AMAP2GROWTH INSTITUTE

FOUNDING EDITION

2026 FOUNDING IMPACT REPORT

“Building More Than Better Manufacturers — Building Better Leaders.”

LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER & CEO

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

$36M+
FIRST-YEAR REVENUE GROWTH

152
JOBS CREATED

40
LEADERS GRADUATED



LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER & CEO

Building More Than Better Manufacturers — Building Better Leaders.

Dear Friends, Partners, and Supporters,

Welcome to the inaugural Founding Impact Report of the AMAP2Growth Institute. Although this report marks the beginning of a new organization, our story began long before the Institute was established. For more than two decades, I have had the privilege of working alongside business owners, manufacturers, and leadership teams who share a common ambition—to build stronger companies that create opportunity for their employees, families, and communities.

During that journey, one lesson became impossible to ignore. Most manufacturers don't fail because they lack good products, talented people, or market opportunity. They struggle because growth eventually demands a different kind of leadership. The very leadership that built a successful business often isn't the leadership required to scale it.

That realization became the foundation of the 5x Growth Operating System (5xGOS)—a practical framework designed to help leaders transform themselves while transforming their organizations. Over the past several years, that framework has supported 34 organizations, graduated 40 business leaders, contributed to the creation of 152 jobs, helped participating companies generate more than $36 million in first-year post-program revenue growth, and supported access to nearly $18 million in capital. These outcomes, achieved through MKP Inspired, provided the foundation upon which the AMAP2Growth Institute was established.

Our work delivering the U.S. Small Business Administration's Emerging Leaders program also allowed us to coach an additional 75 small business owners, reinforcing an important truth: when leaders grow, businesses grow—and when businesses grow, communities prosper.

These experiences inspired the creation of the AMAP2Growth Institute.

> *"When leaders grow, businesses grow—and when businesses grow, communities prosper."*

CONTINUED

“Leadership is the catalyst that turns potential into performance, ideas into innovation, and businesses into lasting engines of economic growth.”

Our vision extends beyond helping individual companies improve performance. We exist to strengthen America’s manufacturing base by investing in the people who lead it. Our mission is to equip underserved manufacturers with leadership development, executive coaching, workforce strategies, and technical assistance that help them compete, innovate, and create lasting economic opportunity.

None of this work happens in isolation. We are deeply grateful to our growing network of partners, including the U.S. Small Business Administration, Apprenticely, Bad Boy Mowers, Tech-Roll, and many others who have embraced our vision.

I am equally thankful for our Board of Directors, whose experience, integrity, and commitment to sound governance have provided a strong foundation for this organization.

As we look ahead, our ambition is clear. Through the Advanced Manufacturing Accelerator Program, we will help manufacturers strengthen leadership capability, adopt modern technologies, improve operational performance, develop skilled workforces, access capital, and create high-quality jobs that strengthen Arkansas’s economy and America’s manufacturing competitiveness.

The work ahead is significant, but so is the opportunity.

Every thriving manufacturing company began with someone willing to imagine a better future and then lead others toward it. At AMAP2Growth Institute, we believe leadership is the catalyst that turns potential into performance, ideas into innovation, and businesses into lasting engines of economic growth.

Thank you to every manufacturer, partner, coach, volunteer, board member, and supporter who has joined us at the beginning of this journey. Together, we are building more than stronger businesses—we are building stronger leaders, stronger communities, and a stronger future for American manufacturing.

