



SENT Ventures Announces Results of 2nd Annual Pitch Competition and Mission Showcase at 2024 SENT Summit

SENT is proud to announce the successful conclusion of the 2nd Annual SENT Pitch Competition and the inaugural Mission Showcase.

DC, UNITED STATES, September 19, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [SENT Ventures](#) is proud to announce the successful conclusion of the 2nd Annual [SENT Pitch Competition](#) and the inaugural Mission Showcase, held during the SENT Summit from September 3-6, 2024, at the Omni Hotel & Resort and St. Patrick's Cathedral in Fort-Worth, Texas. The leading Catholic startup founders and emerging ministries gathered to present their missions and innovations to a panel of investors, funders, and philanthropists in an inspiring display of faith-driven entrepreneurship.

Five qualifying startups competed in the 2024 Pitch Competition, while five ministries were showcased during the Mission Showcase. Participants had the opportunity to connect with values-aligned investors and supporters. The pitch competition for startups offered a \$10,000 cash prize and over \$50,000 in-kind prizes and the showcase awarded \$1,500 grants and free event access to all finalist ministries.

SENT Pitch Competition Highlights

The 2024 SENT Pitch Competition, developed in partnership with [SENT Angels](#), the leading Catholic Angel network, and judged by a panel of five professional angel investors and venture capitalists, identified the nation's leading startup founders advancing Catholic values with true breakout potential. Finalists included Brian Kearney, CEO & Co-Founder of The Farmland Stock Exchange; Elie and Viviana de Laforcade, Co-Founders of THSVox; Daina Andries and Mark Stephenson, Co-Founders of Epidaurus Health; and Daniel Catone & Andrew DeBerry, Co-Founders of Arimathea.

Reflecting on the experience, Daina Andries, Co-Founder of Epidaurus Health, said, "The opportunity to present as a finalist was a great occasion to work on distilling as clear and concise a narrative as possible. I got helpful feedback from Zak [Slayback] on the content during the evaluation process, and Juan [Acosta] was a great coach for crafting a more concise and effective presentation."

Daniel Cruz and Bob Hogan, founders of Presidio Healthcare, were awarded the \$10,000 grand

prize for their groundbreaking approach to become the country's first pro-life health insurance company.

"The 2024 SENT Summit was the perfect venue to pitch the mission of Presidio. There were many top-notch investors in the room to hear the business proposition and at the same time, we were able to fully lean into the purpose and mission of the company because we knew the audience had a shared faith. We received many follow-up meetings with investors at a critical moment for us in our fundraising round which was a huge blessing." said Daniel Cruz, CEO of Presidio Healthcare and winner of the SENT Pitch Competition.

The winning startup, along with the other finalists, also received opportunities for mentorship, investment discussions, and networking with top Catholic investors.

SENT Summit Highlights

In addition to the Pitch Competition and Mission Showcase, the four-day SENT Summit featured small group strategy sessions, networking forums, opportunities for Mass, adoration, and reconciliation, as well as keynote and breakout sessions led by some of the most successful Catholic business leaders. Speakers included Tom Monaghan, Founder of Domino's Pizza, Legatus and Ave Maria University; Alex Jones, CEO and Co-Founder of Hallow; Steve Milligan, former CEO of Western Digital; and Dina Dwyer-Owens, Chairwoman at Neighborly, among others.

The SENT Summit combined spirituality, practical business insights, and relationship-building into one event tailored specifically for Catholic business builders and non-profit leaders. Attendees left with valuable strategies and tools to help them grow and succeed in their businesses and missions.

"As business leaders, we often struggle to apply the lessons of our faith to our work directly. At SENT, we believe that the challenges we experience in business can be a tool God uses to sanctify us and to renew creation," said John Cannon, Founder of SENT Ventures.

Looking Ahead

The Pitch Competition and Mission Showcase were pivotal moments during the 2024 SENT Summit, and the impact is expected to resonate throughout the Catholic entrepreneurial and non-profit communities. Several participating startups and ministries are already in discussions with potential investors, partners, and funders. SENT Ventures will continue to support these leaders and organizations as they grow and make an impact in their fields.

To learn more about SENT or to get involved, visit www.sentventures.com.

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