

UPSURGE TEAMS

**UPSURGE TEAMS DRIVE OUR WORK THROUGH EXPERTISE,
EXPERIENCE AND VISION.**

They generate strategies to nurture, support, attract, and retain entrepreneurs and startups at all stages, and from all backgrounds. We're so grateful for their energy, intelligence and commitment to Baltimore.

CLIMATE TECH

Claire Broido Johnson, Managing Director, Maryland Momentum Fund*

Cyrus Etemad-Moghadam, President & Founder, RPM Tech

Joshua Goldberg, Co-Founder, Legends of Learning

Brian Hasselfeld, Medical Director, Digital Health

Lynn Heller, CEO, Climate Access Fund Corporation

Joe James, President, ATP-MD

Mike Kirby, CEO, Lumina Solar

Glen Schatz, CRO, BlocPower

Brian Toll, Director, Maryland Energy Innovation Accelerator

Adam Van Dyke, Principal, Early Charm Ventures

Ben Zaitchik, Government Information Specialist, Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Division, U.S. Department of State

COMPANY ATTRACTION/RETENTION

Franklyn Baker, President & CEO, United Way of Central Maryland

Christopher College, Managing Partner, TCP Venture Capital

Ben Craig, Fiber Network Consultant, Crown Castle

Aaron Hsu, Co-Founder & CEO, ClearMask

Patrick McQuown, Executive Director - Entrepreneurship, Towson University*

Tom Sadowski, Vice Chancellor for Economic Development, University System of Maryland

Matthew Wyskiel, Owner & Founder, Skill Capital Management

CONSUMER

Paris Brown, Founder, African American Shopping Network

Lisa Friedlander, Head of Marketing & Business Development, NEXT powered by Shulman Rogers

Jon Ilani, Administrative Fellow, Cedars Sinai Comprehensive Transplant Center/ MBA student, Johns Hopkins University

Keilah Jacques, CEO, Kei-Impact Group

Paul Levine, Retired, President, retail consultant, nonprofit development, fundraising consultant, owner

Brian Razzaque, Founder & Interim CEO, SocialToaster

LaToya Staten, Strategic Projects Specialist, Fearless*

Shanna Tellerman, Founder & CEO, Modsy

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

Zachary Garber, VP, Alex Brown/ Founder, Charm City Dreamers

Frank Glover, Senior Director, Venture Funds, TEDCO*

Dana Ledyard, VP, Strategy, Catalyte

Madison Marks, Director, Social Innovation Lab

Jenny Owens, Assistant Dean, University of Baltimore

Trevor Pryce, Principal, Outlook Company

Matthew Reeds, Executive Director, ReedsFund

Scott Robertson, Account Director, Year Up

CYBERSECURITY

Tasha Cornish, Executive Director, Cybersecurity Association of Maryland*

Justin Label, Managing Partner, Inner Loop Capital

Travis Sachse, CFO, Think I Stack

Willie Sanders, Jr., Clinical Associate Professor, Computer Science, Towson University

Maria Vachino, President, Calvert Consulting

Ben Vezzani, Staff Software Engineer, Walmart Global Tech

Megan Wahler, Director of Venture Strategy and Development*

DATA/AI

Karl Cadet, Co-Founder & CEO, Bodha

Tracey Halvorsen, Co-Founder & Chief Experience Officer, Return Solutions

Jerrold Jackson, Head of Machine Learning & Data, EXOS

Bill Karpovich, Founder, CoFactor Ventures

Isaac Kinde, Co-Founder, VP Technology Assessment & Baltimore Site-Head, Thrive

Pava LaPere, Founder & CEO, EcoMap Technologies

Ahmad Namini, Professor, Brandeis University

Onyema Osuagwu, Professor, Morgan State University*

Dan Roche, Executive Chairman & Founder, Qualytics

DIGITAL EQUITY

John Brown, Business Development Executive

Amalia Deloney, VP, Robert W. Deutsch Foundation*

Jason Hardebeck, Director of Broadband & Digital Equity, City of Baltimore

Kelly Hodge-Williams, Director of Development & Partnerships, PCs for People Maryland

