Lafayette, Louisiana: Living Lab for Health Innovation

Your Innovation + Our Community = Future of Healthcare

What is a Living Lab?

"Living Lab is a place where the most innovative and transformational solutions are created, piloted, verified, validated, documented, and disseminated. It is a real-world testbed as well as a crucible for co-creation," Ramesh Kolluru, Director, Center for Business & Information Technologies, UL Lafayette

"Silicon Bayou, aka Lafayette, Louisiana is the best kept secret reservoir of innovation mojo in America," Todd Park, US Chief Technology Officer

Living Lab for Health Innovation

Lafayette, LA proudly announces its plan to become the **"Living Lab for Health Innovation for the US".**

Lafayette built its fiber-to-the-home network with the vision of becoming a testbed for the next generation of networks and applications. That vision catalyzed in April 2012 through the first annual **CajunCodeFest**.

Today, a coalition of community, education, business, government, and healthcare leaders join forces to transform Lafayette into a Living Lab for Health Innovation – a place where innovators come to create solutions to society's toughest challenges and, in so doing, expand their services or grow their startups. The CajunCodeFest produced six startup companies interested in using the Living Lab to realize their dreams!

The Living Lab will serve a community-scale testbed for healthcare innovators to test their ideas in real-world settings. It will also facilitate co-creation by engaging end users in defining, designing, and developing solutions to the many challenges facing healthcare today. These solutions could be your ideas on new programs, innovative policies, or transformative technologies – whatever you think needs to be done to fix the healthcare challenges we face as a nation.

Your Innovation + Our Community = Future of Healthcare

Lafayette's Living Lab for Health Innovation will provide leading technology companies, startups, and entrepreneurs with an ecosystem of fiber-optic infrastructure; engaged community partners; financial and technical resources; and processes to design, develop, pilot, validate, document, and disseminate the next generation of healthcare solutions.

If your solution works in Lafayette, and we can prove that it is scalable to the State of Louisiana, you will have a blueprint to take your ideas nationwide.

Lafayette was recently named a US Ignite community because of its advanced fiber optic network throughout the city and commitment to lead technology innovation in the state. This community will be your partner in developing the future of healthcare – addressing such societal challenges as childhood obesity, aging in place, emergency medicine, and workplace health – through the power of big data, advanced analytics, and gigabit software-defined networks.

What does Lafayette Offer?

Infrastructure

- **Technical**: Fiber connectivity to every home, every business, and every school in the city
- **Research**: University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- **Social**: FiberCorps and the Lafayette Healthcare Coalition

Community

- **Right-Size:** At 120,000 people, small enough to operate like a startup; big enough to be nationally significant
- **Healthcare Hub:** Home to several national-scale healthcare leaders and innovative companies
- **Engaged:** A community determined to make a difference!

Areas of Focus

- Childhood Obesity
- Aging in Place
- Emergency Medicine
- Workplace Health
- Healthcare Analytics and Big Data

Secretary Bruce Greenstein,
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

Who Are We Looking To Partner With?

Innovators across the US and around the globe:
- Technology Companies
- Startups
- Entrepreneurs

What is the vision?

Become a national leader in:
- Digital health initiatives, including the adoption of electronic personal health records
- Tele-medicine and tele-health technologies that leverage our broadband infrastructure
- Advanced healthcare analytics, transformative health policies, and innovative payment models
- Developing the next-generation knowledge-economy workforce for the health industry

What is the Approach?

Through the use of Public-Private Partnerships:
- Provide access to the infrastructure and community resources that Lafayette has to offer
- Grow world-class capacity for innovative applied research with direct benefits to the community and industry
- Strengthen partnerships with federal and state agencies
- Engage and growing local talent
- Recruit the best minds, entrepreneurs, and companies
- Attract capital for investment into the development of projects and start-up companies

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This initiative is being led by:

- University of Louisiana at Lafayette applied research centers: the **Center for Business & Information Technologies**, and the **Center for Visual and Decision Informatics** - the nation's only NSF Center of Excellence in visual and decision informatics

- **FiberCorps**, a non-profit created by the community to facilitate the process of turning Lafayette into a testbed

- Lafayette Healthcare Coalition, which represents the region's six largest public and private healthcare providers:
    - **Lafayette General Medical Center**
    - **Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center**
    - **Regional Health System of Acadiana**
    - **The Schumacher Group**
    - **Acadian Ambulance**
    - **The LHC Group**

- Civic organizations including:
    - **Office of the Mayor/Parish President**
    - **Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce**
    - **Lafayette Economic Development Authority**
    - **Lafayette Parish School System**

- **Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals**

- Leading private sector partners and potential pilot projects with **Microsoft, Intel, Northrop Grumman, AT&T, CA,** among others

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