



## Special eNews: August 2022

### MFF Celebrates over 50 Members making the Michigan Pledge!

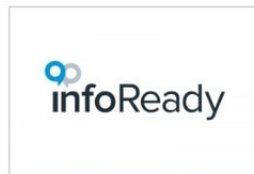
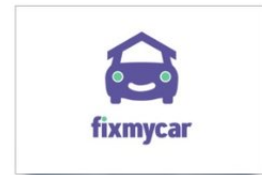
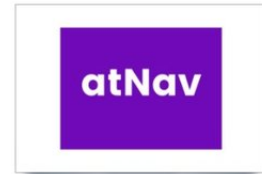
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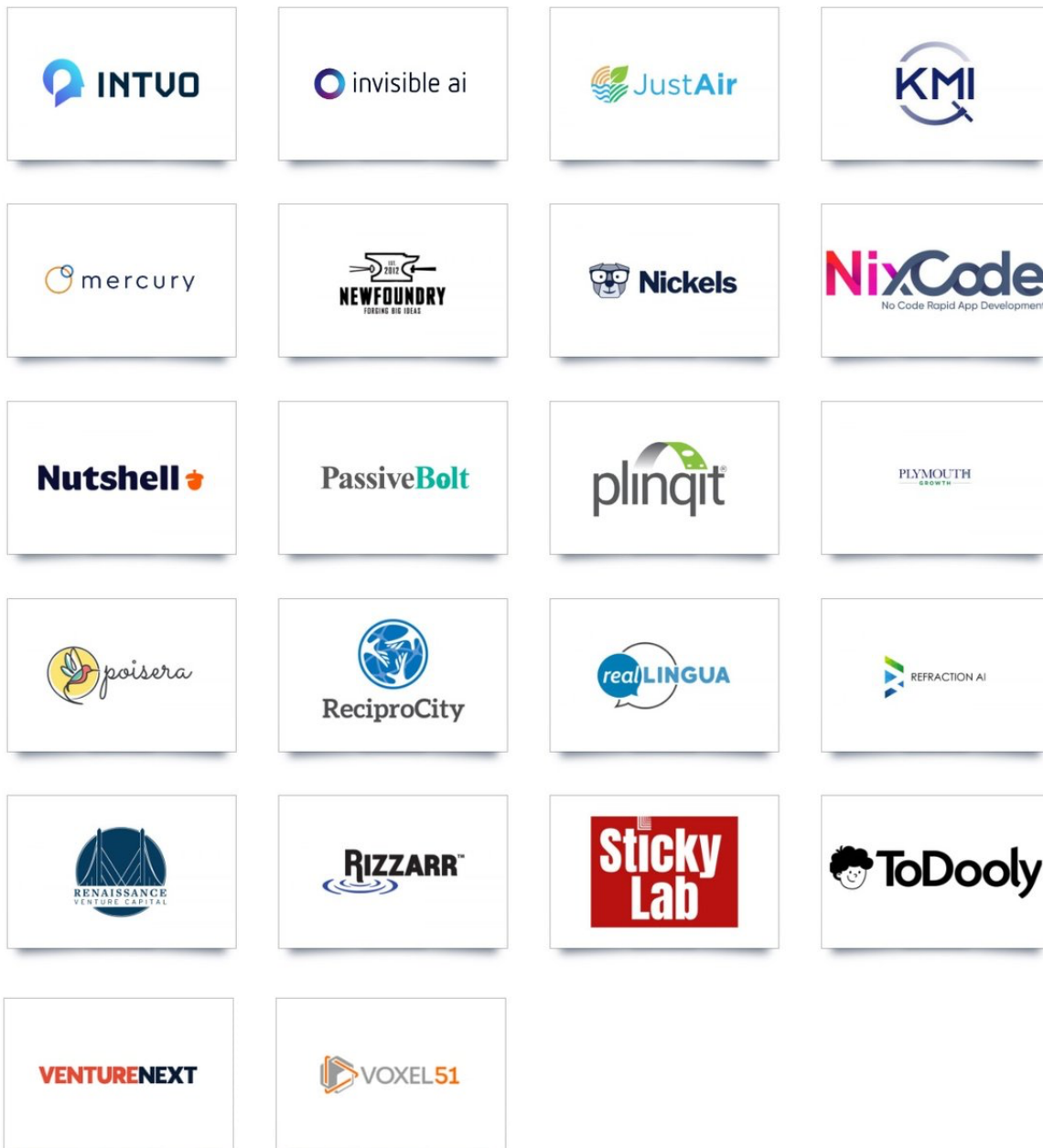
Last month, we welcomed our 50th member - a founder who made the Michigan Pledge - to give 1% of their future success back to community! We are now 56 members strong and growing!

