



AI-Infused Talent

- Designed and completed a strategic plan for an AI Talent Center of Excellence – the portion of the OC Tech Talent Hub led by CLAOC.
- Formed strategic partnership with NVIDIA to lead a pioneering AI Community initiative with K12 and higher education institutions to democratize the acquisition of the knowledge, skills and hands on learning of artificial intelligence through access to supercomputing power.

Ecosystem Branding

- Improved first-ever website (envisionoc.org) to brand OC more effectively as a distinct region to retain and attract IT/AI talent, while also supporting an aligned SoCal regional innovation campaign.

Policy & Infrastructure

- Serving as Lead Agency for a \$25M Good Jobs Challenge proposal to grow and strengthen a sustainable talent development ecosystem for IT/AI, Healthcare and Advanced Manufacturing in OC. Win or not, we now have a blueprint to collectively deliver over 10,000 trainees by 2026 with about half receiving better paying tech jobs.
- Held bi-monthly learning events with CEO groups from many U.S. regions across the U.S., while planning for a National Coalition gathering (Feb. 2022 in OC) focused on challenges and opportunities to close the skills and talent gap across the U.S.

Entrepreneurial Culture

- Collaborated with Edwards Lifesciences to form a \$1.5M minority entrepreneur capital access pilot in SoCal.
- Closed Fund 1 of the SC Master Fund and raised \$60M in capital that has been invested in 5 SoCal VCs and 6 startups.
- Advocated for 2 years that the State of California designate funds to create a Venture Fund of Funds to invest through minority led VCs into innovation startups also led by minority founders. After working with the Governor and his business development office, GOBIZ, the state has committed \$200M to fund this initiative in 2022.

Experiential Learning

- Signed an agreement with AWS to certify 4,000 students in AWS technologies.
- Signed agreement with Intel and Google to train high school and community college students in Artificial Intelligence, Data Analytics, Project Management and IT Support fundamentals.
- Successfully launched 4 Career Exploration Experience pilots (internships, mentorships, pre-apprenticeships) and alumni programming for over 375 underserved high school and community college students, involving over 10 major OC employers.
- Expanded the Orange Fellows program with a second cohort, serving over 50 young professionals in the two-year leadership development program