

Press Release:

## **Autism Innovation Nonprofit Receives \$250K Gula Tech Foundation Grant to Scale Neurodiversity Hiring in Cybersecurity**

Multiple will accelerate startups working to close the opportunity gap in cybersecurity jobs and develop best practices

San Francisco, April 26, 2023 – Multiple, an autism accelerator and innovation hub, announced today that it has received a \$250,000 grant from the Gula Tech Foundation to support its training and development of neurodivergent individuals for careers in cybersecurity and information technology (IT). The grant was awarded as part of the Foundation’s Spring 2023 One Million Dollar Grant Competition; Multiple was awarded one of the competition’s second prize winners.

Cybersecurity is an industry that naturally benefits from a neurodivergent workforce. Autistic and neurodivergent individuals are often uniquely positioned to excel in cybersecurity jobs on the basis of advanced pattern recognition, cognitive strength and focus and can increase the productivity of teams in this area. With this grant, Multiple will enable neurodivergent individuals to have more engaging experiences throughout their career development and employment journey.

Multiple will also provide market insights, workforce gap analysis, and neurodiverse employment best practices that aid in enabling cybersecurity companies to create and scale recruiting programs for the neurodiverse community more quickly. This will include educating the startups in workforce tech about cybersecurity talent needs and introducing cyber companies to organizations that provide training and development for talented neurodivergent individuals to position them for and accelerate careers in cybersecurity and IT.

“Currently, there are over 750K cybersecurity job openings, and with approximately 85% of adults with autism unemployed, there is a large untapped talent pool that employers could quickly access,” said Dan Feshbach, CEO, and founder of Multiple. “We are thankful to the Gula Tech Foundation for understanding the talent available and investing philanthropic capital to further develop this neurodiverse workforce.”

The Gula Tech Foundation was created by Ron and Cyndi Gula to amplify the impact of nonprofit organizations that focus on area relevant to cybersecurity. The Foundation operates a \$1,000,000 competitive grant process for nonprofits multiple times a year on a range of topics to broaden the cyber workforce and increase cyber expertise within corporate decision making.

“We critically believe in broadening the inclusion of diverse perspectives within the cyber industry. Neurodiverse populations are innately capable of supporting critical cyber roles and we are pleased to be able to highlight, educate, and support nonprofits, such as Multiple, that are looking to bolster these individuals and place them in the workforce,” said Cyndi Gula, Co-Founder of the Gula Tech Foundation.

### **About Multiple:**

Multiple is a non-profit dedicated to catalyzing early-stage innovation and supporting technologies for the autism and neurodiversity community at scale. Multiple is the engine for innovation—a global community of dedicated families, entrepreneurs, funders, and experts collaborating to solve the greatest challenges for people with autism. Learn more at [www.multiplehub.org](http://www.multiplehub.org).