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## eNews: March 2022

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### In this issue:

Techstars Accelerator returns to Detroit 💪 - applications now open

Founder Fellowship - upcoming MFF events and programs for 2022

Josh and Ethan Linkner launch Mudita Venture Partners 💰

🎤 Nominate your company to be featured as one of Crain's Cool Places to Work!

Michigan Entrepreneur Summit takes place April 7-9

Northern Michigan 📍 Startup Week happening in May

Plinquit closes \$5M Series A

Genomenon closes \$20M Series B

👉 Women executives to know in 2022

8 local organizations to support for Women's History Month

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## FOUNDER TO FOUNDER

### The Importance of Founder Fellowship

*Bhushan Kulkarni, Founder and CEO, InfoReady*

During the journey of starting, growing, and sustaining a start-up, we all face many challenges. You can't find solutions to these challenges and overcome those in real time by taking classes in school or by going to conferences. All of us need a peer network and group of trusted fellow entrepreneurs who have faced similar challenges. By investing in each other's success, we are now able

to build that trusted peer network at Michigan Founders Fund.

[Read more about coming together again at Michigan Tech Connect](#)



 **STARTUP  
SKINNY**



- [Mudita Venture Partners](#), led by Josh and Ethan Linkner, launches to provide capital to early-stage companies
- [Yottled closes \\$1.6M](#) Seed funding
- Fintech company [Plinquit closes \\$5M Series A](#)
- Grand Rapids-based [Wedge HR closes \\$2M](#) in funding
- Genomenon raises [\\$20M Series B](#)
- Purpose Jobs: [Women Executives in Tech to Know in 2022](#), featuring MFF advisory council member Lisa McLaughlin of Workit Health



## Winning Futures

Winning Futures is a nationally recognized nonprofit leading impactful business-education partnerships. Based in Warren, Winning Futures prepares teens to be successful in a career through workforce preparation, life skills development, strategic planning, mentoring, and scholarship programs.



Winning Futures is looking for career mentors for high school students in Detroit, Harper Woods, Pontiac, Warren and Sterling Heights. Career mentors meet in-person with students from November - May and participate in pre-planned activities to reinforce lessons in skill readiness, career exploration, goal setting and more.

**Learn more and apply here:** <https://winningfutures.org/volunteer/mentor/>.



- **Check out [upcoming MFF Founder Fridays](#)** and other programs
- **April 7-9** - [Michigan Entrepreneur Summit 2022](#)
- **April 13-14** - [AfroTech World experience the Metaverse conference](#)
- **April 19** at 6:30pm - [A2NewTech's Monthly Startup Pitch Meetup](#)
- **April 27th** - Renaissance VC DEI UnDemo Day - [Register](#)
- **May 9 -15** - Northern MI Startup Week - [click here](#) to learn more and register for events



- [Nominate your company](#) to be featured as one of Crain's Cool Places to Work in Michigan - due April 1!
- [8 Local Organizations to Support](#) in Honor of Women's History Month
- Techstars returns to Detroit with Monica Wheat as Managing Director! [APPLY NOW](#) for the new accelerator program - deadline May 11th

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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).



Michigan Founders Fund, 455 E. Eisenhower Pkway, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108

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