

Positioning Michigan as the Midwest Hub for High-Growth Women Entrepreneurs



inGAGE™ is Inforum Center for Leadership's strategy to position Michigan as the Midwest hub for high-growth, high-tech women entrepreneurs. inGAGE bridges the gap between a strong and growing talent base of highly-skilled women and the need for an innovation-based economy – where new technology or technology-enabled products have the potential to change a market or industry.

Guiding women through market analysis and technology commercialization

inGAGE™ is a methodology that guides women through market feasibility and commercial viability to scale growth-oriented businesses. The program is focused on helping women who have technology they want to commercialize, scale an existing company or those with entrepreneurial experience and a desire to patent or license new intellectual property.

Giving women-led ventures access to a global network of advisors and investors

Inforum Center for Leadership is the lead partner in the Midwest for Astia, a nonprofit with a distinct focus and mission to propel women's full participation in fueling innovation and driving economic growth. It features a global network of more than 1,100 advisors and investors – men and women – who work closely with women-led, high-growth ventures. The global network also gives visibility to Michigan business leaders, successful entrepreneurs, industry experts and investors.

Increasing the number of angel investors

Angel investing is a key component to thriving entrepreneurial communities. Inforum seeks to be a connection point for angel investors, helping educate Inforum's network around the reality, impact and rewards of angel investing. Our goal is to spur investment activity across Michigan – for both men and women – knowing that an increase in women angel investors can lead to increased investment in women-led ventures.

Inforum Center for Leadership would like to thank the following funders who help make its inGAGE strategy possible.

Inforum is one of the few professional organizations in the country – and the only one in Michigan – that combines strategic connections, proven professional development programs, a respected forum for new ideas, and original research to accelerate careers for women and boost talent initiatives for companies.

Inforum Center for Leadership (ICL) is the 501(c) 3 education and research arm of Inforum with programs that serve a broad range of professional women at different stages of their careers – from emerging leaders, to high-potential executives, entrepreneurs, and corporate board leaders. ICL also conducts and publishes original research on women's leadership influence in Michigan.

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