



**Small Business
Development Center
Gannon University**

*Helping businesses
start, grow, and prosper.*

**Matthew Gawlik,
Nate Carlin, &
Andrew Peirson**
Owners, Olympia
Technologies, LLC
<https://www.hippohmobile.com/>

County: Erie County

Industry:
Technology

Year Founded:
2017

SBDC Assistance:
Business Plan Development
Strategic Growth Planning
Branding/Marketing
Financial Assistance

Consultants:
Shane Foster
Richard Makowski

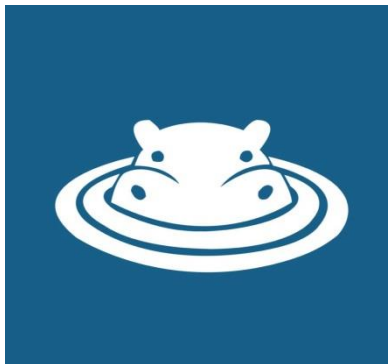
Additional Partners:
Gannon University ETI
Ben Franklin Technology-
Partners

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Olympia Technologies Successfully Receives Funding for Pittsburgh Expansion!

Olympia Technologies, one of the hottest technology companies based out of Erie, PA, has successfully raised capital to launch its prized mobile app *Hippoh* into the Pittsburgh, PA Market.

A project that initially began as a senior class project at Gannon University last year has quickly gained traction and thousands of downloads in the Erie market. Hippoh allows users to “*find their local watering hole.*” The app uses perpetuity technology that enables customers at local eating and drinking establishments to gain real-time data on food and drinking specialties. This technology powers the end user by allowing them to give thumbs up or down if the special is correct. Thus avoiding the dreaded trip to a local establishment only to find out the happy hour you saw on social media has expired.



They began working with Gannon University’s SBDC consultant, Shane Foster, and Richard Makowski in December of 2018 while they applied to be accepted into Gannon University’s Technology Incubator. Their consultants assisted them with developing a business plan, financial projections, and a feasibility study that led to their successful acceptance into ETI. Over the year, Gannon SBDC has provided the Hippoh team with additional assistance from marketing and growth strategy development to data resources.

After having a successful launch into the Erie market, the Hippoh team set their sights on a Pittsburgh rollout. With assistance from their consultants and mentors from ETI, they were able to develop a strategic expansion plan to the Pittsburgh market for 2020. After much consideration, they decided it would be best to begin raising funds to roll out their expansion plans to maximize results.

The team started working with Ben Franklin Technology Partners in the summer of 2019. They entered into an accelerator program led by BFTP staff and Gannon University SBDC consultants. Throughout the summer, Olympia Technology received a multitude of mentorship and advice from individuals and continued to work with their SBDC consultants. In December of 2019, it was announced that Olympia Technologies, LLC was one of the six companies that will be receiving funds from Ben Franklin Technology Partners!

Olympia Technology continues to meet with their consultants on a weekly basis. They are aggressively planning their Pittsburgh expansion within Q1 of 2020 and a possible Cleveland expansion at the end of the year.