

Client News Stories

High School

Struthers High School, Struthers, OH

For academic year 2016-2017, Struthers High School implemented an innovative entrepreneurship program using ELI programs as a foundation. Eighty students participated in an elective class that Principal Roger Day describes as a model for others to emulate across the area and potentially the nation. Read more about the program at [this link](#).

Sioux City School District, Sioux City, IA

Starting in academic year 2015-2016, a high school dual-credit elective course utilized ELI programs to educate students on the entrepreneurial mindset. Afterwards, they participated in local entrepreneur competitions. Teacher Chris Dicus said the course showed students that they “can change their trajectory and their lives” and that “you can choose to become something that maybe you never thought you could before.” Read more at [this link](#).

Sioux Falls School District, Sioux Falls, SD

After the results of 11 local high school students attending Augustana College’s Entrepreneurial Mindset Academy in Fall 2016, a pilot program at Sioux Falls schools will educate 20 students on the entrepreneurial mindset utilizing ELI programs in Fall 2017. The experience of students like Carter Pfitzer influenced the decision to expand because as he said, he “valued his experience in the Mindset Academy so much that he was among students telling the Sioux Falls School District’s curriculum council they should extend these lessons to more high school students.” Read more at [this link](#).

Coaches/Entrepreneurship Advocates

Janita Pavelka, award winning entrepreneurship educator, author and Biz 4 R.E.A.L founder (who helped launch over 350 young entrepreneurs) has years of experience in teaching others the value of entrepreneurship. Her book, “Start Young, The ABCs and 123s of Owning a Business by the Age of Six” depicts how parents can teach their children to expand their horizons with an entrepreneurial mindset. After becoming certified to facilitate ELI programs, she now offers ELI curriculum throughout Nebraska. Find out more about Janita’s work with ELI programs at [this link](#).

The Colorado Lending Source, a not-for-profit small business financing expert, won the National Association of Development Companies (NADCO) Innovation in Economic Development Award for their offerings of ELI programs. This award recognized only two organizations nationwide for their work to use “innovative

means in order to meet the economic development goals of a specific community or population.” Read more about the award at [this link](#).

The Connecticut Small Business Development Center (SBDC) has utilized ELI programs to assist local populations understand more about the entrepreneurial mindset as part of their mission to increase entrepreneurial activity throughout Connecticut. Read about their launch of this program [here](#).

Non-Profits

NetWork Kansas is a network of non-profit organizations who provides resources and education to entrepreneurs and small businesses throughout the state. Numerous ELI-certified facilitators provide training in the entrepreneurial mindset utilizing ELI curriculum. Learn more at [this link](#).

The Innovation Collaborative in Erie, Pennsylvania is trying to reinvigorate the entrepreneurial spirit in Northwest Pennsylvania, and is using ELI programs to educate citizens on the impact on individuals, families and communities of the entrepreneurial mindset. Learn more about their efforts at [this link](#).

Universities

Lindenwood University and the City of Ferguson, Missouri partnered to provide ELI programs to foster more of an entrepreneurial mindset in the greater St. Louis area. Watch the Fox TV 2 segment on the program at [this link](#) and learn more about Lindenwood’s continued efforts to expand entrepreneurial mindset in their community at [this link](#).

Clemson University’s extension program offered ELI programs to citizens of Columbia, South Carolina in order to build a more entrepreneurial mindset in lower and middle-income communities. They received a Community Development Block Grant to attempt to assist 60 burgeoning entrepreneurs in Columbia. Learn about their efforts [here](#).

Augustana University’s Entrepreneurial Mindset Academy uses ELI programs to teach local businesses and budding entrepreneurs about the power of an entrepreneurial mindset to create “intrapreneurs” or people who can create positive change in their businesses and communities. Learn more about the Academy at [this link](#).

Community Colleges

Pikes Peak Community College (PPCC) in Colorado Springs, Colorado was the first community college in the nation to utilize ELI Programs as a required course for students who needed more instruction in math or English before they were considered ready to take college level courses. The results of this effort showed a

28% increase in student retention and a 14% improvement in college-level course completion. Read the article about the results at [this link](#) and watch a video produced by PPCC on the impact of ELI programs [here](#).

Workforce Learning and Development

The City of Albuquerque has a new vision to change their historic reliance on being a “government and lab town” and create a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem. Through a ground-breaking process of training city employees on the entrepreneurial mindset using the Ice House Entrepreneurship Program, city government is starting with themselves to create change in their community, and the results are astonishing. Watch a video on their initiative, Mindset Memo, [here](#), and read more about this innovative city [here](#).

Venture Call in Abilene, Texas utilizes ELI Programs to train employees of businesses throughout the area on the power on an entrepreneurial mindset to make them more engaged and excited about their work and life. Take a look at their video at [this link](#) and Venture Call's [website](#) which both describe the impact of ELI programs and the entrepreneurial mindset on employees.

Correctional Institutions

Dr. Linda Keena of the University of Mississippi used ELI programs to teach inmates about the entrepreneurial mindset as part of a pre-release program, with very positive results. Her findings were published in the International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology. You can read her full paper at [this link](#).

Justine Petersen, a nonprofit micro-financing organization recently received a grant as part of the Aspire Entrepreneurship Initiative to help connect convicted felons with employment opportunities in four American cities. As part of their pre-release educational programs, Justine Petersen facilitators will deliver Ice House curriculum to approximately 200 individuals. The grant that funded this initiative is sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. Read more about their efforts [here](#) and also [here](#).

International Organizations

The Eurasia Foundation strives to empower former citizens to the Soviet Union to take more responsibility for their own civic and economic prosperity. ELI worked with them to spread the word about the entrepreneurial mindset to small communities throughout Eurasia and the United States. Read about their work with ELI at [this link](#).

The Allan Gray Orbis Foundation (AGOF) invited ELI to participate in their annual Circle of Excellence Conference in South Africa in 2016. As a key proponent of improving education in South Africa's secondary schools, the AGOF is focused on bringing an entrepreneurial mindset to South Africa's youth. Learn more about the partnership between ELI and AGOF at [this link](#).