

# **WELCOME**

Lab Central

### **EXECUTIVE TEAM**



Gretchen Cook-Anderson ED, Ignite



Johannes Fruehauf Co-Founder & CEO



**Mike LaRhette** CBO



Maggie O'Toole COO & EVP



**Peter Shanley** CFO

Coming out of the COVID pandemic, we are excited to launch into 2022 with renewed optimism and excitement. The exercise of looking back at the past 12 months through our 2021 Impact Report allows us to see the incredible productivity and ingenuity of our scientist teams and startups, and we hope to share with you some of that wonder.

Since our launch in 2013, LabCentral has served as the vanguard accelerating innovation and expanding R&D in the biotech and life sciences industries. 2021 was a year of unparalleled growth and progress for LabCentral, our residents, alumni, and our community of partners and stakeholders.

As a physician, I'm especially excited to see our companies make progress in the development of new therapeutics and in 2021 we saw twelve new LabCentral companies starting clinical trials for the drugs they invented here. In total, our companies enrolled a total of 5,717 participants this past year in studies to improve outcomes for cancer, diabetes, and many other diseases.

LabCentral supported resident companies in the creation of 1,449 new jobs in Massachusetts in 2021, and resident companies expanded their facilities across 1.3 million square feet of research space in Greater Boston.

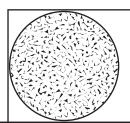
We continued our own growth to provide innovators with better environments, and we opened Phase 1 of LabCentral 238. Purpose-built to support cell and gene therapy companies, LabCentral 238 represents the next step in the (r)evolution of the life sciences industry.

Additionally in 2021, we appointed Gretchen Cook-Anderson as the Executive Director of LabCentral Ignite, our platform aimed at establishing a robust pipeline of diverse, qualified talent in the biotech industry. LabCentral Ignite demonstrates another important way in which we strive to support the unmet needs of our industry.

To our sponsors, partners, and the incredible LabCentral team who made 2021 such a landmark year, I extend my deepest gratitude. What we accomplished in 2021 is attributed to our shared commitment to create the opportunities that empower innovation by building community. I look forward to seeing you again soon - this time in person!

Sincerely,
Johannes Fruehauf
Co-Founder & CEO





5,717

#### **PARTICIPANTS DOSED IN 2021**

**422**% increase from 2020 **6,917** enrollees since 2013

YEARS

ON AVERAGE FROM STARTING AT LABCENTRAL TO ENTERING CLINICAL TRIAL 35

**NEW CLINICAL TRIALS** 

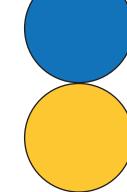
**78**% increase from 2020 **80** total since 2013 **31** 

TOTAL COMPANIES
ACTIVE IN THE CLINIC

1,449

**DIRECT NEW JOBS CREATED IN 2021** 

97% increase from 20204,608 total since 2013



16

NEW PATENTS ISSUED IN 2021

**91** total since 2013

5

COMPANY IPOs in 2021 18 total since 2013 LabCentral 2021
IPO Companies

Xilio Therapeutics
TransCode Therapeutics
Generation Bio
Cyteir Therapeutics
Compass Therapeutics

## **Next Generation Leaders**

Science at the Forefront

LabCentral represents an alternative model to biotech and life sciences R&D. Our model works to decentralize the innovation pipeline and source the most inventive companies developing the most cutting edge technologies to maximally improve patient outcomes and save lives. LabCentral resident and alumni companies are pushing what we know to be possible in the life sciences, including within the emerging spaces of biologics manufacturing; diagnostics; drug discovery and computational artificial intelligence; and gene therapy.



active patents held by resident and alumni companies





### **Kano Therapeutics**

Launched in 2020

Floris Engelhardt, Ph.D. CEO & Co-Founder

The COVID-19 pandemic made clear that there is a massive bottleneck associated with the use of long single-stranded DNA (ssDNA). Current chemical synthesis techniques are limited to short DNA strands called oligonucleotides, which are orders of magnitude shorter than the DNA required in multiple gene therapies, cellular engineering, and DNA vaccines. So far, all production methods for ssDNA above a length of 1000 nucleotides depend on costly components and lack scalability.

