The Accelerator Network
Driving Live-Saving Innovation Through Partnerships with Industry
Donna Boston
October 29, 2018
Breakout Session Agenda

• Overview of DRIVe Accelerator Network 20 min.
  Presenter: Donna Boston, BARDA DRIVe

• Panel session 20 min.
  Moderator: Jangela Shumskas, BARDA DRIVe
  (Contractor Support)
    ▪ Accelerator Introductions 20 min.
    ▪ Q & A 20 min.
What is an Accelerator?

• Definition: *noun.* “a person or thing that causes something to happen or develop more quickly.”

• Why leverage an accelerator network?
  - Decentralize, expand, magnify BARDA’s outreach
  - Scout and identify disruptive innovations for DRIVE
  - Accelerate and incubate health security products, technologies, innovations development
The DRIVe Accelerator Network - Background

• Established June 2018:
  ▪ Eight biotech/life science accelerators awarded Cooperative Agreements with 1:1 cost sharing
  ▪ Located in regions with densest biotech activity
  ▪ Five years in duration, funded annually

• Success will be measured by the new innovative technologies brought to BARDA DRIVe
The DRIVe Accelerator Network

We will be looking to expand our network even more. Suggestions are welcome!

All are 501(c)(3) non-profits (but didn’t have to be)
Early Successes!

- **DRIVe EZ Broad Agency Announcement** has three areas of interest: Solving Sepsis, ENACT and “Other Disruptive Technologies”
- Since opening in Aug. 2018, ~20% of EZ BAA applicants were referred by an Accelerator
- Two of the 4 new awards came from an Accelerator:
Connecting DRIVe Developers to Accelerators

1. DRIVe awardee is matched to best-fitting Accelerator

2. Accelerator conducts intake interview with awardee, identifies specific needs

3. Ongoing support:
   - Mentoring, advice
   - Networking events
   - Accelerator curriculum
   - Physical or virtual work space provided where applicable
   - Lab space or access (some free, some fee-based)

Non-dilutive partnering arrangements in all cases; developers do not lose any equity stakes by working with accelerators.
Three main objectives of the DRIVe accelerators:

1. Eyes and ears of BARDA - scout disruptive products and technologies in health security

2. Provide wrap-around support, e.g.
   - Physical and/or virtual curriculum
   - Mentoring & guidance

3. Network, collaborate, link innovators with the health security community
Objective 1: Scout

• Referrals – act as remote eyes and ears for DRIVE
• Hold pitch events, competitions, regular program cohorts
• Outreach with technology transfer offices, others in ecosystem
• Calls for proposals
Objective 2: Wrap-around Support

• Support DRIVe-funded developers with:
  ▪ In-house and/or virtual curriculum
  ▪ Mentoring with subject matter experts in business, legal & regulatory affairs, technical
  ▪ Opportunities to collaborate and network
  ▪ Physical/shared space

• Some offer lab space and resources, e.g. J Labs access
Objective 3: Network and Collaborate

• Events designed to bring the Health Security Innovation community together:
  ▪ Lunch-and-learns
  ▪ Monthly meetings
  ▪ Social hours
• Annual summits, conferences
• Email, social media, and list-serves
• Newsletters
• Relationships with universities, institutions, commercial partners in their ecosystems
Acknowledgements:

Jangela Shumskas
DRIVE Senior Consultant (Contractor Support)

Marie Wax
DRIVE Senior Technical Advisor (Contractor Support)

Robyn Woodbury, PhD
DRIVE Management Spt (Contractor Spt)

Joseph Chapman
Program Analyst, DRIVE

Justin Yang
Project Lead, DRIVE

Nancy Brown and Virginia Simmons
ASPR Grant Officers

Joe Hamel
ASPR Strategic Innovation Manager

Tyler Merkeley
Director (Acting), DRIVE

Accelerator Network
Questions?
Donna.Boston@hhs.gov
Project Lead, BARDA DRIVE