

CENTER FOR WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP EXPANDS 2019 INCUBATEHER PROGRAM FOR WOMEN BUSINESSES

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PITTSBURGH: Chatham University's [Center for Women Entrepreneurship \(Center\)](#) has opened applications for the 2019 cohort of IncubateHER: a competitive year-long business incubation program for early-stage women entrepreneurs with product or service-based businesses in the greater Pittsburgh region.

[IncubateHER is a free program that](#) provides participants with industry-specific mentors, entrepreneurial education and training through Chatham's Women's Business Center (CWBC), a tailored growth curriculum, peer-to-peer mentoring through cohort meetups, and a year-long membership to the Center for immersive networking opportunities. Through this membership, IncubateHER participants will also get free access to the Center's Prototyping & Design Lab to use digital fabrication tools to ideate and create new products or expand their product lines. In addition, **participants will receive a \$1,500 grant** at the successful completion of the program to help grow their businesses.

In 2019, the program is being expanded to ten participants from five in 2018. Applications are due by November 30, 2018 at 5pm EST with interviews to be held in December. The program will start January 2019. Visit www.chatham.edu/cwe/incubateHer/ for more information and to apply.

Rebecca Harris, Executive Director of the Center for Women's Entrepreneurship is delighted to announce that current IncubateHer Facilitator, Teresa Hammond, will continue to lead the program in 2019. "Teresa brings an exceptional blend of real-world entrepreneurial experience combined with a stellar academic background. We are honored she is returning."

Teresa is a Marketing and Sales expert with experience across media tech, consumer durables, food, consumer healthcare and nutritionals. She is currently the Chief Marketing & Communications Officer at GoNoodle, a media tech company that creates and distributes content for kids. She was formerly the CMO at 4moms, a Pittsburgh-based high tech baby gear

company, and has a background in CPG brand management with stints at HJ Heinz, Glaxosmithkline and Johnson & Johnson. Teresa has a MBA from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and an undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Dayton.

Funding for IncubateHER has been provided by the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation and the PNC Foundation with additional support from Chatham alumnae donors and members of the Center for Women's Entrepreneurship.

About the Center for Women's Entrepreneurship

The Center for Women's Entrepreneurship at Chatham University (Center) creates economic opportunities for women through entrepreneurial education and training, mentoring, and networking. Building on Chatham University's tradition of educating women for 145 years, the Center has provided quality education and training for women entrepreneurs for over ten years. Current funding for the Center for Women's Entrepreneurship at Chatham University has been provided by the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, Google.org, the PNC Foundation, the BNY Mellon Foundation of Southwestern Pennsylvania, and the Elsie H. Hillman Foundation. Initial funding was provided by the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation and the Lois Tack Thompson Fund of the Pittsburgh Foundation.

The Center is also the host of Chatham's Women's Business Center (CWBC), established on April 1, 2016, and funded in part by a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration to provide services geared specifically to women and underserved populations, minority entrepreneurs, and veterans throughout Western PA. CWBC offers aspiring and existing business owners free business counseling, training programs, technical support, and mentoring focused on business planning and financing, access to capital, federal contracting, and business expansion through international markets and exporting.