Kano Therapeutics' platform for gene therapies and biologics manufacturing harnesses the power of the bacteriophage life-cycle for ssDNA production that is scalable and cost efficient. Their approach enables direct transfer into the clinic and speeds the development and delivery of vital new drugs and therapies to improve patient outcomes.



#### **Accure Health**

Launched in 2016

Jessica Sang, Ph.D. CEO & Co-Founder

When it comes to making critical diagnoses, time is of the essence and delays in detection can have deleterious effects, both physically and mentally.

Accure Health focuses on developing integrated solutions that rapidly digitize liquid biomarkers into quantitative, actionable information to improve early detection and precision treatment of disease. Accure's TiMES technology integrates multiplex automation, electronic detection and machine learning into compact systems to accelerate biomarker discovery and testing. Together with clinical and industry partners, Accure has developed unique solutions for cancer, neurodegeneration and other complex diseases.



### **DIAGNOSTICS**

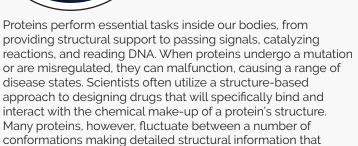
Every body is different and advancements in diagnostics are integral in the push toward personalized medicine. Fast and reliable data from diagnostic testing, together with a patient's medical history and other factors empowers both patients and providers to aptly make decisions for better therapeutic and preventative care and eliminate trial-and-error inefficiencies and increased medical care costs.



### **New Equilibrium**

Launched in 2021

Virginia Burger, Ph.D. CEO & Co-Founder



Resident Company Research Areas

New Equilibrium's platform combines big data, artificial intelligence, and biophysical experiments to accurately visualize intrinsically disordered proteins (IDPs) in 3D. Their structure-based drug discovery methodology results in better drug targeting, lower toxicity, and the restoration of normal cellular function.

could be utilized for drug discovery challenging to obtain.



### STRM.BIO

Launched in 2019

Jonathan N. Thon, Ph.D. CEO & Founder

Extracellular vesicles (EVs) are natural carriers of nucleic acids and proteins that hold tremendous promise as direct cell messengers for gene therapies due to their innate targeting, amenability to commercial manufacture, and low immunogenicity. STRM.BIO is developing EVs to deliver gene therapies in vivo and establish a new class of therapeutics for rare blood diseases.

cell there

STRM.BIO's unique EV platform has a natural tropism to hematopoietic stem cells, a large carrying capacity that supports both protein and nucleic acid delivery, and allows for

STRM.BIO aims to democratize gene therapy and bring hope for patients fighting rare diseases worldwide.

### **DRUG DISCOVERY & COMPUTATIONAL AI**

Computational AI is accelerating drug discovery by enabling scientists with the ability to quickly sort through and compare the properties of potentially applicable small molecules. Leveraging publicly available libraries, they are then able to focus their lead generation efforts. Al can also generate bespoke data on cellular behavior, helping to reveal insights and patterns that may be too subtle or complex for humans to detect.

### **GENE THERAPY &** RARE DISEASES

Finding an effective pathway for a drug can be very challenging, as they can have multiple off-target effects. Gene therapies precisely leverage the power of natural processes by correcting the underlying genetic problem in a targeted and controlled way, rather than introducing complex large molecules with complicated pathways to recover genes responsible for disease development.

**BIOLOGICS MANUFACTURING** 

Advancements in biologics manufacturing have been slow to meet the pace of innovation in drug development. Biologics are large and increasingly more complex, requiring high investment and presenting procedural challenges. Novel approaches to biologics manufacturing show potential to decrease drug pricing, shorten the time it takes for drugs to come to market, and in turn, accelerate the speed with which patients receive treatment.

