



Impact Report 2023

Keeping Entrepreneurs Running in North Texas



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary 2

Highlights 3

Success Metrics 4

Testimonials 6

Thank You 7



Executive Summary



About The DEC Network

The DEC Network is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization driving innovation and economic impact by helping entrepreneurs start, build and grow their businesses. With innovation hubs across DFW, we provide expert education, access to knowledgeable mentors and a vibrant community of like-minded entrepreneurs.

We accelerate founder success through connections and collaboration from our work with investors, corporations, and public institutions. Since 2013, we have attracted more than 125,000 visitors, hosted over 1,000 educational events and worked with over 100 partner organizations.

DEC Network PARTNERS, SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS, It's now been ten years for the DEC Network and in that time, we've advised thousands of founders and none of that could have been done without the amazing DFW Community.

We are proud of this year's work which we have detailed in the following pages. However, we know that our accomplishments were only possible because of the efforts of all those that worked on this important cause before us.

Black- and Brown-owned businesses anchor our growth strategy, just as they anchor our neighborhoods. We continue to focus on removing barriers, so everyone has access to the support they need to sustain and grow their businesses. As we plan our path forward, we're committed to rebuilding a better, more inclusive economy. We know our commitment is broadly shared, and that makes me very optimistic about our future.

Our Commitment to Your Success

We are more than a **NETWORK**.

- Our **Entrepreneur's Businesses** receive firsthand discovery, experience, and interaction with a unique group of the most passionate entrepreneurs in North Texas.
- The **Mentoring Program** pairs entrepreneurs with business veterans who can help plan a path forward - and identify emerging opportunities.
- **Partners & Sponsors**, receive visibility, branding and exposure by partnering with the DEC Network; their organizations are positioned to gain value in a variety of ways.



Bill Chinn,
CEO of the DEC Network

Impact Highlights



\$2.58 Million

Total Funding
Received in 2023

75%

Of Participants are
BIPOC and/or Female

51

Total Number of
DEC Events

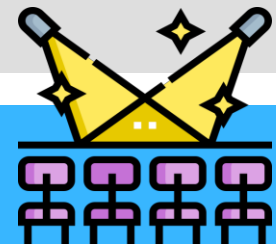
9600+

Total Number of
Event Attendees



94

Total Residents



450

Jobs
Created

2033

Jobs
Sustained



9846+

Total Number of
Businesses Served

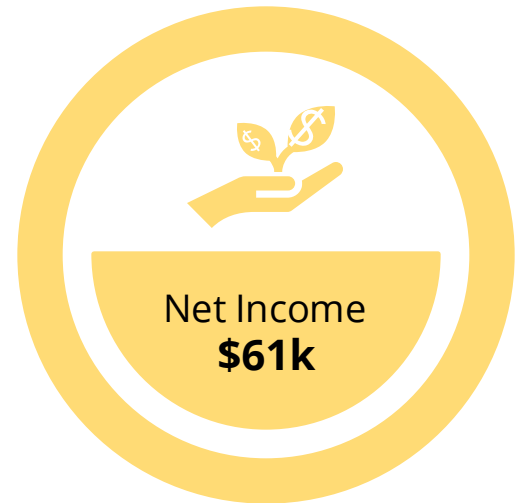


Discover
Amazing Opportunities at
The Create Fort Worth Center
(Opened in August 2023)