LaRon Martin, Co-Founder, The Virtual Village

Jonathan Moore, Founder & CEO, RowdyOrb.it

Kendra Parlock, Executive Director, NPower Maryland

DIGITAL HEALTH

Adler Archer, CEO, Adloris

Emily Durfee, Healthworx Hub Manager, Healthworx, CareFirst

Kevin Keenahan, Co-Founder & CEO, Tissue Analytics (acquired by Net Health)

Mark Kominsky, Program Director, Chesapeake Digital Health Exchange, Johns Hopkins

Simon Matthews, Chief Medical Officer, Vivante Health/ Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins Medicine

Anna Millhiser, VP, Hospital Solutions and Client Success, Doximity

Aaron Reichel, Social Worker (LCSW-C) – Breakthrough Counseling & Consulting

Galen Shi, Founder & Managing Director, WeGo Foundation

Brian Spray, Director of IT Services, UC Davis/CNPRC

Kristen Valdes, CEO, b.well Connected Health*

Ellington West, CEO, Sonavi

FOOD AND FOOD TECH

Derek Battle, Co-Founder, Flave

Carlos Bello, Venture Associate, Squadra Ventures

Jal Irani, Co-Founder, Flave

Evan Lutz, CEO & Founder, Hungry Harvest

Ellis McCue, CEO, Territory Foods

Emily Miller, Co-Founder, Everdura

Kathleen Overman, Director of Connection, Cureate*

GOVERNMENT/POLICY

Michael Castagnola, Chief of Staff, SmartLogic*

Jennifer Curran, Defense Attorney

Daniel Goetzl, Executive Director & Corporate Partnerships, Columbia University-Cyber NYC

Dana Johns, Senior Portfolio Manager, Maryland State Retirement System*

Ganesha Martin, President, GMM Consulting

Kamaria Massey, Research Assistant, Morgan State University

Wes Moore, Former CEO, Robin Hood Foundation

Monica Nimmagadda, Special Assistant to the Housing Commissioner, City of Baltimore

Omowunmi Oni-Dandridge, Owner/Fashion Designer, OND Vintage

Katherine Schulze, General Counsel and Chief Ethics Officer, Ethics Alliance Maryland

Alphia Stephens, Director of Quality, Moser Consulting

INCLUSIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Stephen Auvil, Chief Program Operations Officer, Maryland TEDCO

Devon Corbin, Associate Director of Corporate Engagement, Year Up

Phil Croskey, CEO, Maryland Energy Advisors*

Terence Dickson, Owner, Terra Loft Consulting / Bamboo Project

Jeffrey Griffin, Executive Director, Franciscan Center

Kimberly Harrison, CEO, Dreamers Learning Center

Anne Hilb, Founder, Graymake

Bernette Jones, Founder/Owner, Consciousness Agency: Conscious Life Design Systems

Peter Metsopoulos, Dir. of Leadership & Entrepreneurship Institute, Roland Park Country School

Marianna Pappas, Program Director, Conscious Venture Labs

Rajan Patel, Co-Founder, CEO, Dent Education

Lindsay Ryan, Venture Development Director, University System of Maryland

Emma Simpson, Baltimore Community Director & Director of Strategic Partnerships, Venture for America

Emily Sullivan, UX Designer

INVESTOR/CAPITAL ATTRACTION

Josh Ambrose, Director of Student Ventures, Fast Forward U/JHU

Moss Amer, Director, Corporate Application, Audacious Inquiry

Greg Cangialosi, Managing Partner, Olive Ventures

Jeff Cherry, **Managing Partner, Conscious Venture Partners**

McKeever "Mac" Conwell, Managing Partner, RareBreed Ventures*

John Davis, General Partner, Domaine Precious Metals Partners

Nick Duafala, Managing Partner, SoFin Ventures

Matthew Hellauer, Managing Partner, PTX Capital

Elise Liberto, Principal, Brown Advisory

Melanie Mendoza, Founder, MHM Consulting

Jeff Musgrove, Managing Partner-VC/PE/Family Office Advisory Services, Think Systems

