



Helping Entrepreneurs

BUILD GREAT COMPANIES

2025 STARTUP IMPACT REPORT





Letter from our CEO and Board Chair

Every year, we watch ideas take shape, teams grow, and companies emerge that have the potential to transform our region. In 2025, our entrepreneurs achieved \$174M in revenue, reporting \$718.1M in cumulative economic impact. This is a clear reflection of the energy, innovation, and resilience in Central Ohio's entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Through more than a decade as a public-private partnership, Rev1 Ventures has partnered with founders, investors, civic leaders, and the broader entrepreneurial community to transform promising ideas into enduring companies. By connecting these resources the way we do, we provide founders access to talent, capital, and expertise in ways that strengthen both individual companies and the wider community.

Rev1 at The Peninsula, our downtown innovation hub, is the latest example of how we turn strategy into action. With the launch of Rev1 at The Peninsula, Columbus is now the home to one of the largest city-sponsored innovation centers for high-growth technology companies in the United States. Supported by the City of Columbus and Downtown Columbus, Inc., the Peninsula offers flexible, professional space designed for software, AI, and advanced technology startups. It is more than a workspace; it is a place where meaningful connections happen, where mentors, investors, and founders can exchange ideas and accelerate growth.

The progress shared in this report is the product of many people working together, including teams, institutions, and community members, who make Columbus an important hub for entrepreneurship in the Midwest. Looking ahead, our commitment remains the same: to provide founders with the resources, guidance, and community they need to turn promise into impact.

To our entrepreneurs, partners, investors, and team members: thank you for contributing to this momentum. Together, we are shaping the next chapter of growth, innovation, and opportunity in Central Ohio.

Tom Walker and Sue Zazon

Tom D. Walker *Sue Zazon*

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STARTUP IMPACT

2025 IMPACT

\$718.1M

2025 Total Startup Impact
Capital + Revenue + Exits

 **\$174M**
Client Revenue Generated

 **\$270M**
Client Capital Attracted

 **\$274M**
Client Exits

 **\$11.7M**
Funding Deployed

 **26**
Companies Funded

 **\$119K**
Avg. Salary of Client Companies

 **68**
Client Satisfaction Score
From client Net Promoter Score. A score above 50 is considered excellent.

ALL-TIME IMPACT

\$7.51B

All-Time Impact



Startup clients have employed 2,731 people, a total on par with a top 20 regional employer.

Our impact data uses a collection of information sources, including Rev1-assisted companies' reporting, PitchBook, Crunchbase, PwC and CB Insights. Unless otherwise stated, the data is from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 and does not include all exits.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Strengthening the Ecosystem

We're proud to fill the critical role of equipping early-stage founders across the community with the knowledge and support they need to test ideas and validate markets, which are some of the most critical steps in preparing to raise venture investment. Through curated programming, signature events like Innovation Hop, and active participation in dozens of regional events, we connect innovators, partners, and the broader ecosystem, driving awareness, collaboration, and growth.

736

Startup Concepts
Vetted

156

Entrepreneurs
Supported

31

Community Events
Hosted

1000+

Innovators and Supporters
Attended Rev1 Events

SIGNATURE PROGRAM

Concept to Customer Bootcamp

Early momentum takes shape as founders validate ideas, learn from experienced advisors, and connect with peers.