## From Bench to Clinic

Accelerating the Development of Breakthrough Technologies

By empowering scientists and entrepreneurs, LabCentral is redesigning the innovation pipeline necessary to improve patient outcomes and save lives. In 2021 our platform for biotech and life science R&D saw 12 new resident and alumni companies enter their technologies into clinical trial. These trials represent not only our commitment to supporting innovators but also offer a ray of hope for the patients and families that one day may benefit from their success.



## VEDANTA BIOSCIENCES

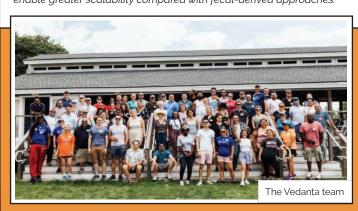
Vedanta Biosciences

Launched in 2010

Bernat Olle CEO

#### Tell us about your company and the clinical trial you are in.

We are pioneering the development of defined bacterial consortia as oral therapies that modulate the human microbiome to treat disease. The human microbiome is comprised of trillions of bacteria, viruses, and fungi, living throughout the human body. Microbiome disruption has been linked to a wide range of diseases, including infections, immune-mediated diseases, cancer, liver disease, and neurological maladies. First-generation microbiome approaches use fecal donor material of variable composition as the basis for product candidates, resulting in inconsistent efficacy outcomes across different clinical studies. In contrast, we are developing reproducible product candidates based upon defined bacterial strains grown from clonal cell banks in a manner analogous to monoclonal antibody production. We believe that our targeted approach could offer consistent composition and quality attributes, provide more consistent clinical benefit, limit safety risk and enable greater scalability compared with fecal-derived approaches.





**COMPANIES IN THE CLINIC** 

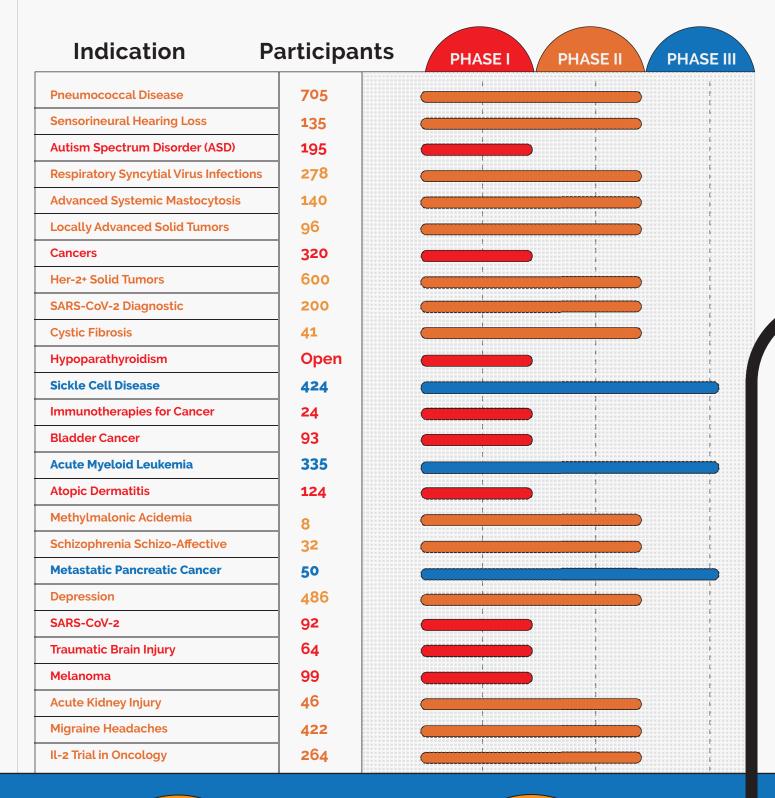
CURRENT CLINICAL TRIALS

#### What does this clinical trial mean to your company?

This has been the largest, most ambitious team effort by Vedanta in the clinic yet. The team overcame numerous technical and operational challenges and we were very pleased with the results of the study.

