

## SOCIAL INNOVATOR ACCELERATOR 2015 REPORT CARD

### Our Model

The Social Innovator Accelerator uses a rigorous evaluation process to identify effective, small- to mid-sized nonprofit organizations that are poised for growth. Once selected into the SIF portfolio as “Social Innovators,” organizations receive a range of services and support that enables them to build capacity, gain visibility, expand their networks, and improve their performance.



Our full portfolio represents a range of social issues including **food insecurity, homelessness, youth development, healthy aging, and the arts.**



Our Social Innovators impacted over **200,000 lives** in 2015



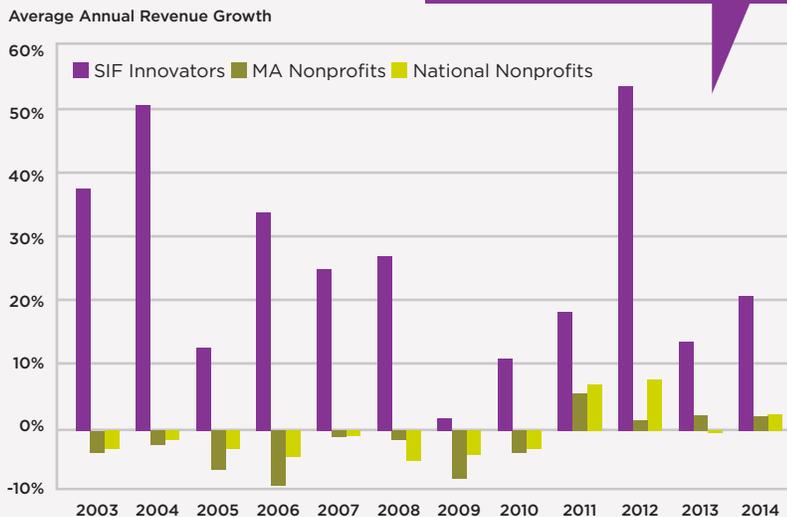
On average, our Innovators more than **double their revenue** four years after engaging with SIF

### Innovator Growth

OUR INNOVATORS' REVENUE GROWTH IS **10X** THE MASSACHUSETTS AVERAGE

*“As a result of our work with SIF, our budget increased by about \$200,000, allowing us to serve 35% more veterans in just one year.”*

VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES  
2014 SOCIAL INNOVATOR



Data reported by 80% of Social Innovators (2003-2014). MA and national data compiled from IRS Form 990 filings.

### INNOVATOR SPOTLIGHT

#### InnerCity Weightlifting

Jon Feinman, Executive Director



InnerCity Weightlifting (ICW) uses fitness training as a tool to reduce violence and promote professional,

personal and academic achievement among urban youth. Jon Feinman, Founder and Executive Director of ICW stated, **“SIF helped us to think strategically, communicate our story, and measure success for our students. Then, SIF introduced us to a network that made our growth possible.”** Within six months of completing the SIF engagement, ICW nearly doubled its \$256,000 budget and in three years the budget increased to \$1 million. In that time, ICW has opened two gyms, one in Dorchester and a second in Kendall Square, giving their students a place to find hope and opportunity. ICW student trainers have a 78% reduction in arrests for violent crimes after joining the program, and 90% report increased hope for the future. As ICW grows, more and more students are saying “no” to violence and “yes” to opportunity.

SIF creates positive social change in greater Boston by engaging leaders, strengthening organizations, and building networks.



“As a track sponsor, we evaluated dozens of applicants and our eyes were opened to the breadth of social innovation taking place in Boston. It’s both difficult, and extremely rewarding, to select a leader for the Social Innovator opportunity, which maximizes their organization’s potential for success and impact. Through this process, we have been able to invest in organizations with tremendous potential, be instrumental in their growth, and engage deeply in the philanthropic process.”



STEVE & ELLEN SEGAL  
BOSTON OPEN IMPACT

#### FUNDER SPOTLIGHT

### Schrafft Charitable Trust

*Lavinia Chase, Trustee*

After more than 25 years of focus on the education of disadvantaged youth in Boston, the trustees of the Schrafft Charitable Trust became interested in the area of urban environmental sustainability. Before committing financial support to a new area, Schrafft partnered with the Social Innovation Forum to understand the issue, to explore local organizations and to access experts and other funders in the SIF evaluation process. Schrafft worked closely with SIF to select two Social Innovators, Mill City Grows (2014) and the Mystic River Watershed Association (2015). Narrowing the field through the evaluation process and interviewing finalists allowed Schrafft trustees to learn more about urban environmental sustainability and to select the applicants best positioned to leverage the engagement with SIF. Already, Schrafft has seen returns on their investment in Mill City Grows, as the number of people who have access to fresh produce through their community gardens and the mobile market increased by 77% in just one year.

#### OUR INVESTOR & SUPPORTER COMMUNITY



In 2015, our community provided in-kind services valued at **\$326,805** to our Innovators



Our program brings together more than **2,325 philanthropists, foundation staff, and business people** who support innovative, effective approaches to address important social issues



SIF has directed more than **\$22 million** in cash and in-kind services to our Innovators since 2003

Founded in 2003 as a program of Root Cause, SIF became an independent 501c3 organization in 2015. Contact us for more information about our work, including the Social Innovator Accelerator and Impact Investing Accelerator.

