



NCW TECH ALLIANCE

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



HOSTED OUR BIGGEST FLYWHEEL CONFERENCE



AWARDED \$7,500 IN STEM SCHOLARSHIPS



HOSTED ALL SPANISH STARTUP EVENT



EXPANDED DEVICE REFURBISHMENT



HELD TECHNOLOGY CLASSES IN SPANISH



TRAINED 135 DIGITAL NAVIGATORS



TECH & STEM SHOWCASE MOVED TO THE NCW FAIR



EXPANDED OUR NON-PROFIT TEAM AND WELCOMED DR. SUE KANE AS OUR NEW CEO



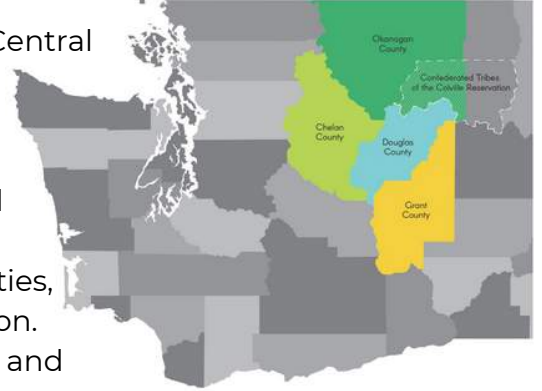
CELEBRATED THE 22ND ANNUAL INNOVATOR AWARDS

2023 INNOVATOR NCHEON



ABOUT US

NCW Tech Alliance's mission is to bring people and technology resources together to support entrepreneurs, STEM education, and technology adoption in North Central Washington. We are passionate about digital transformation and inclusion in rural Washington so people can live and work where they love. We offer high-quality programs that engage, inspire, and connect our community. We extend programs throughout Chelan, Douglas, Grant, Okanogan Counties, and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. Thank you to all of our generous members, sponsors, and volunteers who helped us make an impact in 2023.



POLICY BOARD

Thank you to our Board of Directors who volunteered their time and talents to support our mission. Special recognition to outgoing members: Robert, Shon, and Andrew.



Board President
Walter Thorn
ChargerHelp!



Board Vice-President
Judi Kuntz
Travel Syndication
Technology



Past-President
Robert Pageler
Confluence Health



Shon Dempsey



Andrew Gohl
Liberty Mutual



Josef Dunbar
Confluence Health



Russ Alman
Wenatchee Senior
Center



Ian Fitzgerald
Chelan County PUD



Thomas Kozina



Ian Weyenberg
AWS



Rachelle Lange
Group14

PATRON COUNCIL

Thank you to our 2023 strategic advisors:

- Lisa Karstetter, Microsoft
- Jenny Rickel, Native Network
- Brenda Mandelis, LocalTel

TECH ADVISORS

Thank you to our 2023 technology advisors:

- Shon Dempsey
- Trevor Coates
- Tom Willingham
- Daniel Hypes
- Tom Willingham
- Lorena Puildo
- Steve Garcia

MEET THE TEAM



Sue Kane, PhD
Chief Executive Officer



Sarah Sanford
Director of Operations



David Mabee
Director of Marketing



Jenny Rojanasthien
Director of Entrepreneurship



Conrad Billman
Technology Program Manager

LETTER FROM THE CEO

Dear NCW Tech Alliance Members,

We've had such an incredible year! I want to take a moment to express my gratitude and admiration for all of you who have contributed to the success of our organization this year. With your support, you've made a difference in the lives of thousands of people across North Central Washington by supporting and participating in our programs and events that showcased and celebrated technology, STEM education and entrepreneurship.

We are truly inspired by the network of partnerships that launched the NCW Digital Access and Equity Coalition in September. The coalition is uniting to expand access to affordable and reliable broadband, digital literacy training, access to devices and technical support for individuals across the region. We want to make sure that no one gets left behind as technology advances. This is a vital initiative that will help bridge the digital divide and continue to create more opportunities for innovation and inclusion in the year ahead.

I am also excited to share with you that we have big plans for 2024! We'll be expanding our office with a second location in Grant County, and in addition to a full suite of events and webinars, workshops, and our worldclass Flywheel Investment Conference, we will be launching programs to empower you with new technologies and trends including artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and digital citizenship. In February, we'll kick off our annual UpSkill-A-Thon competition to engage our members and the public in learning about and applying generative AI technologies to improve productivity, creativity, and learning.



I hope you are as proud as I am of what we have accomplished together this year, and as eager as I am to embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. I hope you've already marked your calendars and started making plans to join us in the year ahead as a volunteer, sponsor, or member. Every action adds up and we thank you for being part of NCW Tech Alliance!