#### What does this clinical trial mean to you, personally?

It was very meaningful to see that patients benefited from our investigational drug. It was also, to my knowledge, the first time in the microbiome field that an investigational drug based on the new class we're developing (defined bacterial consortia) showed clear efficacy in patients.



UNIQUE INDICATIONS

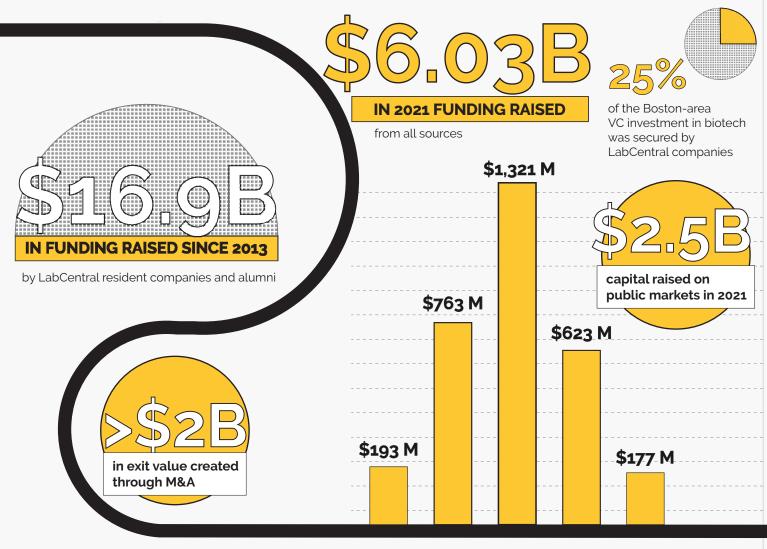
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED

## The Financials

Raising Capital and Growing the MA Bioeconomy

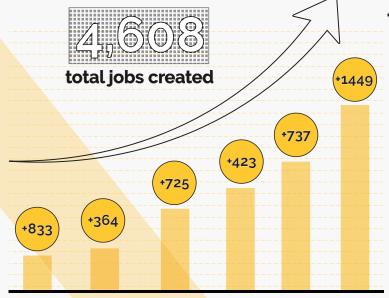
The pandemic focused attention on the development of breakthrough science while fundraising in the life sciences reached a record high. Biotechs show continued promise in their performance and LabCentral companies were no exception. 2021 saw the biggest annual increase in resident fundraising in LabCentral's history. These investments will fund next generation research, accelerating lifesaving technologies as well as the growth of the Massachusetts economy.

As a part of LabCentral's initial charter to support the development of a biotech sector in the state of Massachusetts, we pledged to help build 1000 new jobs in startups over a period of ten years. The growth and development of our resident companies and alumni has far exceeded our expectations. To date LabCentral companies have created 4,608 new jobs since we opened our doors in 2013.