103

2025
Graduates

1,230

All-Time
Graduates



Trace 3D Demo at Rev1 Innovation Hop



Rev1 Founder Education Panel



Columbus Business First Women of Influence



RMV Demo at Rev1 Innovation Hop



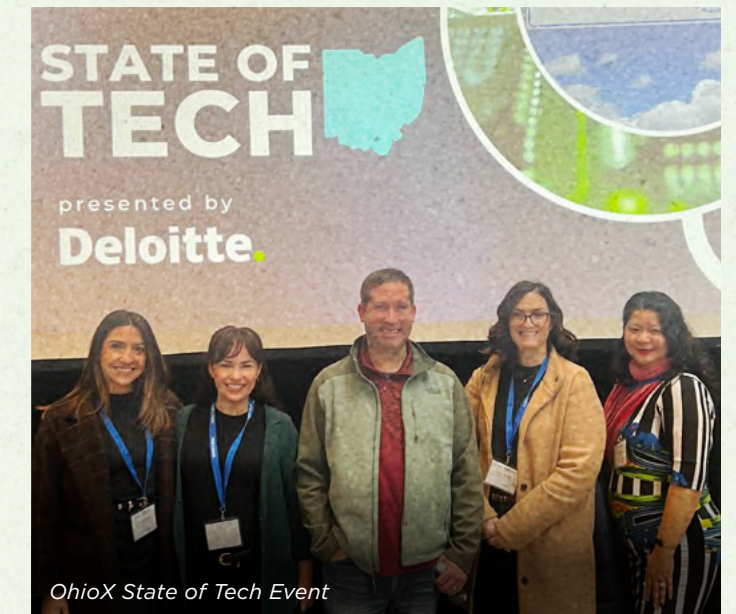
Accelerating Angels FundHERbiz Event



Aventi TechX Program



Panel at OhioX Tech Summit



OhioX State of Tech Event



Readiness Xchange

Turning change into a competitive advantage

For organizations navigating complex transformation, hidden resistance and misalignment quietly derail execution, often costing millions in delays and rework. Readiness Xchange delivers Readiness Intelligence™, giving leaders early visibility into workforce behavior, risks, adoption, and alignment before issues escalate. By making change readiness measurable, the platform enables faster decisions, stronger accountability, and more predictable outcomes.



STARTING UP

Helping Early-Stage Startups Gain Momentum as they Prepare to Raise Capital

Our Venture Studio is the core of our non-profit, offering services and connections that help technology founders build scalable companies and prepare to raise capital. For founders who are just starting up, we provide the support of a strong peer community and hands-on support from experienced mentors and advisors.

120

Active Clients

56

Companies Positioned for Capital



Robotic Maintenance Vehicles

Making roadwork safer through automation

For highway maintenance crews, routine tasks often come with serious safety risks. Robotic Maintenance Vehicles (RMV) is a modular platform that automates critical roadwork, reducing worker exposure to traffic while improving efficiency and precision. By enabling faster, more accurate maintenance with fewer resources, RMV helps preserve infrastructure, lower costs, and keep workers out of harm's way.



SIGNATURE PROGRAM Customer to Capital Accelerator

This 14-week program helps startup founders gain customers, build traction, and prepare to raise capital.

17

2025 Graduates

39

All-Time Graduates



Mentor, Vikram Shanbhag



Mentor, Kim Garland



Mentor, Michael Luh (center right), with Founders and Community Members



“I met both my board members through Rev1 and continue to use two excellent partners that were Rev1 referrals. The quality of each of their contributions has been outstanding, allowing for perspective, accountability, and growth. It can be difficult for entrepreneurs to find top-tier talent in any aspect of running a business. The fact that Rev1 attracts and shares this level of experience with founders contributes multiples to our momentum.”

- Troy Doucet, AI.Law Founder, on Mentors, Kim Garland and Vikram Shanbhag



VENTURE PLATFORM

Connecting Founders to a Robust Support Network

Central to our work is connection. We bring entrepreneurs together with peers and a talent network, creating a trusted community that delivers the expertise, programming, and guidance needed to move faster, make smarter decisions, and sustain growth.

MENTORS AND VETTED SERVICE PROVIDERS

Connecting founders with experienced mentors and services supports their growth.

65

Active Mentors

249

Mentor Connections Made

47

Active Service Provider Organizations

\$525K

Discounted and In-kind Services Provided

FOUNDER NETWORK

Ongoing peer exchange, access to advisors and services, and curated programming keeps scaling founders connected.

228

Active Founders

137

Startup Companies



“I met Rob through the Customer to Capital Accelerator, and what started as a mentor relationship quickly became much more. Even after the program ended, he continued meeting with me weekly because he believed in the potential of the technology, my work ethic, and the work we were doing at Caddis.”