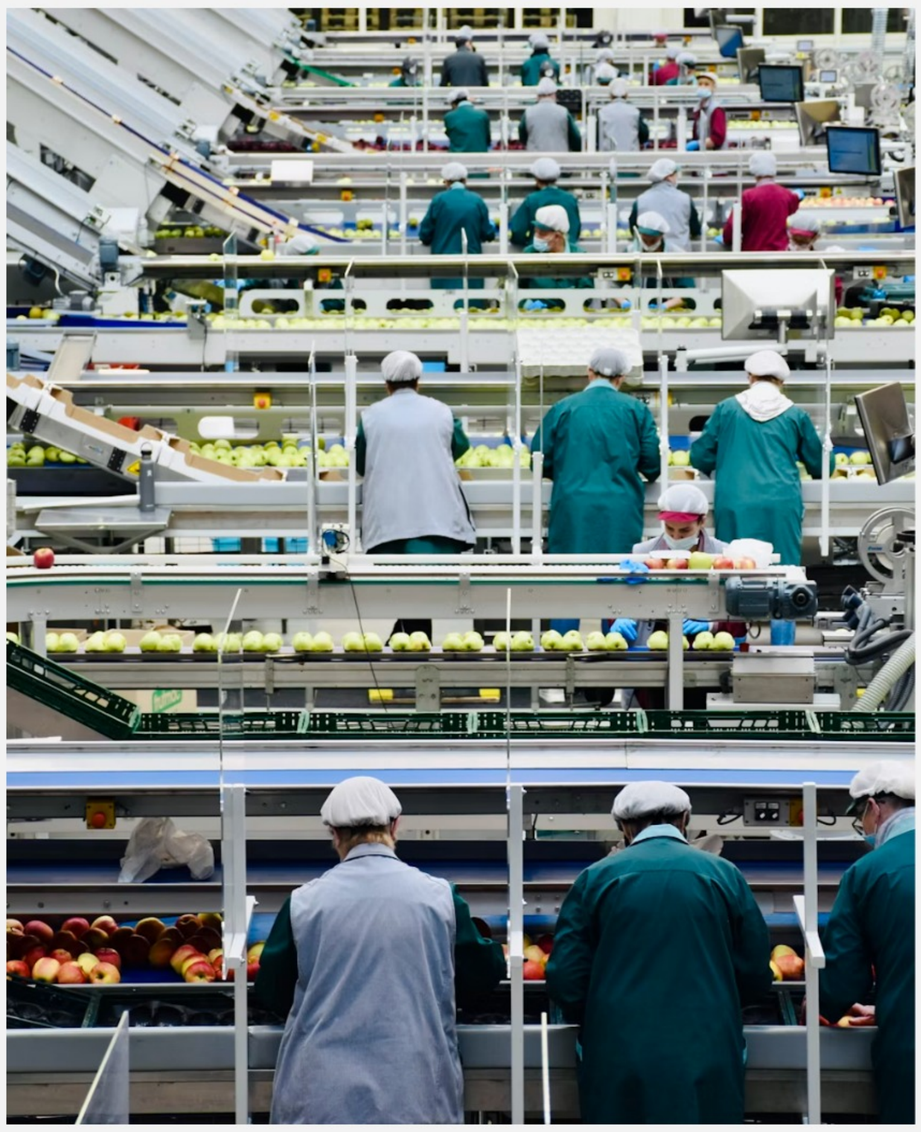
With gratitude,



Mark Hill
Founder & Chief Executive Officer
AMAP2Growth Institute

OUR FOUNDATION

When leaders grow, manufacturers grow.



OUR STORY

AMAP2Growth Institute was founded on a simple belief: when leaders grow, manufacturers grow. Built on the proven success of the 5x Growth Operating System (5xGOS), the Institute equips underserved manufacturers with the leadership, coaching, workforce strategies, and industry connections needed to achieve sustainable growth and strengthen American manufacturing.

20+
YEARS

Working alongside America's manufacturers and leadership teams.

OUR MISSION

To strengthen underserved manufacturers through leadership development, executive coaching, workforce training, and practical business-growth solutions that create stronger companies, quality jobs, and thriving communities.

WHY MANUFACTURING MATTERS

Manufacturing is the backbone of America's economy. Every growing manufacturer creates jobs, strengthens supply chains, drives innovation, and supports local communities. By investing in manufacturing leaders today, we help build more competitive businesses, stronger regional economies, and a more resilient future for American industry.

THE MOMENTUM MATRIX

By the Numbers

Outcomes achieved through MKP Inspired and the SBA Emerging Leaders program — the foundation upon which the AMAP2Growth Institute was established.

REVENUE GROWTH

$36M+

First-year post-program revenue growth generated by participating companies through the 5x Growth Operating System.

FINANCIAL IMPACT



152
JOBS CREATED

75
SBA OWNERS COACHED

40
LEADERS GRADUATED

34
ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED

Methodology: Figures reflect aggregate outcomes from 5xGOS cohort participation and SBA Emerging Leaders delivery, 2021–2025. Revenue and capital figures represent first-year post-program results.

