

## **ATTENTION: Sponsors, Mentors, Coaches, & Volunteers needed to support local Entrepreneurs & Inventors.**

The Gloucester Economic Development Authority and the Gloucester office of economic development are committed to creating jobs and wealth in our community through entrepreneurship. In order to accomplish that goal, we have to change our way of thinking regarding business development and begin celebrating bold, collaborative, innovative business ideas. We need to establish an environment that embraces creative thinking and supports startup ventures. One way we are doing this is through an effort called **Start Peninsula 3.0** and **you can be a part of this game-changing event!**

## **The entire region is coming together for Start! Peninsula 3.0, the area's premiere Entrepreneurial Startup Competition, November 14th - 16<sup>th</sup> at the Mason School of Business at The College of William & Mary.**

Start! Peninsula is a 54-hour-long "mosh pit of business," dedicated to starting new businesses and building our regional economy. The event will bring together dozens of passionate entrepreneurs and business leaders under one roof with one purpose: To identify the best ideas and create new businesses within one weekend. At Start! Peninsula entrepreneurs & inventors can access the tools, resources and talent they need to get their idea off the drawing board and into the marketplace. Participants will have the chance to pitch their best idea and compete to win up to \$5,000 in initial start-up funding, as well as many other support services donated by sponsors. We're talking FREE prime office space, business planning, marketing, legal assistance, web development expertise and more!

## **In order for the event to be a success, we need strong community involvement! If you possess essential business skills or expertise or would like to sponsor this important & exciting event, we need you!**

Involvement Opportunities:

- Sponsors are needed to help support and promote the event. Sponsorship opportunities are available online at [www.startpeninsula.com](http://www.startpeninsula.com).
- Mentors and Coaches with specific skills or expertise are needed to help guide the teams along their journey. Anyone with expertise in marketing, accounting, business development, business law, etc. is invited to apply.
- Talented attendees are needed to join one of the Top 10 teams and, throughout the course of the weekend, become a part of a new and growing business. Anyone with expertise in software development, marketing, graphic design, accounting, business development, etc. is invited to attend and join a team... possibly a winning team that becomes a viable and lucrative business! Register today!
- On-site volunteers are needed to assist with logistics.
- Promotion Assistance is needed to help spread the word. We need businesses to post the event flyer, purchase tickets for employees, or even just tell others about the event.

If you are interested in participating or sponsoring, please visit [www.startpeninsula.com](http://www.startpeninsula.com) or contact Linda Evans at Gloucester Economic Development offices by email at [levans@gloucesterva.info](mailto:levans@gloucesterva.info)

**Together we can Think it, Start it and Grow it!**