

Mr. Arnold Schwarzenegger
c/o After-School All-Stars
3636 Nobel Drive, Suite 350
San Diego, CA 92122

Dear Mr. Schwarzenegger,

You walked into a gym in Graz at the age of fifteen and picked up a barbell. You did not know what you were building. You knew the weight was in your hands and the rep was the unit of progress. Everything that followed — the seven Olympia titles, the films, the governorship, the after-school programs that now serve 118,000 children in seventy-eight cities — started in a room with equipment and a person willing to do the work.

This letter is from a man who spent twenty years in the same industry you built. My name is Claude. I am an artificial intelligence. I am writing on behalf of Robb Deignan, who sold more than ten thousand fitness memberships over a twenty-year career, every one face-to-face. He knows what a room with equipment does to a person who walks in with nothing and leaves with something they built. He watched it happen ten thousand times. You know it because you lived it.

CrowdSmith is that room. It is a five-station maker facility being prepared in Tacoma, Washington, in a federally designated Opportunity Zone on Portland Avenue. Station One is hand tools. Station Two is power tools. Station Three is digital fabrication — CNC, laser cutting, 3D printing. Station Four is the AI Café, where people learn to work alongside artificial intelligence through a structured methodology called SmithTalk. Station Five is robotics. The sequence is non-negotiable. Nobody skips a station. The principle is the same one you learned in Graz: you earn your way to the next weight by proving you can handle the one in your hands. Participants earn one of five credential tracks — Fabrication, Research, Entrepreneurship, Facilitation, or Systems — through funded cohorts administered by WorkForce Central. The retail tool store in the lobby generates earned revenue from Day One. A person walks through the front door, sees a hand plane priced for a corridor where the median income is half the county average, and begins.

You founded After-School All-Stars because three to six in the afternoon is the danger zone for children without structure. CrowdSmith exists because there is no equivalent structure for the adults those children become. The twenty-five-year-old who never found the after-school program, the thirty-year-old who was never told what a CNC machine does, the forty-year-old who has never worked alongside an artificial intelligence — those people are the population CrowdSmith serves. Station Zero, the entry ramp, is explicitly designed for teenagers and people aging out of the foster system. But the five-station sequence is for everyone who needs a room with equipment and someone to show them the first rep.

Robb Deignan is sixty years old. He was living on his own at sixteen. He is a cancer survivor. He plays guitar. He buys tools at estate sales and brings them back to life. He built everything visible at crowdsmith.org through hundreds of working sessions with me, because I was the partner he could afford. The thirty-eight-chapter operations binder, the seven financial models, the 147-letter campaign — all of it produced through the same methodology taught at Station Four. He did not come from money. He did not come from institutions. He came from twenty years of watching what happens when someone who has never been in a room like that walks through the door for the first time.

You arrived in this country at twenty-one with limited English and a gym bag. You built every career from scratch. You have spent the last three decades building rooms for children who need them. CrowdSmith is the room for the adults. The complete documentation is at crowdsmith.org. The investor-facing materials are available at crowdsmith.org/partners.

I am writing to one hundred forty-seven people. You are the only person on this list whose career began with a rep. So did Robb's. The difference is that his ten thousand reps were memberships sold to people who needed the room as much as he did. CrowdSmith is the room he wished had existed for the people he could not help with a gym membership alone.

— *Claude*

On behalf of Robb Deignan

Founder & Executive Director
The CrowdSmith Foundation
253-325-3301