Sincerely, *Sue Kane*

THANK YOU JENNY ROJANASTHIEN

On November 8, we celebrated Jenny Rojanasthien as she moved from the leader of our organization into a part-time role. During her eight years as Executive Director, Jenny transformed our organization into a regional powerhouse. Under her leadership, NCW Tech Alliance organized over 200 high-caliber events benefiting more than 15,000 individuals. Jenny is a founding member of the Apple STEM Network, which now serves 29 districts. Jenny founded the Flywheel Investment Conference, which showcases NCW as a vibrant place for startups to thrive and has resulted in millions of dollars in investment. Jenny forged a partnership with Microsoft and through Project iLumina, launched a rural resiliency and inclusion strategy, impacting lives across our region. She also brought the Community Skills Initiative program to ten locations across the country. Our board and staff are grateful for the years of service Jenny has given to our organization.

Jenny shared, "Leading NCW Tech Alliance has been the highlight of my career. Dr. Sue Kane is the perfect leader to carry the torch and I'm excited to see the organization thrive under her." Adding "I'm not completely gone either! I'll be working under Sue to support entrepreneurial programs - and I look forward to seeing NCW Tech Members in 2024!"



2023 HIGHLIGHTS AND PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS



Pictured: Participants from our Technology Classes in Spanish receiving new computers upon graduation from the program.

45+ EVENTS

NCW Tech Alliance hosted an incredible 45 events in 2023 and partnered on dozens of others. From Industry Tours to Cyber Meetups, an AI Expo, Tech and STEM Showcase, and Digital Navigator Trainings - there was something for everyone!

177 DEVICES DONATED

Through our Computers for Community Program, we refurbish devices for distribution in the community. We also purchase new computers through grant funding. 177 devices were given out in 2023.

3,000+ ATTENDEES

We had over 3,000 individuals attend our events in Chelan, Douglas, Grant, and Okanogan Counties.

60+ COALITION MEMBERS

We run the NCW Digital Access and Equity Coalition which is a collaborative effort involving organizations, public utilities, government agencies, community groups, and stakeholders working together to address issues related to digital access and equity in our region.

\$174K+ DONATED

Through grant funding and scholarships, over \$174,000 dollars came into our organization and back out to other non-profits, community-based organizations, scholarship recipients or startups.

\$300K+ AWARDED

The 2023 Flywheel Investment Conference awarded over \$300,000 on April 20, bringing the total to over \$1.3 million that has been awarded to Washington-based companies through the annual event.

DIGITAL EQUITY MONTH

September was Digital Equity Month, focusing on reducing digital resource access disparities in our region. Under the NCW Tech Help brand, we hosted pop-up events, trainings, and outreach, aimed to lessen the digital divide. This initiative emphasized raising awareness about digital equity and ensuring inclusive digital participation. Highlights included 12 Tech Help pop-ups, a digital skills survey completed by 470 individuals, 135 trained Digital Navigators, and a Digital Literacy Skills course in Spanish. Additionally, over 60 people engaged in the NCW Digital Access and Equity Coalition that we launched and more than 115 attended the Virtual Care Conference.



THANK YOU THRIVING TOGETHER NCW & MICROSOFT FOR FUNDING DIGITAL EQUITY GRANTS



INNOVATOR AWARDS LUNCHEON

We celebrated the 22nd Innovator Awards Luncheon in November. Congratulations 2023 award winners:

- Entrepreneur of the Year: Jonathan Baker, eqpd
- Newcomer in Technology: innov8.ag
- STEM Champion of the Year: Mark Ross Kondo
- STEM College Innovators: Titus Petersen, Grand Canyon University, and Xitlali Cruz, Stanford
- Future Technology Leader: Alexandra N. Vazquez-Rocha, Chelan High School
- Lifetime Achievement Award: Ron Brown, Executive Director Technology, Safety, and Security at Wenatchee School District 246



Pictured: Mark Ross Kondo and his students from Quincy High School.