- Kendall Byrd | Caddis Founder, on Mentor, Rob Zwink



SPINNING OUT

Turning Breakthrough Research into Real-World Impact

In partnership with The Ohio State University and Nationwide Children's Hospital, we support founders in turning breakthrough research, from sustainable agriculture to next-generation therapies for stroke and chronic disease, into scalable companies by guiding commercialization, building leadership teams, and connecting spinouts with expert advisors and industry partners to create lasting impact and economic growth.

50

Spinouts Supported

12

Spinouts Funded

\$6.5M

Total Funding Deployed



\$1.13B

In All-Time Startup Impact



\$893M

In All-Time Startup Impact



Rev1 team with OSU Partners



Myoptechs

Letting kids be kids, with a better vision treatment

For kids with myopia, the need for glasses isn't the only concern. The progressive disease increases the risk of sight-threatening conditions. Myoptechs delivers clear vision while slowing myopia progression and, for the first time, enables kids to wear contact lenses. Patients can see benefits in academics, athletics, and just being a kid.



HyperPath Solutions

Restoring capacity to modern pathology teams

For pathology departments, fragmented systems and disconnected tools slow workflows and limit capacity. HyperPath brings imaging, workflow, and reporting into a single, integrated platform that keeps teams focused on the case. By enabling a case-centric approach, the platform ensures the right cases reach the right pathologists at the right time.

SCALING UP

Increasing the Odds for Startups as They Scale

The right connections are a competitive advantage for scale-ready startups. That's why we surround founders with experienced operators, engaged investors, and corporate and institutional partners, giving them the network they need to move from early traction to durable growth. While fewer than half of startups nationally survive the "valley of death," **65% of Rev1-supported companies reach the five-year mark**, becoming living proof that the right network can change the odds.



29 COMPANIES
RAISED
\$1M
OR MORE

15 COMPANIES
RAISED
\$5M
OR MORE



STAQ Pharma

Ensuring Reliable Access to Critical Medications

Hospitals and healthcare providers across the country face ongoing challenges with drug shortages and inconsistent supply. STAQ Pharma addresses this through its FDA-registered 503B outsourcing model, delivering ready-to-use sterile medications with a focus on safety, transparency, availability, and quality. Backed by leading healthcare systems, STAQ combines rigorous manufacturing standards with deep clinical insight to ensure consistent access to essential treatments, helping providers maintain continuity of care and improving outcomes for patients nationwide.

Rivera

Bringing Transparency to Pharmacy Benefits

Prescription drug spending is one of healthcare's fastest-growing costs, and often one of the hardest to understand. Rivera gives employers and health plans clear oversight of pharmacy benefit managers. Using advanced analytics and expert guidance, the platform uncovers hidden waste and helps ensure every pharmacy dollar is spent responsibly.



Niobium Microsystems

Unlocking Insights Without Exposing Data

Data is encrypted to keep it secure. But to use it, it must be decrypted, which exposes it again to risk. Niobium Microsystems is changing that. Its specialized hardware accelerators make fully homomorphic encryption practical, allowing organizations to analyze encrypted data without decrypting it, enabling secure collaboration and discovery across cloud computing, medical research, and defense sectors.



SPACE TO INNOVATE

Providing Space for Bold Ideas to Become **Venture-Ready Companies**

Our regional innovation centers, anchored by Rev1 at The Peninsula, fuel the startup ecosystem by turning ideas into high-growth companies that generate lasting economic impact. Research shows that pre-seed and seed companies with physical offices have **3.5x higher revenue** than companies that are solely remote. Residents of Rev1 Labs raised **2.5x more capital**.