For this issue of our eNews, we want to take time to **celebrate the amazing work of the Michigan Founders Fund network** and what these company-builders are doing to positively impact the future.

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# Member Network





## MEMBER MILESTONES

### 2022 Member Milestones

- [ToDooly](#) closed a \$1.5 Million Seed round and was selected for Google Latino Founders Fund Grant
- [KMI](#) has been selected for 3 USSF Orbital Prime Phase I STTRs and by CASIS for NLRA 2022-5: *Technology Advancement and*

## *Applied Research Leveraging the ISS National Lab*

- [NixCode](#) was a featured startup in Renaissance VC's DEI UnDemo Day
- [Plinqit closed a \\$5 Million Series A round](#), totaling just under \$10 Million in capital raised to date
- Workit Health's Lisa McLaughlin and Robin McIntosh kicked off 2022 by [being featured on the Today Show](#)

"Michigan offers so much to so many. While our problem (orbital debris) is over every state, the intrinsic and sincere support of fellow founders here is proof positive that if you have a problem worth solving, or a solution worth sharing, your surest steps of success start in the state of Michigan. Exemplifying this community approach are the connections and comfort of joining with Michigan Founders Fund, to share and support with other founders as we all work to build a better tomorrow."

- **Troy Morris, Co-Founder, KMI**



- [Censys completed a \\$35 Million Series B](#) led by Intel Capital
- [Hush](#) completed their seed round, which will be announced in September
- Former Rocket Fiber execs launch new SaaS startup, [Hum](#)



"The Hum Team is beyond excited to join the MFF family. We made the decision to join as a way to connect with other founders, grow together, and in return - give back to others as they begin their own entrepreneurial journeys. Founders create other founders which stimulates our MI economy and drives that fact that MI is the place to be if you're looking to start a tech company of your own." - **Christina Fair, Co-Founder, HUM**

"Michigan has always been a hotbed of innovation, from mobility to biotech and much more. What better way to fan that flame than to support MFF and fellow entrepreneurs, the lifeblood of our new economy." - **Mykolas Rambus, Co-Founder, Hush**



## STARTUP SERVICE DAYS

As a community-centered organization, Michigan Founders Fund can help founders and their teams organize service events with local nonprofits so they can get active in the community around causes that they care about! Exemplifying the team-building benefits of service days, is MFF Member company, Nutshell. Read more from Andy Fowler about how and why they participate in these activities each quarter.

## How Our Startup Got Active in the Community

Founder: Andy Fowler, Nutshell

Nutshell's volunteerism and charitable giving have really only begun in the past two years. As a 12-year-old elder startup, that's pretty deep into "better late than never" territory.

We added "Charitable contribution" to our P&L in April 2020, as we were all staring down the covid lockdowns, [feeling helpless](#). We asked our team to suggest organizations that were making our community better, and with very little rigamarole, we put them on a form, asked the team to vote, and wrote \$5,000 in checks. Two months later, we did the same thing.

It showed us how much our team wanted to give back **locally**. People spoke about their personal experiences with Ypsi Meals on Wheels, Breakfast at St. Andrews, and Food Gatherers.

We've committed to an activity each quarter. We try to find organizations where we can triple-dip:

1. Provide real, meaningful local service
2. Add a multiplier by contributing cash, in addition to our time
3. Participate in an activity where our team builds relationships with each other

[Read More](#) about how Nutshell implemented service days at their company



Come build relationships with the MFF network at one of our upcoming events! Details on the different opportunities, programming, and making the Michigan Pledge, can be found online at: [www.MichiganFoundersFund.org](http://www.MichiganFoundersFund.org)

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The **Michigan Founders Fund (MFF)** is a vibrant hub for peer learning and networking that enables local entrepreneurs to turn business success into positive community impact.

*Interested in becoming a member?* Please contact us at [community@michiganfoundersfund.org](mailto:community@michiganfoundersfund.org).



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