Success Metrics

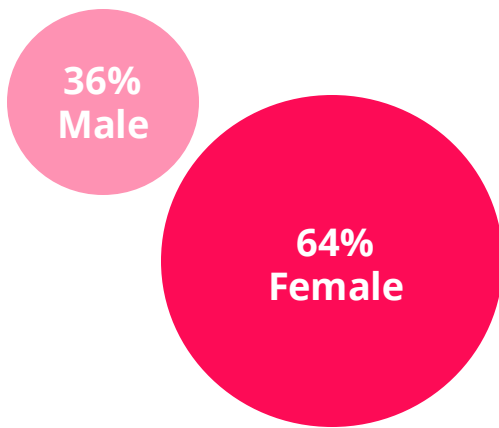


Financials

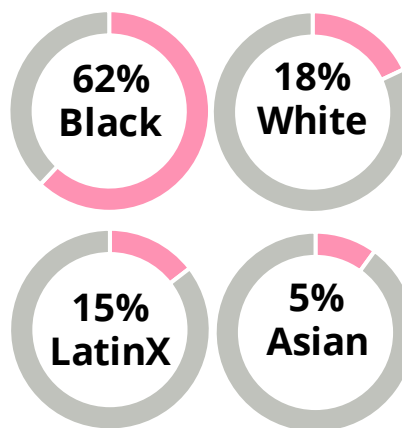


Accelerator Program

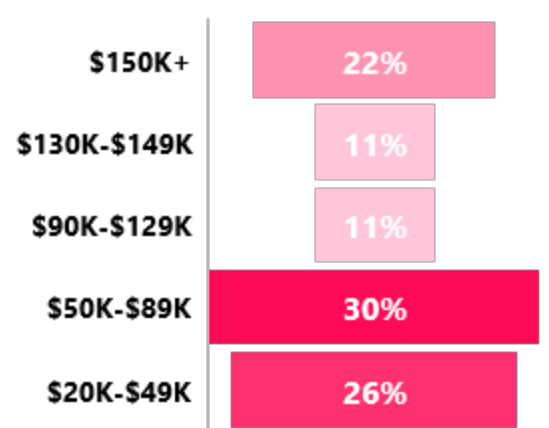
Gender



Race



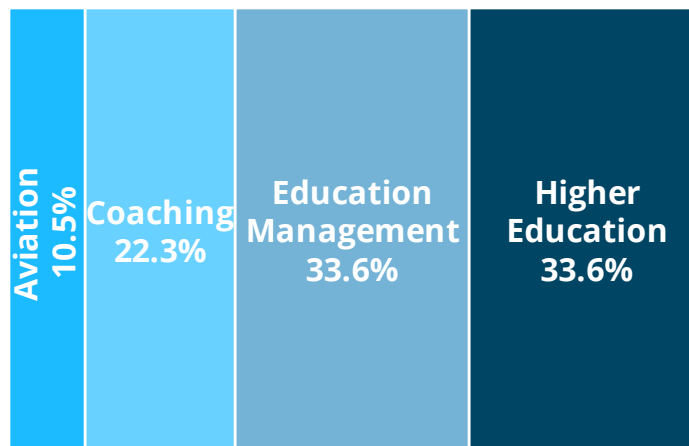
Income



Supported Businesses



Supported Business Industries



Annual Tours & Visitors

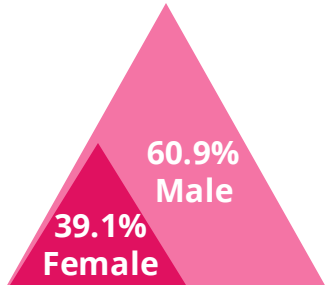
150+ Tours

200+ DEC Network Visitors

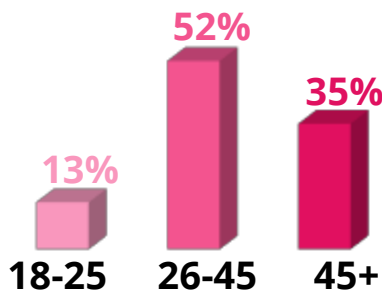


Member Demographics

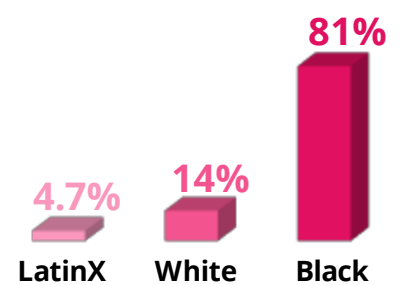
Gender



Age



Race



Mentor / Mentee Demographics

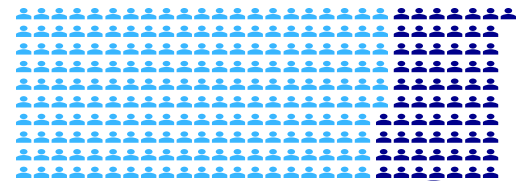
90

Mentees : Mentor
Pairings



2.7 : 1

MENTEES : MENTOR



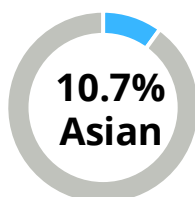
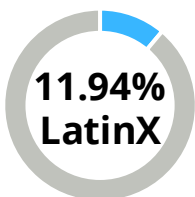
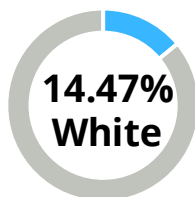
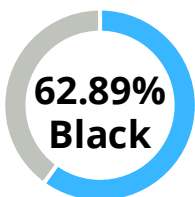
198
MENTEES

73
MENTORS

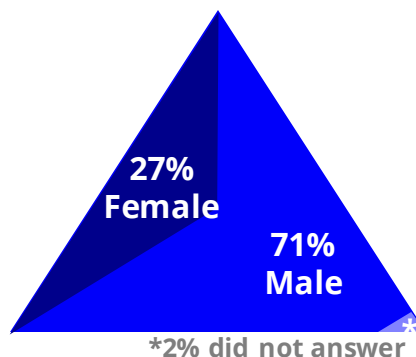
Mentor Race



Mentee Race



Mentor Gender



Mentor Areas of Expertise

Business Planning - 27%

Fundraising - 24.3%

Marketing - 19.6%

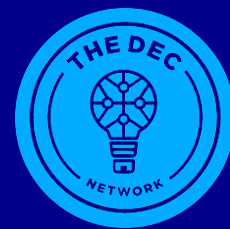
Other - 8.5%

Tech - 6.3%

Scaling - 3.7%

Finance - 3.2%

Testimonials



Mentorship Program 2023



Adriana Kao
(Mentee)
PAIRED WITH
SETH KNUTSON

Seth provided thoughtful and thorough feedback for my pitch competition deck, and he took time out of his very busy schedule to run through my presentation with him over video chat. His comments really helped me refine my message and become comfortable with my material and vision.



Bryan Tony
(Mentee)
PAIRED WITH
RANIA BATRICE

Rania has built both a successful business and an honorable reputation in the political field. From our first meeting, she has shared valuable best practices and encouraged me to view the growth of BGT Strategies in a more strategic way. Thank you, Rania, for your mentorship!

Accelerator Program 2023



