

MBARGO UNTIL Wednesday, June 13 at 10 AM

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1 Million Cups Kansas City relocates to Plexpod Westport Commons

“The front porch of KC’s entrepreneurial community” finds new home in the heart of Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, MO. (Tuesday, June 12, 2018) — After six years at the [Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation](#), 1 Million Cups Kansas City (1MCKC), the weekly entrepreneurial showcase program is relocating to [Plexpod Westport Commons](#). “This move is an excellent opportunity to breathe fresh air into the program and integrate ourselves even more deeply into Kansas City’s entrepreneurial community,” says Courtney Windholz, Lead Organizer at 1MCKC and COO at Proof Positioning. “1MCKC has remained an integral part of KC’s entrepreneurial community thanks to the support of the Kauffman Foundation and because we have never wavered from our commitment to highlight and nurture Kansas City’s entrepreneurs. This move allows us to carry that commitment into the future in new and exciting ways.”

The 1 Million Cups program started at the Kauffman Foundation in April of 2012 with a very simple goal: bring together Kansas City entrepreneurs and the people who support them. Showcasing two entrepreneurs and their businesses every Wednesday at 9 AM proved to be such a powerful tool for community building and getting entrepreneurs connected that the Kauffman Foundation began to roll out the program nationwide. Now, 1 Million Cups is in more than 180 communities across the United States.

“At its core, 1 Million Cups is about building the practice, the ‘healthy habit,’ of bringing together local entrepreneurship community members, every week, over coffee,” says Matt Fischer, Director of New Entrepreneurial Learning at the Kauffman Foundation. “The 1MCKC organizers work tirelessly to engage, educate, connect and support Kansas City entrepreneurs. We’re excited to watch them adapt and grow the community here in town.”

The Kauffman Foundation will continue to sponsor the program and support the development of 1 Million Cups communities around the nation. As will The Sundry, Startland News, KCSourceLink and the new location sponsor, Plexpod Westport Commons.

Plexpod Westport Commons is located in what used to be Westport Junior High, of which Ewing Marion Kauffman, founder of the Kauffman Foundation, is an alum. “We look forward to hosting 1MCKC each Wednesday morning,” says Gerald Smith, Founder and CEO of Plexpod which currently has three locations around the metro and is still expanding. “Our mission to grow and nurture entrepreneurship in Kansas City exactly aligns with 1MCKC. Together we can continue to support Kansas City entrepreneurs in even more exciting and robust ways.”

1MCKC will have its final meeting at the Kauffman Foundation on Wednesday, June 27 at 9 AM, then will take the month of July off (summer break!) The program will kickoff at Plexpod Westport Commons on Wednesday, August 1, at 9 AM.

More details on August’s 1MCKC lineup will be released this summer. “We call 1MCKC the front porch of Kansas City’s entrepreneurial community because everyone is welcome to begin their journey here by enjoying some coffee and hearing from the entrepreneurs who make this city special,” says Courtney Windholz. “We hope you’ll join us at Plexpod Westport Commons in August and can’t wait to see what Kansas City’s entrepreneurs have in store for us next!”