**NEW JOBS CREATED SINCE 2013** 

by LabCentral and LabCentral companies



**ALUMNI GRADUATES** 

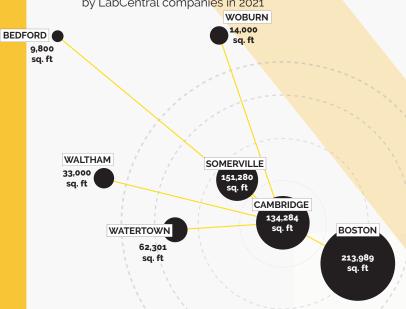
total LabCentral

employees

2019 2018 2013-2016 2017 2020 2021

#### **NEW LAB SPACE LEASED**

by LabCentral companies in 2021



by LabCentral alumni companies in lab spaces across Massachusetts

**SQUARE FEET OCCUPIED** 

repeat entrepreneurs who returned to **LabCentral** 

> to grow a second or third company

**AVERAGE MILES** 

distance of LabCentral alumni spaces from our original site in Cambridge

of the national early-stage and Series A investment in biotech

**Series Early** Stage

2021 VC FUNDING

Later Stage

## Igniting Change 🔥

Forging Bold, Inclusive Change

Ignite, powered by LabCentral, emerged in 2021 as the only platform wholly dedicated to addressing systemic racial, gender and other underrepresentation in the life sciences and biotech. Ignite is leaning in to lead, convene, connect, instigate, and inspire change that broadens diversity across life sciences career roles - connecting diverse talent to opportunity and learning at every step of the STEM journey from Kindergarten through Boardroom.

In 2021, LabCentral Ignite saw the returns of its \$185,000 grant-making initiative from 2020 and supported eleven program partners; funding scholarships, curriculum development, and training, impacting over 1000 students. Ignite also awarded two Ignite Golden Tickets for early-stage companies with diverse founders, and provided significant support to STEM education and biotech workforce training.



Nearly 40% of all employment

in the state of Massachusetts revolves around innovation

industries. Despite this, just one

they are interested in pursuing a

STEM career<sup>1</sup>. A quarter of U.S.

high schools that are majority

Black and Latinx do not offer

Algebra II, a gateway to most

high-level STEM courses, and

Kindergartners test poorly on a

compared with 10% of affluent peers. By 8th grade 54% of those students are still struggling in

general science knowledge test

65% of lower income

science.

in six high-school seniors say

full-time employees dedicated to developing opportunity in biotech



**Ignite Sponsors** 



LIFE SCIENCES CENTERS



events hosted in partnership with 8 organizations

with over 400 attendees

interns placed through LabCentral Ignite

**PROGRAM PARTNERS** 

Massachusetts

Breakthrough TISHMAN SPEYER



STUDENTS SUPPORTED

Career Forge at LabCentral was a very important step for my developing career. The program offered exposure to lab and interpersonal skills that I did not receive in school and taught me the basics of caring for cells. This was a great experience that taught me a lot about what it is really like working in a laboratory setting.

Michelle Oliviera Student, Emmanuel College

## **IGNITE GOLDEN TICKETS**

The first-ever Ignite Golden Ticket & Fellowship Program supported by AbbVie, selected two companies led by founders from historically underrepresented backgrounds, and whose works are in line with the greater mission of Ignite to not only increase representation but also to elevate and diversify the pipeline of technologies being developed in biotech. The winners receive the benefits of LabCentral's shared infrastructure, equipment, and services, as well as curated guidance and mentorship to grow their companies

**2021 Ignite Golden Ticket Winners** 

Co-founders & CEOs, NanoPath

within LabCentral's network.

**CAREER FORGE** 

With support from Amgen, Ignite piloted the Career Forge program in fall of 2021, with the goal of assessing, developing, and placing diverse candidates into

high-demand, entry-level, lab-based roles. Focusing on critical workplace compe-

tencies, this free program comprises a total of 80 hours of intensive in-lab technical

training and skill-building, as well as professional development and coaching.

Participants are then actively connected and recommended to hiring managers







**Del Afonso** Dr. Amogha Tadimety & Dr. Alison Burklund Founder & CEO, Harmony

**Career Forge Supported By** 













In 2021, Gretchen Cook-Anderson came aboard as Ignite's inaugural executive director. Ignite is also guided by a growing group of formal and informal advisors, including former MA Governor Deval Patrick; Massachusetts Life Science Center president Kenn Turner; Daniel Rios, Principal Scientist, ROME Therapeutics: Sunny Schwartz. CEO MassRio Ed: and Susan Windham-Bannister. LabCentral's Board of Directors rep to the Ignite Advisory Board

(Shown from top to bottom).

