brief Summary:**

Habito does not itself make loans, but serves as an online marketplace/broker, connecting those seeking a mortgage with more than 90 different lenders, the CEO said.

## Interesting Fact:

Prior to Habito, Hegarty was Head of Product at Wonga, a UK-based online lender, where he started working in 2007. Before Wonga, Hegarty worked for more than 10 years as a professional musician. He began his career in music, when he was 16, when his punk rock band, Serum, was signed to a record deal.





\*\*Poivvy Homes, a San Francisco-based startup that helps people purchase between 2% and 10% of any home and buy more ownership over time, expects to raise more capital as it expands into new states to help would-be homeowners to pay a portion of rent while investing equity, said Adena Hefets, co-founder and COO. (Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article)

## **Brief Summary:**

Customers of Divvy are able to purchase between 2% and 10% of any home and buy more ownership over time. The program allows customers/home residents to pay rent only on the portion of the home they do not own. The residents can move toward full home ownership at any time. While living in the home, the customers make a monthly payment that includes rent, plus an equity payment that goes toward ownership of the home.

#### COO (now CEO) and co-founder:

Adena Hefets





#### **Interesting Fact:**

Hefets said Divvy wants to extend its program to other cities and states, but there frequently is not as much demand for rent-to-own home programs in areas where the median home price is much higher, such as Boston, New York and California. The monthly payments may be out of the reach of customers, and home inventory is scarce. By operating in select, high-inventory markets, Divvy customers can have access to building wealth sooner than they expected, noted Hefets.





\*\*Abstract Tokenization\*, a Q&A with Abel Cuskelly, CEO and co-founder of Abstract Tokenization, a greater Seattle and Denver-based startup that is building a platform that uses blockchain technology for securitizing commercial real estate ownership interests. In the Q&A, Cuskelly discusses the industry's need for automation and his company's own plans for growth. (Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article)

## **Brief Summary:**

The company is developing primary issuance financial infrastructure that utilizes blockchain technology to convert private, illiquid ownership in real estate into more tradeable, regulatory compliant digital securities that are stored and transferred using distributed ledger technology and tradable after one year or less.

**CEO:**Abel Cuskelly





## **Interesting Fact:**

Converting the ownership of such a large base of assets into a digital format is a massive undertaking and requires involvement by numerous entities to be successfully executed. Consequently, we are big advocates of partnering out non-core competencies to provide a comprehensive offering incorporating best in class providers in the space, the CEO said.





**PBee Token**, a decentralized home sharing network, may consider selling a stake of its community tokens to a strategic buyer, CEO Jonathan Chou told this news service. (Please click on the hyperlink above to read this article)

## **Brief Summary:**

The Bee Token operates Beenest, a blockchain-based platform where Bee Token holders can book accommodations and hosts can earn income from renting their homes. The Beenest dApp and the Bee Protocols are powered by an ERC-20 utility token. The company was founded in 2017.

## CEO:

Jonathan Chou





## **Interesting Fact:**

Prior to starting Bee Token, Chou worked at Uber's Security & Fraud division. He has also held positions at Grindr and Dongwei. Prior to that, Chou was active in family-owned businesses which were eventually sold to Sun Chemical and 3M.