

Autism Tech Accelerator Announces Third Cohort of Early Stage Companies

Multiple, a nonprofit created to cultivate innovative solutions for individuals with autism and their communities, will provide training and mentorship to ten startups spanning education, healthcare, and workforce training

SAN FRANCISCO (July 27, 2023) — Today, Multiple, a pioneering nonprofit built to catalyze innovation for the autism community and stimulate venture investment, announced its third cohort of early stage companies. The ten startups, chosen through a competitive process that included more than 100 applications worldwide, will participate in a 12 week program featuring expert speakers, workshops, and Masterminds tailored to the needs of startups. Entrepreneurs will also have access to mentorship from industry aligned leaders and pitch coaching.

“Despite major breakthroughs in understanding neurodiversity and autism, bringing innovative solutions to market remains cumbersome. Entrepreneurs struggle to find investors and advisors that understand the unique challenges at hand. We’re committed to smoothing the pathway for entrepreneurs,” said Heidi Kershaw, CEO of Multiple. “We’re really excited by the potential of these technologies represented in the cohort to unlock new opportunities for neurodiverse individuals.”

Currently, one in 36 children are diagnosed with autism in the U.S., a number that continues to increase over the years as autism is better understood. Yet, the complexity and fragmentation of the autism market means there’s often a mismatch between available capital and the ideas that stand to scale and make an impact. As a result, individuals with autism and the professionals that support them still lack access to emerging technologies and solutions that can improve their outcomes in education, healthcare, and workforce training and preparation.

Selected startups receive over \$100,000 worth of coaching, mentoring, and services to scale their innovations from Multiple at no cost to them. The program culminates in a demo day with investors, entrepreneurs and researchers. This year the showcase is scheduled for Thursday, October 5th. Please [click](#) to reserve a seat today for this virtual event!

The Summer 2023 cohort includes:

- [Early Steps Pediatrics](#) uses AI to enhance clinical services for families with a child in early stages of ASD.

- [Emoface](#) brings a new methodology for boosting social skills and emotional learning for autism, based on the interaction with emotional 3D avatars.
- [Expert IEP](#) optimizes children's existing Individualized Education Plans using machine learning and natural language processing to give parents a better path to advocate for their children's learning style.
- [Indie Bloom](#) is building a task management app designed uniquely for adults with ADHD or autism.
- [Neurodiversity Training International](#) offers an online membership that gives neurodivergent people, parents, and professionals fast access to diagnostic services, educational classes, and support groups.
- [CareFlick, Inc.](#) has developed an AI-enabled app that recommends personalized care therapies and content, domain-specific social networking opportunities for caregivers of people with special needs such as autism, dementia, Parkinson's, dyslexia, Down syndrome, and Bipolar.
- [SILAS-D](#) is a highly-scalable screening tool for neurodiverse disorders.
- [SocialWise VR](#) is an on-demand virtual reality application that teaches social skills to neurodivergent adults, increasing their awareness of novel high-stress life scenarios.
- [Wide Therapy](#) offers a personalized, novel approach to digital behavior treatment that is faster, more efficient, and applicable for everyday life.
- [Zoundream](#) uses infant cry analysis as a biomarker to support clinicians in early detection of pathologies, to help caregivers better understand an infant's needs and emotions.

To date, Multiple's accelerator program has developed over 15 companies, helping them to secure \$5M+ in funding from a dozen investors.

About Multiple

Multiple is a charitable non-profit dedicated to catalyzing innovation and supporting technologies for the autism 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.