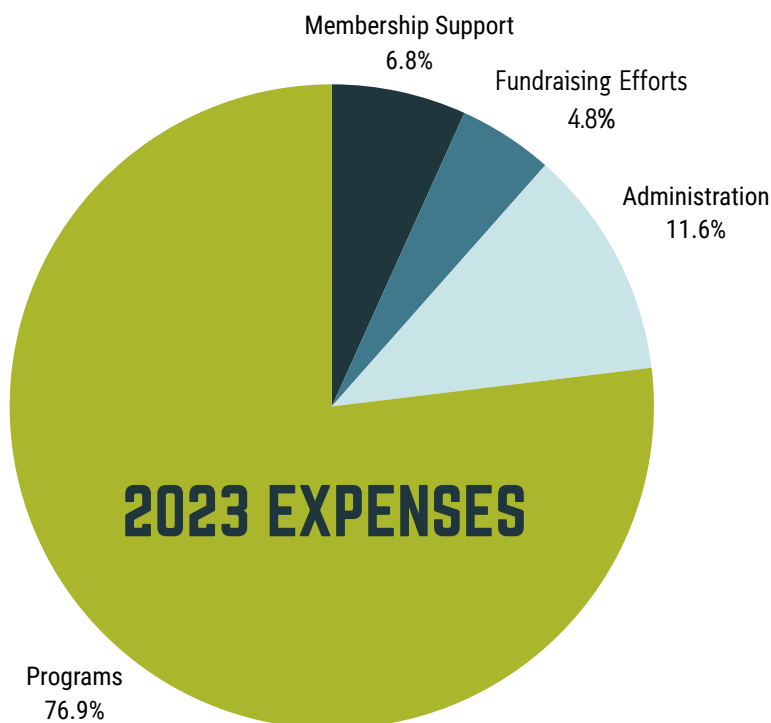
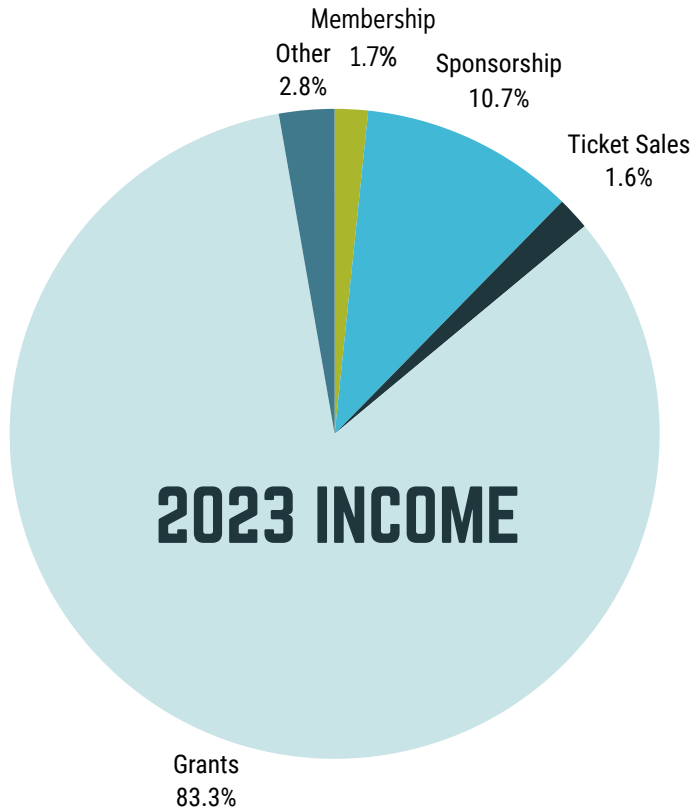
FLYWHEEL CONFERENCE

We broke all past records with the largest number of applicants, an expanded three-day schedule, and the highest-attended conference. Flywheel offered a Latina/o/x Founder Journey Workshop, networking pub crawl, entrepreneur and investor panels, keynote presentations, exhibitor booths, and networking. GemaTEG was named the winner of the 2023 Flywheel Conference and received a \$150,000 investment award. During the last day of the conference, attendees had the chance to participate in a pitch workshop and enjoy free skiing at Mission Ridge.



2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Every year the Policy Board sets a budget for the staff to implement in the year ahead. Our financial performance is based on the availability of (and our success in) grant applications, working with sponsors, and recruiting members. Thanks to the hard work of our staff, we secured several new grants in 2023! These were one-time investments and we look for new ways to grow in 2024.



2023 TOP TEN FUNDERS

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, we receive funding through grants, event sponsorships, membership, and donations. Thank you to the top ten organizations who supported our non-profit programs in 2023:



2023 ANNUAL PARTNERS

We are grateful for the annual partnership of our generous donors who supported our programs in 2023.