REV1 LABS

Home for Spinouts and Life Sciences Ventures within the Innovation District at The Ohio State University

30

Resident Companies

133

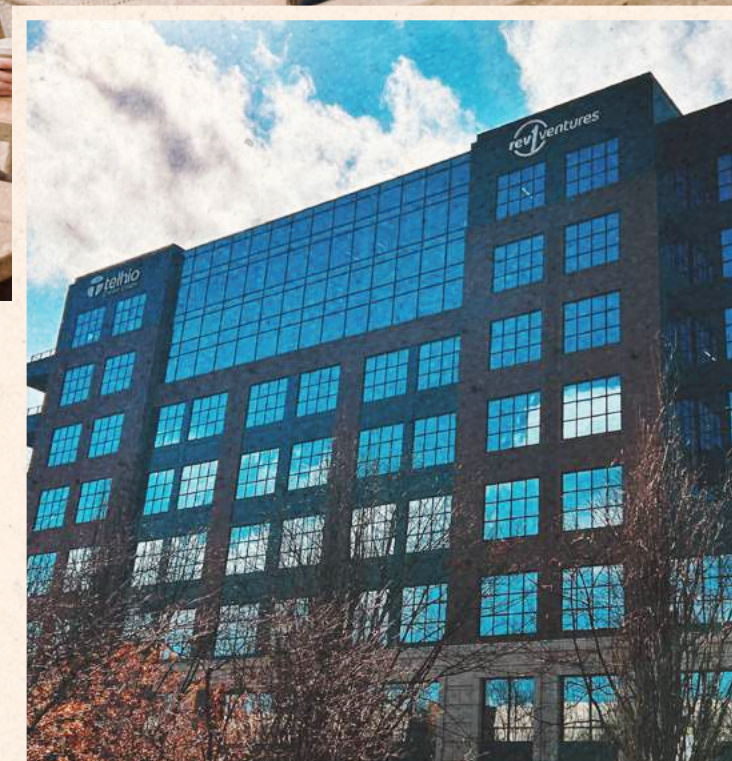
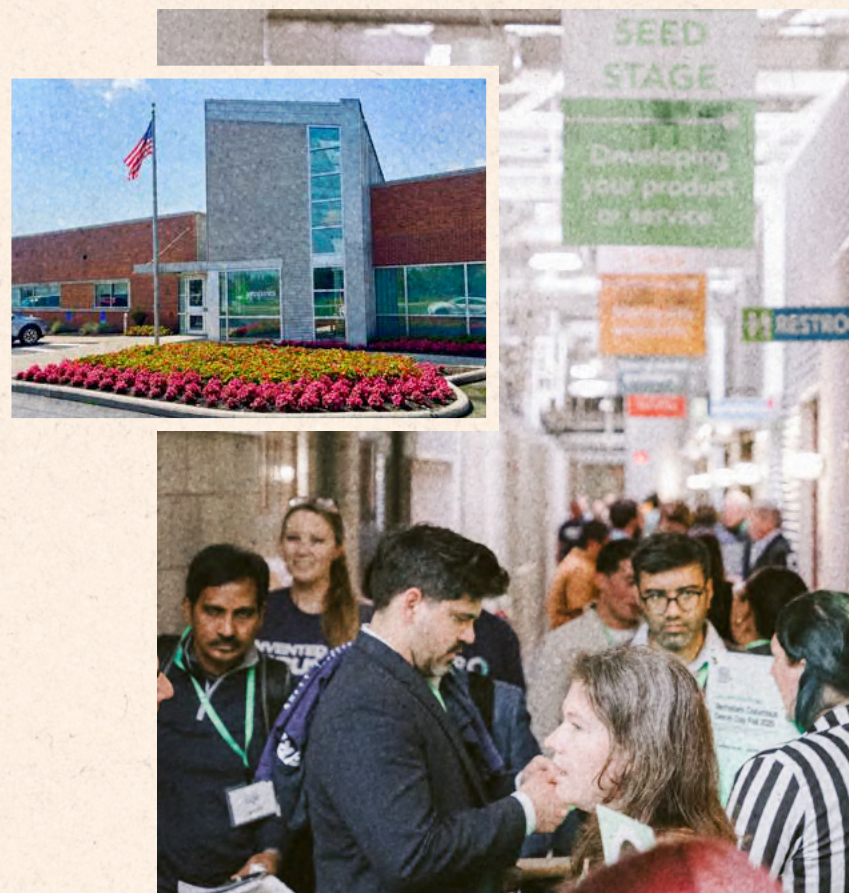
Resident Full-Time Employees

\$39.6M

Revenue Generated by Residents

\$45.8M

Capital Attracted by Residents
(including exits)



REV1 AT THE PENINSULA New Downtown Innovation Space for Software/AI and Advanced Tech Startups

As part of a public-private partnership with the City of Columbus and Downtown Columbus Inc., Rev1 expanded its footprint with Rev1 at The Peninsula, creating a downtown destination for founders and innovators. It serves as critical infrastructure that supports startups and promotes economic development in our region.

