



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Stefanie Munsterman
NewBoCo Director of Development
stefanie@newbo.co
(319) 329-1199

NEWBOCO ANNOUNCES KEY FUNDING TO FUEL IOWA'S INNOVATION PIPELINE

Strategic support from Google and regional partners scales inclusive coding initiatives and fuels high-impact entrepreneurial events across Iowa.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA - The New Bohemian Innovation Collaborative, Inc. (NewBoCo) is proud to announce a series of significant grants and donations received in late 2025 and early 2026. This support from regional and national partners ensures the continued growth of Iowa's entrepreneurial ecosystem and the expansion of critical computer science education for PK-12 students.

A major portion of this funding comes via Google support over the last year, which will sustain a variety of high-impact programs. In late 2025, Google provided foundational support for the nonprofit's CoderDojo and Girls Who Code Clubs, two initiatives dedicated to making coding accessible and inclusive for young learners. Following that momentum, early 2026 saw additional Google funding for Computer Science Professional Development (CSPD) Week, Summer Code Camp, ENTREFest, Iowa Startup Accelerator (ISA) Spring Demo Day, and the NewBoCo Startup Sprint.

"The generosity of our partners allows us to dream bigger for Iowa's future," says Jill Wilkins, NewBoCo's Executive Director. "This diverse group of supporters understands that investing in both our current entrepreneurs and our future workforce is the only way to build a sustainable, tech-forward economy."

In addition to Google's support, ENTREFest 2026 - the region's premier conference for entrepreneurs and creatives - has received a surge of local backing. Significant

contributions were awarded by Hy-Vee, Quick Action Accounting, and Nyemaster Goode in early 2026, following late 2025 donations from Renew Rural Iowa and the City of Iowa City.

The organization's commitment to community networking also received a boost from Van Meter Inc., whose early 2026 donation is funding NewBoCo's Quarterly Entrepreneur Luncheons, providing a space for local founders to freely connect and share resources.

NewBoCo Director of Education Samantha Dahlby emphasized the impact on the classroom by stating, "These funds directly translate into more confidence for Iowa educators and more opportunities for students. Whether it is through CSPD Week or our student programs, we are ensuring that Iowa's youth are not just consumers of technology, but the creators of it."

Summary of Supported Programming:

- **Education:** CoderDojo, Girls Who Code Clubs, CSPD Week, and Summer Code Camp.
- **Entrepreneurship:** ENTREFest 2026, ISA Spring Demo Day, NewBoCo Startup Sprint, Quarterly Regional Entrepreneur Luncheons, coaching and mentoring services.

NewBoCo's programming is made possible through the generous support of individuals and corporate partners dedicated to fostering innovation and education; to join these efforts, please visit newbo.co/donate, or contact donate@newbo.co to explore giving and sponsorship opportunities.

###

About NewBoCo:

The New Bohemian Innovation Collaborative, Inc. (NewBoCo) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. NewBoCo's programming includes accelerators, tech education, and community events designed to foster innovation and entrepreneurship throughout the state. To support NewBoCo's mission, visit newbo.co/donate/ or contact donate@newbo.co.