

## Hartford/East Hartford Innovation Places Initiative

**Vision:** Increase local innovation and commercialization in the region’s strongest economic clusters—insurance, healthcare and aerospace/advanced manufacturing. Build upon amenity-rich downtown Hartford and create new amenities in the Trinity/Hartford Hospital Impact Area to enable them to become thriving Innovation Places. Create social networks that tie together Hartford’s many existing, but fragmented and underutilized, resources and assets.

**Team/Partners:** UConn, Goodwin College, Trinity College, University of Hartford, Metro Hartford Alliance, Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Hartford Healthcare, City of Hartford, Town of East Hartford, reSET, Small Business Development Corporation, Innovate Hartford, MakerspaceCT and several entrepreneurs.

### Major Catalytic Projects:

- **Economic Initiatives.** Accelerate innovation and commercialization in insurance, medical technology and aerospace/advanced manufacturing.
  - *InsureTech Accelerator.* Attract next-generation insurance companies to Hartford.
  - *Digital Health Incubator/Accelerator.* Support the development and testing of “minimum viable products” and new digital health technologies.
  - *Technical Assistance, Training and Talent Recruitment.* Provide aerospace/advanced manufacturing suppliers with technical assistance, training and talent recruitment to develop next-generation products and methods.
- **Physical Place Initiatives.** Develop the Trinity/Hartford Hospital Impact Area as a thriving Innovation Place with diverse live/work/play opportunities.
  - *Space-Matching and Grant Assistance.* Provide access for local businesses to space-matching and grant assistance to improve area amenities.
  - *Pop-Up Food Park.* Provide healthy, affordable fresh produce while creating a shared “third space” for Innovation Places interactions.
- **Social Capabilities Initiatives.** Network and connect the region’s many assets.
  - *Asset and Cluster Mapping.* Support area entrepreneurs by providing asset mapping and new tools. Provide cluster mapping to identify and connect resources within emerging clusters.
  - *Build Networks.* Build networks between startups and corporations and between students and the Hartford region.
  - *New Makerspace.* Serve as a shared space for collaboration between InsureTech, MedTech and aerospace initiative participants, as well as Hartford entrepreneurs.

- *Promote New Initiatives and Resources.* Coordinate and promote each of the new initiatives and resources.

**Impact Areas:** Downtown Hartford area and the Trinity/Hartford Hospital area.