



Catholic Charities
of Santa Clara County



PRESS RELEASE

ThingLogix Selected as Technology Vendor for Step Up Silicon Valley's Innovative Nonprofit Data Integration Project

SAN JOSE, CA – October 12, 2017 – Poverty is expensive, not only for those in need, but also for the organizations trying to help lift people out of poverty. To avoid re-traumatizing clients who end up telling their stories multiple times, Step Up Silicon Valley, with seed funding from Cisco Systems, incubated and piloted a first-of-its-kind inter-agency collaborative system that will allow nonprofit agencies to work together to collectively help their clients gain economic self-sufficiency.

Step Up Silicon Valley, through its 1,000 Out of Poverty initiative, mobilized partner service agencies that serve individuals in need. Effective today, ThingLogix, a provider of Internet of Things (IoT) solutions, has joined the collaborative effort to provide crucial enabling technologies.

“The cost of poverty is usually measured in dollars and cents. We rarely measure poverty in the cost of the dignity and time people in need lose when looking for multiple resources from multiple organizations,” said Almaz Negash, Sr. Managing Director, Step Up Silicon Valley.

ThingLogix offers data integration technology that will make client data readily available through a shared hub for partner agencies. This, in turn, will reduce the amount of time that case managers spend on paperwork, while increasing the time they can devote to creating pathways to economic opportunity for their clients. In addition to creating a more efficient case management process and increasing the volume of client engagement, the introduction of this technology reduces the incidence of clients needing to constantly retell their stories of how they became homeless, thereby risking more mental trauma.

"Imagine a tool that enables clients to access services from multiple agencies without running all over town telling their painful story over and over again," said Gregory R. Kepferle, CEO of Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, the umbrella organization for Step Up Silicon Valley. "Imagine a tool that allows professional support team members from multiple agencies efficiently share information to more effectively serve clients, saving time from double and triple data entry, facilitating a network of seamless support to help more people move out of poverty faster. That's impact."

Carl Krupitzer, CEO of ThingLogix, collaborated closely with Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County to adapt the ThingLogix cloud computing platform, Foundry, to the unique needs of Step

Up Silicon Valley. “We typically see Foundry deployed in purely commercial settings, transforming objects and devices into ‘smart things’ that take action autonomously based on predefined event triggers,” said Krupitzer. “In this case, we applied the core technology principles underpinning Foundry to what is essentially an organizational process challenge. We effectively treat the business process as if it were a device. Not only is this an interesting and creative application of our technology, it is for a great cause that isn’t about business, but about people in real need. That makes it a solid win/win/win for everyone involved.”

Using new technology to serve many people tends to be labor and capital-intensive. To raise additional funds that can offset the implementation costs, Step Up Silicon Valley is hosting a crowdfunding campaign on the HandUp platform. Help spread the message by sharing the campaign page on your Facebook and social media pages. All gifts will be matched by Google! Visit <https://handup.org/campaigns/ccscc> to donate.

“Technology can play a critical role in overcoming the many obstacles that social service organizations face in coordinating and managing their services,” said Erin Connor, Program Manager, Public Benefit Investment, Cisco Systems, Inc. “We believe that this solution has the potential to enable participating organizations to more efficiently and effectively serve vulnerable communities, ultimately furthering Step Up Silicon Valley’s mission of moving individuals and families out of poverty.”

For more information on the Nonprofit Data Integration Project, visit <http://stepupsv.org/nonprofit-data-integration>.

Background

Over the past seven years, Step Up Silicon Valley, in partnership with nonprofits, public, and private sector leaders, has been able to ideate, incubate, and launch breakthrough systems change projects to create a thriving community. Some of these projects include Pay for Success, Franklin McKinley Women’s Initiative, San Jose Business Tax Reform, College Savings Circle, and 1,000 Out of Poverty.

Throughout these years, Step Up Silicon Valley has learned about the complexity of poverty and the barriers that organizations face, ranging from funding, to data collection, to data integration. The latter is a major challenge when trying to work collectively. Thanks to seed funding from Cisco Systems, they have developed this NonProfit Data Integration Project.

About Step Up Silicon Valley

Step Up Silicon Valley is a social innovation network that ignites ideas and turns them into action. We are a platform that sparks discussion among community members who then ideate and incubate new and untested models and solutions that disrupt ineffective systems to helping individuals move out of poverty. Open to innovation and collaboration among community stakeholders, Step Up Silicon Valley places Catholic Charities at the forefront of social innovation as one of six anti-poverty laboratories in the nation.

For more information, visit www.stepupsv.org.

About ThingLogix

ThingLogix is a provider of Internet of Things (IoT) solutions, solution components, development services, and advisory services. They offer Foundry, a proprietary cloud platform architected on Amazon Web Services (AWS), and Foundry Packages, a series of related component applications, to enable IoT solutions for multiple industries and use cases. Their technology enables sophisticated functionality, rapid time-to-market, simplified solution evolution over time, and extreme cost efficiency.

ThingLogix is a certified AWS Advanced Technology Partner. They operate globally from our offices in San Francisco. For more information, visit www.thinglogix.com.

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