



# ACTIONABLE INSIGHTS FOR MENTORS + INVESTORS

Mentors and investors are critical connectors in Kitsap. Founders are asking for more than money—they're asking for meaningful relationships.



## **Be Visible and Approachable**

Founders can't reach out to people they don't know exist. Show up, make introductions, and keep the door open for informal conversations.



## **Build Trust Before the Check**

Strong investments start with strong relationships. Take time to understand a founder's vision and values—not just their business model.



## **Back Local, and Stick Around**

Invest in Kitsap-based businesses at every stage, and stay engaged. Take a long view on what it takes to grow. Strategic support and networks matter just as much as capital. Consider forming a local Kitsap angel network.



## **Expand the Circle**

Support diverse founders and underrepresented entrepreneurs. Inclusion builds stronger businesses—and a stronger Kitsap.



## **Mentor with Intention**

Offer your experience, but also listen. The best mentorship is built on mutual respect, curiosity, and care.



**Matchstick Lab**