Eileen O'Rourke, Chief Financial Officer, The Abell Foundation*

Ben Seigel, Principal, Economic Mobility Consultants

Ryland Sumner, President, Point Field Partners

LIFE SCIENCES

Timothy Fawcett, Scientific Director, Biotechnical Institute of Maryland

Nao Gamo, Founder & CEO, NeuroSonics Medical

Justin Hanes, Founder, Theraly Diabetes

Adam Kronk, New Ventures Associate, University of Maryland, Baltimore

Bruce Lichorowic, CEO, Galen Robotics

Helen Montag, Senior Director of Ecosystem Development, Johns Hopkins Tech Ventures

Mary Morris, Director, Baltimore Fund, University of Maryland, Baltimore*

Kimberly Noonan, Founder, EVP, CS & TO, WindMIL Therapeutics

Chandra Ramanathan, Global Head, R&D Open Innovation, Bayer



MARKETING/NARRATIVES

Lennette Abad, Principal, Abad & Company

Renee Beck, Associate VP, Marketing, United Way of Central Maryland

Shannon Ensor, Senior Marketing Communications Consultant*

Robbin Lee, Executive Director, Baltimore Homecoming

Larry Moscow, Partner, malansky+partners

Kevon Paynter, CEO, Product Manager, Founder, Bloc By Block News

Damian Rintelmann, Builder-In-Residence, Olive AI

Shelonda Stokes, President, Downtown Partnership of Baltimore

REAL ESTATE

Amy Bonitz, Managing Partner, Anthem Communities

Tyrell Dixon, Co-Founder, Project Own

Treva Ghattas, Sales, Murphy Commercial Real Estate

Peter Jackson, VP, JLL

Chris Janian, President, Vitruvius

Lisa Kaufman, Head of Global Securities, Portfolio Manager, LaSalle Investment Management

Katherine Pinkard, President, Pinkard Properties

Adam Rhoades-Brown, Development Director, Cross Street Partners*

Jane Shaab, Associate Vice President, UMB/ Senior Vice President and Executive Director, UM BioPark

Bill Struever, Principal, Managing Partner, CEO, Cross Street Partners

Jayson Williams, President & CEO, Mayson-Dixon Companies

TALENT DEVELOPMENT AND PATHWAYS

Cory Anderson, Baltimore Community Manager, Venture for America

Meredith Bennett, Account Director/DEI Chair, Mindgrub Technologies

Jennifer Bodensiek, President & CEO, Junior Achievement of Central Maryland

Lynn Handy, Deputy Director, Talent for Good, Baltimore Corps

Tom Hoen, SVP Growth Technology, Network for Good /Founder & President, ClassroomParent

Andre Keyser, President & CEO, Keyser Education Corporation

Matthew Lim, Managing Partner, TechSlice

Matthew Lowinger, Software Product Specialist, InVita Healthcare Technologies

Tiffany Page-Cooper, Co-Founder, Virtual Village Learning Support Services Center

Eliot Pearson, COO, Catalyte*

Alia Poonawala, Executive Director, Hire Hopkins

Markus Proctor, Executive Director, Innovators of Progress

Christopher Sachse, CEO & Founder, Think I Stack

Blair Slaughter, Founder & CEO, Delve Consulting

Kathleen Weiss, Interim Executive Director, BioTechnical Institute of MD

Micky Wolf, Director of Programs, Dent Education

VETERAN AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITIES

Nick Culbertson, CEO, Protenus*

Mike Leffer, Principal, Early Light Ventures*

Jen Pilcher, Founder & CEO, Strategic Military Communications

Vivian Richards, Founder & CEO, Vitalverse Corporation

Bryan Schnitker, Capture Manager, VetsEZ

Alexander Shaw, Data Scientist, RedShred

Marcus Startzel, CEO, Whitebox

SPECIALTY/ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Josh Barnes, COO & Founder, Harbor Designs and Manufacturing*

Hugh Evans, Board Director, Various companies

Mike Galiazzo, President, Regional Manufacturing Institute of Maryland

Ken Malone, Executive Officer, Early Charm Ventures

Ronald Williams, Founding Director, Center for Strategic Entrepreneurship (Assistant Professor)
Coppin State University College of Business

*Team Lead(s)

