

[STORIES](#) / [NEWS](#)

10 Semifinalists to Pitch at the #Fix50 Challenge

[✉ Email](#)[f Facebook](#)[in LinkedIn](#)[t Twitter](#)

WIN students in the classroom. Courtesy photo.

By Courtney Gabrielson

November 19, 2019, 11:11am EST

Tonight, 10 teams [will pitch](#) their solutions for helping Charlotte residents move out from poverty during the [Upward Mobility Hackathon](#) at Wake Forest University Charlotte Center.

These 10 teams hope to present a solution to help the city's [well-documented struggle with upward mobility](#); Charlotte came in last place on a related rank of 50 metros.

In an effort to reverse the trend, [Carolina Fintech Hub](#) (a Charlotte-based nonprofit that aims to bolster regional fintech initiatives) established the #Fix50 challenge. The program will award a \$10,000 prize to the team or individual whose pitch has the most potential to drive change. Those advancing after tonight's presentations and audience vote will share their concepts at the Venture 135 conference later this month, after which judges will name winners.

"Upward mobility is everyone's responsibility in our region, and we decided that Carolina Fintech was in an ideal position to make a difference," Tarqi Bokhari, Carolina Fintech Hub founder and Charlotte city councilman, told Charlotte Inno in an email. "We are hoping to point our community's brightest minds at this topic that doesn't always get thought about, and see how we can inspire innovation that can make some real social impact in our own backyard."

More than 170 individuals responded to the CFH's request for submissions, representing "all walks of life — students, working professionals, teachers, professors, school counselors, bus drivers and everything in between," according to CFH.

"We were blown away by the creativity and quality of what we have seen," Bokhari said.

All 10 teams are highlighted below, with links to their initial video pitches.

- [QC Upward](#)
- [DegreeUp](#)
- [Co-Active Capital](#)
- [Hired Up](#)
- [Pledgenomics](#)
- [Gig Connected](#)
- [Bloom](#)
- [Counslr](#)
- [LocalMotion](#)
- [LifeSports](#)

Disclosure: Carolina Fintech Hub is one of Charlotte Inno's founding partners.

Keep Digging



Here are five local startups receiving a funding boost from NC IDEA

News



Tech company backed by local investment firm wraps latest acquisition

News



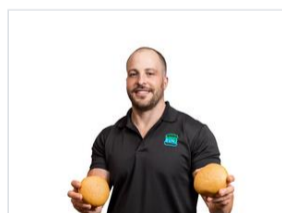
North Carolina's newest rising tech hub might surprise you

News



Why this Charlotte startup teamed with national rental company

News



Local startup lands Publix, Whole Foods deals. And it isn't done yet.

News

SPONSORED CONTENT
by Dualboot Partners

[Social challenge app from concept to launch](#)

SPONSORED CONTENT
by Brinkmann Constructors

[4 features senior living consumers look for p](#)

Spotlight


[More](#)



1
FIRE
WARDS

Charlotte Inno's Fire Awards: Meet the 50 winners of 2021

[See More >](#)



INNO
UNDE
25

Inno Under 25: Meet 10 young innovators making waves in Charlotte's tech, startup scene

[See More >](#)

Want to stay ahead of who & what is next? Sent weekly, the Beat is your definitive look at Charlotte's innovation economy, offering news, analysis & more on the people, companies & ideas driving your Charlotte forward. Follow the Beat

Share the Beat

Sign Up

Founding Partners



[Back to Top](#) ▲

CHARLOTTEINNO

[User Agreement](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)
[Your California Privacy Rights](#) | [Ad Choices](#)

© 2022 American City Business Journals. All rights reserved. Use of and/or registration on any portion of this site constitutes acceptance of our User Agreement (updated as of 1/1/21) and Privacy Policy and Cookie Statement (updated as of 1/1/21). The material on this site may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, cached or otherwise used, except with the prior written permission of American City Business Journals.