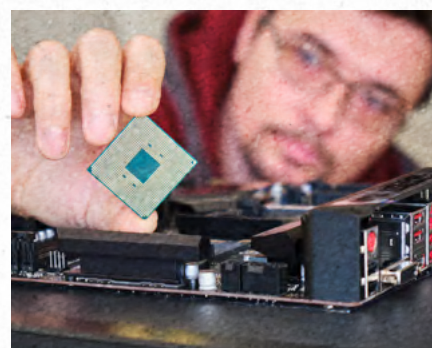
PROJECTED IMPACT

120+
Members Served

6
Resident Scaleups

180+
Annual Ecosystem Events

5,500+
Annual Ecosystem Visitors



SenseICs

LABS RESIDENT

Advancing mission-critical microelectronics

For aerospace, defense, and commercial systems, performance, security, and reliability are non-negotiable. SenseICs develops custom, trusted, integrated circuits that enable next-generation technologies in the most demanding environments. Through silicon-verified IP and turnkey microelectronics solutions, SenseICs delivers compact, high-performance designs tailored to the evolving needs of mission-critical applications.

ACCESS TO CAPITAL

Backing the Future of Innovation

Because capital access is the key to startup success, we leverage hands-on coaching, expert mentorship, and structured support to help our clients become venture backable. Through our managed funds and a broad co-investor network, we guide founders in targeting the right investors, clearly articulating their growth potential, and demonstrating how their enterprise software/AI, deep tech, and life sciences innovations create customer value and scale, with the goal of positioning them to raise the capital needed to build enduring companies.

2025 IMPACT

\$11.74M

Rev1 Capital Deployed

26

Unique Companies Funded

3

Portfolio Exits

91

Co-Investors

71+70 angels

71/70 Angels Fund I launched this year and is already strengthening our regional ecosystem with critical early-stage capital and engaged investors.

Backed by Rev1 Ventures, the fund brought together a diverse group of angels and quickly built momentum, closing its inaugural raise and deploying capital within its first 90 days. In a challenging venture environment, 71/70 expands access to funding, activates new investors, and increases the likelihood of success for high-potential startups across the region and beyond.

Nearly

50

Individual Investors

\$1.08M

Capital Deployed

6

Unique Companies Funded

71/70 represents a subset of Rev1 Capital's data



Melinda Gloriosa, Managing Director - Investment Funds, representing 71/70



Ryan Helon accepting the Dealmaker of the Year award

2025 Smart Business Dealmaker of the Year

In his 13-year tenure, Executive Vice President Ryan Helon has led our investment team in driving regional growth, through more than \$100M in investments to 152 startups, with participation in more than 290 rounds. We are proud to congratulate him on this prestigious award.

2025 INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO HIGHLIGHTS



Armatus Bio

Giving new hope to patients with rare neuromuscular diseases

For many patients with rare and progressively debilitating genetic neuromuscular diseases, no treatment options are available today. Armatus Bio is developing RNA interference therapies designed to silence the genetic defects that cause these conditions. Using AAV-delivered microRNA technology invented by world leaders at Nationwide Children's Hospital, the company is advancing potential therapies for diseases like CMT1A and FSHD, aiming to slow progression and improve patients' lives.



Basking Biosciences

Redefining the treatment of acute thrombosis

Basking Biosciences is advancing a new approach to treating acute thrombotic conditions through a targeted, highly specific, short-acting therapy with a direct-acting reversal agent. By focusing on von Willebrand Factor, a key mediator of clot initiation, growth, and stabilization, the company is developing a therapy designed for rapid onset, controlled duration, and improved safety. This targeted and reversible approach aims to deliver effective clot dissolution while expanding access to life-saving treatment for a broader group of patients.



