

Next Level Accelerator

Impact Snapshot



Our Masterclass Model

At the heart of Next Level is a masterclass model that does more than educate, it connects. Over the course of the program, senior executives from the region's largest employers taught curated sessions that provided the cohort—regionally based entrepreneurs—with rare, direct access to decision-makers who influence procurement and corporate partnerships, share insights into how their company operates, and provide connections that can lead to business scale and growth.

Each masterclass offered:

- A deep dive into the company's approach to a series of business topics, including sales, legal, marketing, and business strategy.
- Practical, real-world examples from the region's largest and most impactful companies.
- Facilitated connections between entrepreneurs and board partner representatives.

Our masterclass approach is more than just technical assistance, it's a front-row seat to how successful companies operate and grow. This model reflects our belief that when we can facilitate connections between large companies and entrepreneurs, small and local businesses gain the tools, relationships, and visibility to scale. Additionally, the cohort received instruction on the fundamentals of business from New Majority Ventures, our entrepreneurship support partner.

Backed by a Powerful Network

Thanks to the leadership of our Greater Washington Partnership board companies, Next Level brings employer power to the table in service of inclusive economic growth. Participating employers included:



Impact – By the Numbers



38 entrepreneurs based in Washington DC, Maryland, and Virginia.



90% report better ability to market their business



167+ business-building relationships facilitated



55% feel more prepared to fundraise



77% have been short-listed for RFPs or contracting opportunities



81% feel better prepared to navigate RFPs or contract opportunities with prospective buyers



65% held or plan to hold follow-up discussions with procurement leads

2025 Cohort Overview



23 entrepreneurs representing 20 businesses graduated



Sectors: Consulting, IT, Healthcare, Real Estate & Construction, Energy, Food & Beverage



Businesses based in: 26% DC, 52% Maryland, 22% Virginia



Average Revenue: \$1.7 Million



Average Employee Count: 10



Pitch Competition Spotlight

Winner: Hyacinth Tucker, The Laundry Basket

Our first-ever pitch competition awarded \$25,000 to Hyacinth Tucker, founder and CEO of The Laundry Basket. The Laundry Basket is a premier laundry and dry cleaning service dedicated to providing convenient, high quality garment care with pickup and delivery options. Their mission is to make laundry effortless for individuals, families, and businesses while promoting sustainability. Through cutting-edge technology, they streamline operations for laundromats and dry cleaners, empowering them to grow while maintaining exceptional service standards.

The event was made possible by board partner Ann Ramakumaran, Founder and CEO of Ampcus Inc., and exemplifies the type of investment and mentorship that sets this program apart.