Monica Boyd
BIG iDEA DEMO DAY
1ST PLACE WINNER

This cohort is a great resource to understand the foundations of beginning a business without prior experience. I would highly recommend to all new entrepreneurs looking to start their business!



Aaron Fennel
BIG iDEA
CONTESTANT

The DEC BIG iDEA Business Program has been an exceptional journey that has motivated me to thrive in the business world. I am grateful for the opportunity and would highly recommend it to those seeking to enhance their business acumen and accelerate their professional growth.

Women X Tech Summit 2023



Yolanda Cotton
ABUNDANT
HEALTHCARE
TRAINING ACADEMY

I appreciate the wealth of knowledge and opportunities provided through the program, facilitating the growth and development of my businesses. My participation has also allowed me to network with other entrepreneurs and professionals in my field, further expanding my reach and impact.

Community Navigator Program 2023



Mandy Price
CEO & CO-FOUNDER
KANARYS, INC.

Mandy regularly speaks at notable DEI, tech, and leadership conferences and has been featured by outlets like Good Morning America, Entrepreneur Inc., Forbes, TechCrunch, Business Insider, The Wall Street Journal, and more.

“THIS IS WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO”



On behalf of The DEC Network,

I want to express my sincere gratitude for your steadfast support throughout 2023. Together, we've achieved remarkable milestones as highlighted in the impact report. As we eagerly anticipate the opening of the Redbird Innovation Center in 2024, I reflect on a decade of innovation and growth. Your ongoing commitment is instrumental in our journey. Thank you for being an essential part of our success.



With warm regards,
Tim Hill
Chairman of the Board
The DEC Network



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