Redi Health

Delivering improved outcomes by connecting patients to therapy

Redi Health connects pharmaceutical manufacturers to patients, using a highly targeted approach to drive new patient acquisition and medication sustainment across therapy journeys. By connecting patients upstream in the prescription journey and integrating with pharmacies, EHRs, hub services, and copay programs, Redi streamlines patient support and reduces gaps in care. With real-time analytics and a platform built for compliance, Redi helps life sciences teams optimize patient support programs, improve adherence, and ensure more patients start and stay on therapy.

CORPORATE INNOVATION

Powering Innovation Together

Our impact is fueled by partners who actively engage in building the future of innovation in Central Ohio. For startups to scale, they need meaningful market access, and our corporate partners play a critical role in that growth. Corporate engagement fuels a stronger regional ecosystem, where innovation flows in both directions. Startups gain access to real buyers and feedback, while corporates connect directly with high-growth companies, test ideas in real-world settings, and accelerate the path from innovation to market.

CONNECTING CORPORATIONS AND STARTUPS AT SCALE

232

Corporate-Founder Connections
(+75% year-over-year)

60+

Corporations Engaged in Innovation Activities



Ohio Corporate Innovation Roundtable Panel Discussion

HOW PARTNERS PUT INNOVATION TO WORK

-  Assessing and piloting emerging technologies
-  Mentoring founders and contributing domain expertise
-  Participating in curated innovation programs
-  Building and executing partnerships with startups



“Our partnership with Rev1 gives us direct access to high-growth startups and technologies we wouldn’t otherwise see. It’s not just about visibility. It’s about actively engaging in innovation that improves the transit experience for our customers.”

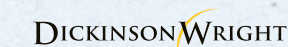


- **Sophia Mohr**, Chief Innovation and Technology Officer, COTA

FUNDING PARTNERS

Thank you to our funding partners, who make our impact possible!

