

Case Study: Awesome Inc.

Mike Hilton helped Awesome Inc., an entrepreneurial hub for high-tech startups, build an entrepreneurial training program that has exceeded expectations – growing from short-term grant funding to self-sustaining with a potential for strong future expansion. His skills, expertise and strategic thinking not only had a positive impact on the grant program, they also benefited the entire organization.

This is what Awesome Inc. had to say:

We recruited Mike to launch and lead the corporate innovation program because his background afforded him good experience in shaping community-driven initiatives.

In the first 2 years, the corporate innovation program has led several workshops designed to implement intrapreneurial thinking within the corporate landscape. We have identified a market opportunity with these programs that has led to several larger engagements. In addition, we are in the process of spinning out our corporate innovation program to become its own entity.

Bringing Mike on has allowed Awesome Inc to grow our corporate partnership at a faster pace and achieve larger outcomes than expected.

He brought a level of vision and strategic thinking that allowed us to build effective relationships quickly. His leadership skills have attracted talented team members and customers, and his strong communication and networking skills have also contributed to the success of our corporate innovation program.

Mike also has impacted our organization beyond his work with the grant. His strategic thinking has rubbed off on many of our other team members. He's helped our team think through complicated problems in ways that we would not have otherwise.

He has a strong desire to better the community he lives in and truly cares about the people around him -- that is demonstrated regularly. Mike has taken the strengths of his personality, the skills from his experience and merged those with our company's culture in a way that is bringing positive change to our team, our customers and the state of Kentucky.