

CLEARWATER YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

YP Summit 2019

When the quality of constant communication is in question, face to face interaction will always be important, and events like this YP Summit are effective from a professional perspective, but also from a personal, social, and networking perspective. If you value your time and invested it to be here, and use it to network with others, they're going to value your time as well. If you want to engage, then you have to really engage: just your presence doesn't make you here, it just puts you in the room.

Resources, a vibrant community with opportunities available on day one, and a greater chance of coming up with something new or be involved in the beginning stages of something are just several reasons that young, competing, entrepreneurial talent and emerging markets are attracted to this area.

The Tampa airport is unique in how it collectively supports flights post-launch, and the tourists they bring help pay for the same things that we as residents love. Tourism is also a great foundation for growing industries, like technology, since it revolves around quality of life.

Colleges are encouraging the transformation of assets and talent into businesses and resources through the combination of talent, infrastructure for foundational research, and partnerships with specific fields, like health care and marine science. They're also trying to build the workforce of tomorrow through relevant knowledge, experiential opportunity to apply that knowledge, and professional development (especially soft skills), along with the ability to use relevant data to

execute good decisions.

There was recently a \$7.4 million grant awarded to Pinellas County to startup a Tampa Bay Regional Incubator, and we need the collective talent and innovation from all of us to make it a destination for really intelligent technology to start occurring. We are improving transportation, and looking at if every upcoming innovation is going to continue to attract talent and help it stay here.

Talent grows here, but doesn't always stay here. Something that may contribute to that is lack of knowledge about all the opportunities within the region. We could also help combat losing talent by increasing what we're willing to pay for the goods around us. Paying people a little more is going to be the next big step in making

the community a place where people really want to stay. This is also a place where you and your peers will not be ignored because this is a community that need us and wants us. This is a community where you can come and have an impact today.

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