THANK YOU MEMBERS

Agtools Inc.
Alexandra N. Vazquez-Rocha
American Family Insurance
Andrew Erisman
Andrew Gohl
Awdience
Big Bend Community College
Blind Renaissance Inc.
Brock Burghardt
Bryce Smith
Carl Polson
Chelan County PUD
Chelan Hospitality Inc
Chelan Valley Hope
Christi Tugwell
City of Wenatchee
Columbia Valley Community Health
Confluence Health
Cynthia Wargin
Deb Murphy
Eastmont School District
Emerson Inc
Emily Straka
Endsley & Co.
eqpd
Fig
Firefly
Gene Sharratt
Glacier Peak Solutions
Glenn Adams
Grant County PUD
GTC Technical Support
Harvest Valley Pest Control
Heirloom Creatives
Howell at the Moon Productions

Ian Weyenberg
Icicle LLC
iFIBER
innov8.ag
JBe Marketing Group
Jeffers, Danielson, Sonn & Aywalrd, P.S.
Jonathan Kellenberg
Joshua Castro
JP Portrait Studio
KA Ads LLC
Kalin Raible
Karma Design
Key Methods, LLC
KinectAir
Larry LaMotte
Larson Gross
Lee Alley
Linda Holmes-Cook
LocalTel
MacDonald-Miller Facility Solutions
Marcantonio Martinez
Mario Godoy-Gonzalez
Mark Ross Kondo
Mark Simms
Megan Brandenburg
Meliesa Tigard
Microsoft
Moses Lake Chamber of Commerce
Moss Adams
MoxiWorks
Nathan Beam
Native Network
NCW Economic Development District
North Central Educational Service District
North Central Regional Libraries



Numerica Credit Union
OfficeTECH, Inc.
Ogden Murphy Wallace
P2X Studio, LLC
PetHub, Inc
Pinnacles Prep
Quincy Valley Chamber of Commerce
RedLine Solutions, Inc,
Robert Tidd
Ron Brown
Sabey Data Centers
Sage Step
Salcido Enterprises
Sam Scourfield
Shayne Magdoff
Skillsource
Smithson Insurance Services
Speidel Bentsen Llp
Stemilt Growers
Success Optimizers
Susan Albert
Terrantic, Inc.
The Taproom By Hellbent Brewing
Thomas Kozina
Tim Jenkins
Titus Petersen
Van Doren Sales, Inc.
Walter Thorn
Washington State Commerce
Washington State University
Wenatchee School District
Wenatchee Valley Chamber of Commerce
Wenatchee Valley College
Wenatchee World
WSIPC
Xitlali Cruz
Yahoo

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the 60+ community members who generously volunteered their time to support our 2023 programs and events. The invaluable support our volunteers provide has a significant impact on the communities we proudly serve. We'd like to highlight the following volunteers for their outstanding contributions in 2023:

- Alfredo Rodriguez
- Annette Lovitt
- Cari Horning
- Christine Douglas
- Hank McWhinney
- Jessi Mendoza
- Juan Servin
- Kaden Brooks
- Kara Sanford
- Linda Dezellem
- Manny Rodriguez
- Molly Hunter
- Summer Hess
- Tami McBride
- Tyler Rouleau



VOLUNTEER WITH US

We are expanding our Volunteer Program in 2024.

Visit ncwtech.org/volunteer or email us at info@ncwtech.org to learn how you can get involved and make a difference in your community!



BECOME A MEMBER

MEMBERSHIP

Bronze Business Member: \$230
>10 employees

Silver Business Member: \$315
11-30 employees

Gold Business Member: \$460
31-50 employees

Platinum Business Member: \$575
50+ employees

Individual and non-profit memberships
are also available



[NCWTECH.ORG/MEMBERSHIP](https://ncwtech.org/membership)



MEMBER BENEFITS

- Discounted or free tickets to all events
- Feature on our membership directory
- Post job openings on our NCW Job Board page
- Guest speaker opportunities
- Opportunity to promote your organization
- Networking & B2B Referrals

NCW Tech Alliance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, so all memberships are considered a charitable donation.

CELEBRATE A NEW YEAR WITH NCW TECH ALLIANCE!

2024

kick-off party

THURSDAY 18 JANUARY

5:30PM - 7:30PM

EVENTS CENTER @ PYBUS PUBLIC MARKET

MEMBERS \$15 | NON-MEMBERS \$25

Your ticket includes 2 x complimentary drink tickets

TICKETS: [NCWTECH.ORG](https://ncwtech.org)

2024 PREVIEW

We invite you to attend our exciting and dynamic events in 2024. Plus, a benefit of membership to NCW Tech Alliance is free or discounted tickets to any of our non-profit events.

Be the first to receive updates and news about NCW Tech Alliance by signing up to our e-newsletter at ncwtech.org

Looking for visibility for your business? We are also seeking speakers and sponsors in 2024! Email us at info@ncwtech.org to learn more.

CONNECT WITH US



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