LOOKING AHEAD

The 2027 Accelerator

22
ARKANSAS MANUFACTURERS

In 2027, the AMAP2Growth Institute will launch its flagship Advanced Manufacturing Accelerator Program — built on the proven 5x Growth Operating System (5xGOS), combining executive coaching, practical instruction, and hands-on implementation to deliver measurable business results. Participants will strengthen their businesses through eight core pillars:

Leadership Development
Building the mindset and capabilities required to lead growth.

Workforce Development
Aligning talent strategies with long-term business goals.

Registered Apprenticeships
Connecting manufacturers with apprenticeship pathways to recruit, train, and retain skilled workers.

Commercialization
Helping companies transform ideas into new customers, markets, and revenue opportunities.

AI Readiness
Preparing manufacturers to leverage artificial intelligence for smarter decision-making and increased productivity.

Lean Manufacturing
Improving quality, efficiency, and continuous improvement throughout operations.

Supply Chain Excellence
Building stronger supplier relationships, reducing risk, and increasing operational resilience.

Capital Readiness
Positioning companies to secure financing, investment, grants, and procurement opportunities that fuel expansion.

A Three-Year Growth Plan for Every Manufacturer
Each participant exits with a clear implementation roadmap, the leadership tools, and partnerships needed to compete.

STEWARDSHIP

Financial Stewardship & Governance

Strong organizations are built on strong governance. The AMAP2Growth Institute is guided by a Board of Directors committed to accountability, strategic leadership, financial stewardship, and long-term sustainability — providing independent oversight and ensuring responsible management of resources.



Chris Heaser

Director, Manufacturing and Distribution · **Georg Fischer**

Chris brings more than 15 years of executive leadership experience across manufacturing, operations, and supply chain management. His expertise in industrial operations and business strategy provides valuable guidance as the Institute develops programs that help manufacturers improve operational excellence and achieve sustainable growth.

> *“Manufacturing has always been about more than making products—it is about building capable people, resilient operations, and organizations that can adapt and grow.”*



Dr. LaTeasha Gaither-Davis

CEO and Founder · **Therapeutic Focus**

An accomplished healthcare executive, educator, and community leader with extensive experience in organizational leadership and nonprofit governance. Her passion for developing people and expanding access to opportunity strengthens the Institute’s commitment to serving underserved businesses and communities.

> *“Strong communities are built by strong leaders who create opportunity for others.”*



Jerry Talbert

Deputy District Director · **U.S. Small Business Administration**

A respected economic development leader with decades of experience connecting entrepreneurs to capital, business resources, and federal opportunities. His deep understanding of small business development and public-private partnerships helps ensure the Institute remains focused on creating meaningful economic impact.

> *“Small manufacturers are a vital part of America’s economy, driving innovation, creating jobs, and strengthening local communities.”*

Independent oversight · Sound governance · Long-term sustainability

GRATITUDE

Thank You

The success of the AMAP2Growth Institute is built on the generosity, expertise, and shared commitment of those who believe in strengthening American manufacturing. Meaningful impact is only possible through collaboration.

INDUSTRIAL PARTNERS

Who open their facilities, share their expertise, mentor emerging leaders, and demonstrate what operational excellence looks like in practice.

PROGRAM PARTNERS

Whose confidence, collaboration, and commitment expand opportunities for underserved manufacturers and deliver stronger leaders and healthier local economies.

MASTER COACHES

Whose experience and passion for developing leaders transform knowledge into lasting behavioral change through coaching, mentoring, and accountability.

MANUFACTURERS

Who placed their trust in us — willing to learn, challenge assumptions, and invest in their own leadership and continuous improvement.

SPONSORS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Whose investment in leadership development and economic growth makes these programs accessible, building an ecosystem where businesses grow and people thrive.

Together, We Build the Future of Manufacturing.

Building Leaders. Accelerating Manufacturers. Strengthening America.

CONNECT WITH US

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PARTNER NETWORK

U.S. Small Business Administration · Apprenticely · Bad Boy Mowers · Tech-Roll