

For Immediate Release

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Accelerating Kentucky's Startup Eco-System: Fellowship Companies Raise the

"There are so many exciting things happening for Kentucky startups. I'm looking forward to working to keep that trend rolling." - Jonathan Frazier, Mailhaven

LEXINGTON, KY – March 20, 2017 - Awesome Inc, the hi-tech incubator and computer coding school that provides crucial assistance to early-stage companies in Kentucky, has added strong new companies to their portfolio while alumni of the program continue to excel.

Since 2013, The Awesome Fellowship has accepted 23 Kentucky-based hi-tech startups into its program. Companies receive access to a wide range of training, multi-media design, free workspace and pro bono legal and accounting services. Additionally, they get access to established business mentors and early-stage venture investors. To date, Fellowship companies have created 123 hi-tech jobs in Kentucky and have attracted over \$7 million in investment capital.

Brian Raney, Awesome Inc founder and advocate for entrepreneurship and hi-tech learning noted that "Awesome Inc is on the cutting edge of new business creation. These startups are using technology to solve real-world problems that impact so many of our lives. I'm excited by their prospects and look forward to supporting them on their journey."

Leading the way for startups experiencing tremendous growth are Fellowship alumnus, Hippo Manager and program newcomer, Mailhaven.

Hippo Manager, based in Lexington, KY, is a cloud-based, veterinary practice management software. Hippo Manager provides all the tools needed to run a clinic or hospital, including SOAP notes, medical records, patient scheduler, reporting, point of sale, inventory, reminders, and more. When accepted into the Fellowship in March 2015, Founders Sam Razor and Bart Conrad had little more than the \$4,000 they were able to invest themselves. Two years later, Hippo Manager has now raised over \$580,000 in outside investment and currently accounts for eight jobs in Kentucky. Visit www.hippomanager.com to learn more.



<u>Mailhaven</u>, the newest team to be added to the Awesome Fellowship, is based in Louisville, KY. A solution for missed deliveries and stolen packages, Mailhaven is the brainchild of Kela Ivonye and Jonathan Frazier. So far, the company has been awarded \$25,000 from the Vogt Awards Program and a \$75,000 grant from the Nucleus Innovation Network. The team has been accepted into Highway 1, a prestigious hardware accelerator in San Francisco, CA. Visit <u>www.mailhaven.co</u> to learn more about their working prototype.

Get involved

- Learn more about the Awesome Fellowship at Fellowship.Awesomeinc.org
- Know of an early-stage startup that would benefit from Fellowship resources? Tell them to contact Keith.McMunn@AwesomeInc.org
- Want to be a mentor? Contact Keith.McMunn@AwesomeInc.org

About Awesome Inc

Based in Lexington, Kentucky, Awesome Inc exists to help grow the Kentucky startup and tech community. Its Awesome Inc U coding school trains children and adults in software development. Its Fellowship program provides training, pro bono business services, and access to mentors and investors for startup companies with demonstrated market potential. Awesome Inc is also the founder of the Kentucky Entrepreneur Hall of Fame. To find out more, go to www.awesomeinc.org

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