## A FUTURE LOOK FOR IGNITE



Ignite will increasingly harness community to lead, convene, connect, inspire and instigate ways to fill gaps and disrupt bias in the K to biotech boardroom career journey. To engage with and support Ignite's programs: hire a Career Forge alum, become a coach to one of our underrepresented founders, join and test the beta version of our bioDiversity Network, or lend your own story to our public education initiative to connect underrepresented communities to biotech careers.

labcentralignite.org



## **Resident Success and Community**

**Building Better Biotechs** 

In 2021, LabCentral introduced a new range of programming called "Resident Success" to formally engage the executive leadership of resident companies in their critical business-building initiatives. In 2021, Resident Success kicked off CEO Roundtables, small-group sessions designed to facilitate the sharing of best practices and to present panels on highly curated topics including "Public listings: Crossovers, SPACs, & IPOs" and "Recruitment Trends & Tactics in a Competitive Biotech Market". Resident Success also introduced the Partnering Summit Series and Mentoring **Cohorts** in addition to continuing to expand the **Golden Ticket program**.

## **CEO ROUNDTABLES**

The CEO Roundtables go beyond the bench and have offered me a chance to meet investors, lawyers, and other entrepreneurs and experts to help me think about how to raise capital, develop a team, and structure financing by using real-world examples from people who have "been there, done that."

Ted Marple CEO, Acworth Pharma total panels

**CEOs in** attendance

from across our network of locations and 18 CEOs with multi-session attendance





**CONNECTIONS MADE** 

between sponsors and resident companies

## **GOLDEN TICKETS**

golden tickets awarded

in partnership with 16 LabCentral sponsors

total sponsors

engaged with our resident entrepreneurs Golden Tickets represent the unique opportunity for our sponsors to directly partner with promising early stage companies by underwriting the cost of residency for one scientist and one lab bench for one year. In 2021, LabCentral partnered with 16 sponsors to award a total of 24 Golden Tickets; the equivalent of providing \$1.2M in funding.



**EVENTS HOSTED ACROSS SITES** 

safely with COVID-19 protocols



LITERATI BOOK **CLUB MEETINGS** 

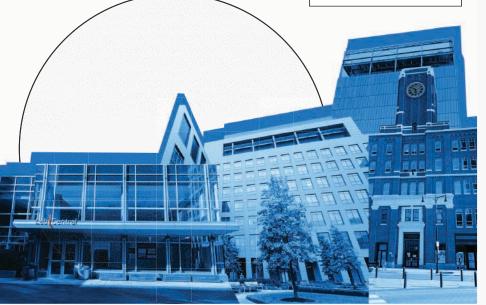
including four where residents were able to meet the author



**LOCAL ARTISTS FEATURED** in Gallery 1832



on average of resident companies within LabCentral's facilities



## **OUR SITES**

In addition to providing resident companies with the tools to succeed and grow, our location places entrepreneurs amongst the best of their peers and within a community of driven change-makers. Our community programming is designed to inspire, connect, and facilitate relationships outside of the laboratory. In 2021, LabCentral hosted 176 events either virtually or in person, in accordance with COVID-19 safety protocols.

LabCentral locations are tailored to meet the unique needs of life-sciences companies at each stage of their development. In 2021, LabCentral celebrated the Phase I opening of LabCentral 238. LabCentral 238 focuses on bio-manufacturing and providing the process development support that companies need to quickly take their science to market. Phase II is slated to open Summer 2022.

In 2021, we were proud to host 91 early-stage companies and 570 scientists and entrepreneurs across our four locations. To date. **LabCentral has** been home to 245 companies.



main street

61 companies 261 residents 34 sponsors

main street

7 companies 138 residents 1 partnership



238

8 companies 66 residents 6 sponsors

The Pagliuca **Harvard Life Lab** 

operated by LabCentral

15 ventures 105 members



## THANK YOU TO OUR 2021 SPONSORS

#### **FOUNDING**















#### **PLATINUM**



















#### **GOLD**





































#### **GENERAL**































