



(need official logo before releasing)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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## **LIGHTSHIP CAPITAL ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL STARTUP TRAIN TOUR**

*Startup Train will connect growing communities of underrepresented founders and investors through connectivity and collaboration.*

**CINCINNATI, Ohio (XXXX)** – Lightship Capital will kick off their inaugural Startup Train tour to foster connections and economic advancement opportunities for underrepresented founders by dedicating one week in April to ride the US railways. Lightship seeks to connect with FOC (Founders of Color), LGBTQ+, Women & Innovators with Disabilities with an investor networking event and founder/startup showcase.

Startup Train will begin its inaugural railway journey on the Amtrak Acela in Providence, RI and end in Washington, D.C. with stops in New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore. For the cities who fall on Wednesday, Lightship plans to host its founder meetup, Workflow Wednesday. This is designed to be a learning playground for founders to have opportunities to participate in showcases and to connect with other local businesses.

“At Lightship we value the history and purpose of the US railways, so we’ve decided to dedicate one week every year to riding the rails between ecosystems where our resources and network will offer the most meaningful support,” said Candice Mathews Brackeen, Lightship Foundation Founder and CEO.

Lightship hopes the Startup Train will encourage connectivity and collaboration within ecosystems, while bolstering investor deal flow and achieving greater revenue and funding outcomes for funders in those cities.

Investors and founders from each city along the route are welcome and encouraged to join us on our next leg, lending to the spirit of traditional socialization and connection embodied by the Startup Train.

For more information about sponsoring the Startup Train, contact Lightship Foundation Founder and CEO, Candice Mathews Brackeen at [Candice@lightship.foundation](mailto:Candice@lightship.foundation).

**About Lightship Capital**

Lightship Capital is a venture capital fund that is driving innovation and investment in the Midwest. We leverage corporate partners, executive advisors, and organizations from our region to build sustainable local ecosystems. We invest in underrepresented founders working in the areas of healthcare, consumer products and services, e-commerce, sustainability, and artificial intelligence.

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