



# Membership Value

HRIC Members and Friends,

As a member of our Hampton Roads region, you may realize that there is no shortage of organizations and activity to participate in. The fact is that there is value in all of them, it's just a matter of where your interests and passion are.

The Hampton Roads Innovation Collaborative is the continuation of the region's Technology Council, a c6 non-profit established in the late 1990s.

In the day, the Tech Council focused mostly on incubators, some lobbying, also holding regular networking events (Critical Mass), to keep the tech business ecosystem connected. Over the years, the incubator business and lobbying dissipated and the Tech Council went into hibernation.

In late 2015, we re-established the board and launched the Hampton Roads Innovation Collaborative (HRIC) as a new dba with new focus.

The new focus was to establish more value-added programming for its members, releasing the incubation and lobbying activity. I'd like to review some of those activities which you may find of great value for you and/or your business.

## **HRIC Member Business Promotion**

### **Social Media Exposure**

HRIC's LinkedIn presence has over 2,000 members (and growing). By posting your activity there, you get great visibility for your activity. We mirror content in our Facebook page as well. Take a look at: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/93955/> and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2915911447/>.

### **Email Campaigning**

We also utilize Vertical Response to send email distributions to a proprietary HRIC database of hundreds of technology firms.

### **Vendor Showcase**

HRIC's website allows you to post your logo and tell your business story.

## **Quarterly Networking Events**

Our **Critical Mass** events are held no less than quarterly with parallel events on the southside as well as on the peninsula (8 events per year). These are a great opportunity to meet new people in the tech business world, share experiences and even get some business.

## **Annual Tech Business Event**

In the fall, HRIC and ODU co-host our **Tech Expo**. Tech Expo is a great opportunity to receive value-add content from speakers, review sponsoring vendor activity on display, enjoy tech business recognition awards and network with approximately 200 people in our regional technology space.

## **Strategic Programming**

HRIC works to develop programs intended to help the region grow from a tech business and social innovation/collaboration perspectives.

### **We Feed**

Collaborating with member company Concussive, HRIC helped to deploy the **We Feed** program. We Feed leverages technology to bring food to regional families in need.

### **Global Shapers Norfolk**

**Global Shapers Norfolk** is a hub of the World Economic Forum's Global Shapers Community developed and led by distinguished, diverse young men and women under 30, driven by a shared responsibility to make a difference in their community. We are apolitical, not-for-profit, and committed to creating a better world by activating Millennials in Hampton Roads. HRIC is the fiduciary host for GSN.

### **Womens Forum of Coastal VA**

The **Women's Forum of Coastal Virginia** (WFCV) offers a recurring series of events specifically designed for women in business. HRIC is the fiduciary host for WFCV.

### **HR Tech Ramp**

We start by working with high schools, via our **HR Tech Ramp** program. HR Tech Ramp is a design engineering challenge competition where high schools from around the region compete via a 2-month development process and a spring competition for cash prizes awarded to the schools engineering programs.

### **Foundation for Innovation (F4I)**

**F4I** is simply getting us back to basics and regrouping on what's needed. Toward that, we interviewed almost 30 area tech firms in 2018 to find out what's working and what's not. Program overview, report findings and recommendations found at:

<https://technologyhamptonroads.com/category/business-ecosystem/>.

### **Corporate Pillars**

A derivative and supporting program for F4I is **Corporate Pillars**, a program designed to emulate some of the conditions that contributed to the success of Silicon Valley. The mission is to provide an environment where the large regional organizations can become aware of the smaller/growth organizations within the region as well as to provide feedback for their development. Read more at:

<https://technologyhamptonroads.com/corporate-pillars/>.

As you can see, HRIC has been involved in some impactful regional programs and will continue to do so. But don't take it from me, take a look at all our activity at: <https://technologyhamptonroads.com/> to see everything we're involved in. As a member, you can even propose a new program for HRIC to advocate and support!

We are a 100% volunteer organization with no employees or facilities (100% virtual) but rely on membership and sponsorships to fund some of these activities.

Membership is affordable and easy via PayPal, check or credit card. Please review our options at: <https://technologyhamptonroads.com/> (scroll to page bottom) to see what makes sense for you.

Sincerely,

*Dan G. Bell*

President  
Hampton Roads Innovation Collaborative