

Top 3 by 2023 BioHealth Capital Region Forum and Mobile eXploration Lab

Nearly 1,000 employees and executive biotech leaders gathered at the Somewhere campus for the 2017 BioHealth Capital Region Forum on April 19 and 20. Now in its third year, the <u>annual event</u> is an opportunity for industry, government and academic leaders from organizations based in Maryland, D.C., and Virginia to showcase the region's progress in advancing science and accelerating innovation.

The theme for this year's forum was *Top 3 by 2023*, which signifies the region's strategic goal of becoming one of the top three biotech hubs in the United States by 2023. Keynote speakers included Maryland Governor Larry Hogan; Maryland Senator Chris Van Hollen; James C. Greenwood, president and CEO of Biotechnology Innovation Organization; and Eric Dishman, director of the All of Us Research Program at the National Institutes of Health.

"Our company has been proud to cosponsor the BioHealth Capital Region Forum because it reinforces our commitment to advancing biotech innovation in the region," said John Doe, Head of Partnering and Strategy. "It is the best opportunity for university, government and industry leaders within the region to identify potential collaborations and other ways to develop our regional biotech ecosystem."

This commitment was bolstered by the onsite arrival of the MdBio Foundation's <u>Mobile exploration</u> <u>Lab</u> (MXLab), the country's largest, most advanced mobile laboratory, which remained on campus during the forum. Our company has supported the MXLab's development, which was designed to expand new technology and laboratory science experiences, and pique students' interest in STEM learning and careers via hands-on experiences with technologies not available in schools.

Employees and forum attendees visited the 1,000-square-foot lab, which contains interactive learning experiences based on bioscience, chemistry, data set modeling, cybersecurity, and game-based learning. The MXLab will begin traveling to Maryland's high schools in the 2018 academic year.

More details about the BioHealth Capital Region Forum are available <u>here</u>.