

Dr. King Wasn't Just Dreaming & We're On the Move



From Henry Rock <contact_point@citystartuplabs.com>

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Poverty is one of the
most urgent items on
the agenda of modern
life.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Nobel Peace Prize
Speech 1964

In 1964, when Dr. King gave his Nobel Peace prize speech, poverty in the US stood at 17%. He spoke before a massive audience and called out the economic inequality that existed not only in the gap between developed and developing countries, but also between the rich and the poor in America. While the poverty rate has improved since then, economic inequality continues to impact the lives of millions of Americans. January is the perfect time to reflect on Dr. King's words as it is both his birth month and National Poverty Awareness Month. Below is an excerpt from the aforementioned speech.

"There is nothing new about poverty. What is new, however, is that we have the resources to get rid of it. More than a century and a half ago people began to be disturbed about the twin problems of population and production. A thoughtful Englishman named Malthus wrote a book that set forth some rather frightening conclusions. He predicted that the human family was gradually moving toward global starvation because the world was producing people faster than it was producing food and material to support them. Later scientists, however, disproved the conclusion of Malthus, and revealed that he had vastly underestimated the resources of the world and the resourcefulness of man."

We encourage you to read the speech in its entirety.

[Read More](#)

A Milestone & a Move



2024 marks 10 years since the launch of City Startup Labs. We're kicking off this milestone year with a major move to the Central Piedmont Central Campus (CPCC). After residing at UNC Charlotte since 2015, the move to the central campus of CPCC will position CSL to engage new program participants and serve as another resource for the college's Small Business Center. The organization is especially poised to work with college-aged students and adults who are seeking innovative pathways, alternative careers, and entrepreneurial endeavors. The move-in date is scheduled for February 3rd.

Through its move, CSL aims to extend its reach to individuals who have been justice-involved, foster collaboration and knowledge exchange among new and existing partners, and to support the college's small business and workforce development efforts. Its central location at the main campus in Charlotte provides great access by car or rail. Our new offices will be at the Hall Building, 1112 Charlottetowne Avenue.

A Gold Standard



In addition to celebrating a decade since CSL's launch, we're happy to acknowledge another year as a Guidestar Gold Transparency organization. This Gold Seal demonstrates our commitment to transparency and gives insights into City Startup Labs, enabling better educated funder or donor giving decisions.

With gratitude,

Henry Rock



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