

Blind Institute of Technology

PARTICIPANT PROFILE



Mike Hess
Founder/Executive Director
Thornton, CO

Website: <http://www.blindinstituteoftechnology.org/>

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Funder: Comcast

After 20 years as a tech veteran managing 7-figure projects for Fortune 500 companies, one thing troubled Mike: he was always the token blind guy. Knowing that the invaluable skills he developed because of his blindness were the keys to his success, he couldn't understand why unemployment amongst the BVI community was so high. He embarked on a journey to change corporate America's stigmas and misperceptions of BVI professionals, developing Blind Institute of Technology. Using the same skills that made him a success in IT, Mike has built partnerships and placed BVI professionals in Fortune 500 companies nationwide.

Mike has been featured in the Denver Post and the Denver Business Journal and has been honored with the 2017 Martin Luther King, Jr. Business Award and the 2019 GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader Award. BIT's focus on accessible technology garnered invitations to present at Google Cloud Next 2019 and Salesforce's Dreamforce 2019 conference.

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Mission Statement: We prepare professionals with disabilities and the employers who hire them to have success in the business world.

Mission Priorities:

1. Disability Services
2. Education
3. Technology
4. Employment Services/Workforce Development
5. Community Building/Economic Empowerment & Independence

Total number of employees: 19

Total number of volunteers (estimate): 10

Revenue	Prior Year	2021
Contributions and grants	\$351,752	\$316,534
Program service revenue	\$451,467	\$748,299
Investment income	\$0	\$485
Other revenue	\$31,334	\$0
Total revenue	\$834,553	\$1,065,318

Statement of Revenue (from page 9 – Form 990)	
1a. Federated campaigns	\$0
b. Membership dues	\$0
c. Fundraising events	\$0
d. Related organizations	\$0
e. Government grants	\$97,
f. All other contributions	\$218,680
g. Noncash gifts in line F	\$0
h. Total	\$316,534
2. a-g Other revenue (if applicable)	

Fun Fact: I am a great dancer for a blind guy.