THANK YOU

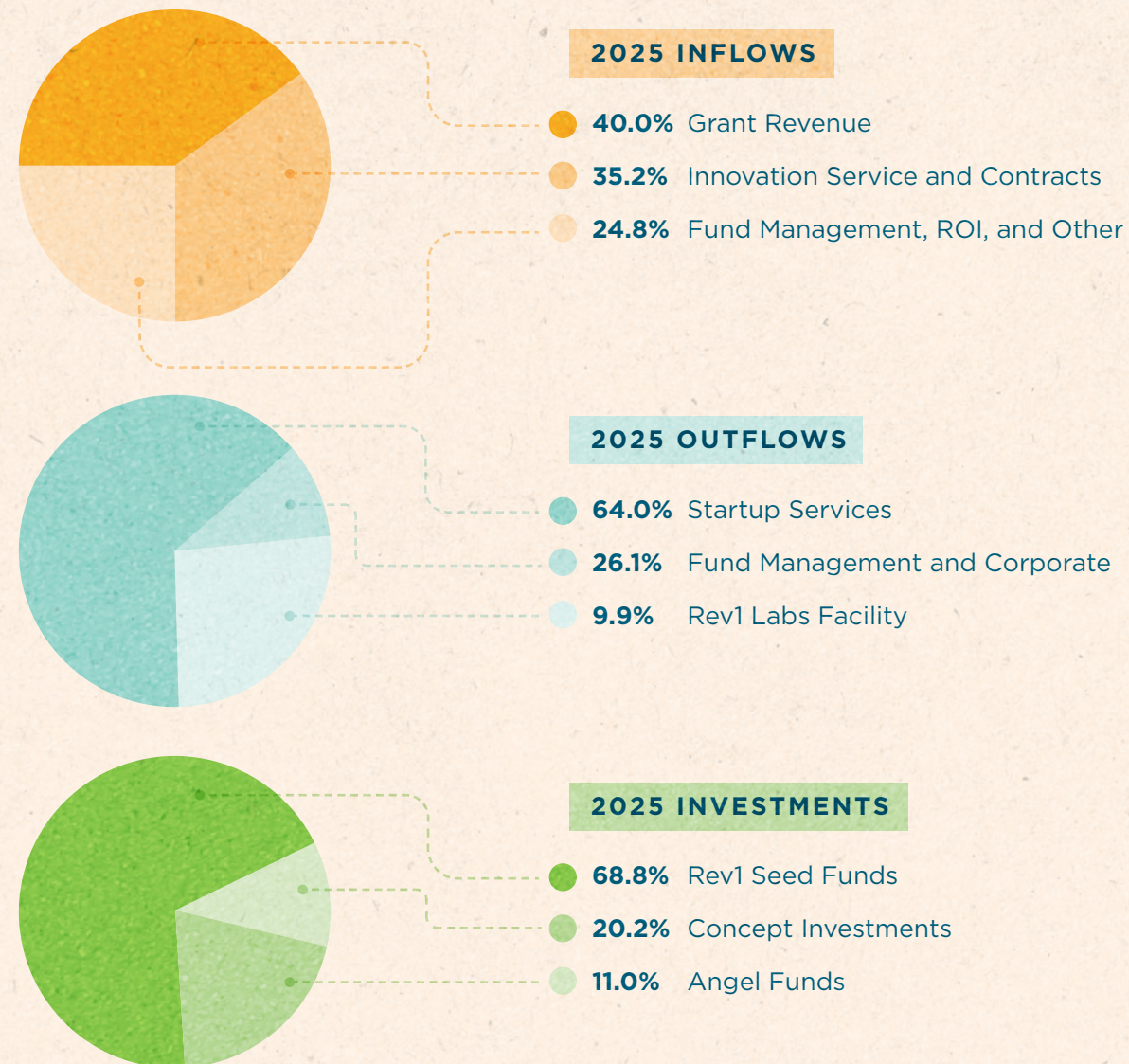


OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

The Progress of a Region

We are proud to support each founder’s journey that forms part of a larger movement, driving progress for our region and inspiring continued investment in technologies that make a meaningful difference in Columbus and beyond.

Our revenue, which enables us to drive this progress, comes from corporate innovation contracts, investment fund management, partner support, returns on investments, and Ohio Third Frontier funding. Rev1 Ventures and our investment funds are annually audited by an independent firm, ensuring transparency and our commitment to building sustainable growth and innovation across the region.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thank you to our board,
for all your contributions!

THANK YOU

Sue Zazon | Board Chair
Huntington Bank
President, Central Ohio Region

Jesse Longoria
OhioHealth
Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy & Growth Officer

Kim Zavislak | Vice Chair
KPMG
Columbus Office Managing Partner

David Meuse
Stonehenge Partners
Rev1 Chairman Emeritus

David Dennis
Cardinal Health
Vice President of Strategy and Business Development

Terrence O’Donnell
Dickinson Wright
Member and Government Relations Group Chair

Dennis Durbin, MD, MSCE
Abigail Wexner Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital
President

Mike Papadakis
The Ohio State University
SVP and Chief Financial Officer

John M. Horack, PhD
The Ohio State University
Vice President for Research

Amy Taylor
Downtown Columbus, Inc.
President

Chetan Kandhari
Nationwide Insurance
Chief Innovation and Digital Officer

Tom Walker
Rev1 Ventures
Chief Executive Officer

Shaun Young
Nurx
SVP Operations

REV1 VENTURES IS WHERE FOUNDERS GO TO BUILD.



As a Midwest venture studio, Rev1 partners with innovators in SaaS/AI, deep tech, and life sciences to turn bold ideas into scalable companies. From day one, Rev1 helps startups move faster and grow smarter by validating markets, gaining traction, and becoming venture ready. A catalyst for early-stage growth, Rev1 connects founders to the mentors, partners, and early customers that accelerate progress and position startups to attract investors. With hands-on support, a powerful network, and collaborative spaces designed for growth, **Rev1 gives startups the foundation to build stronger and scale.**





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rev1ventures.com



Rev1 operates as a public-private partnership.
Our work could not be done without
the support of our funding partners,
including the Ohio Third Frontier.

Thank you for your continued belief in our mission!

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