



BLUESTONE
VENTURE PARTNERS, LLC

BlueStone Venture Partners Announces Initial Funding Close and State of New Mexico Investment in Its Inaugural Venture Fund

Early-Stage Life Science Venture Fund Located in the Southwest US.

BlueStone Venture Partners (“BlueStone”), with offices in Tucson, Arizona and Santa Fe, New Mexico, announced its First Close for the BlueStone Life Sciences Innovation & Technology Fund, LP (the “Fund”, or “Partnership”).

BlueStone’s Fund is focused on Series A and B equity investments in opportunities in the advanced materials, biopharma, healthcare information technology, medical devices and molecular diagnostics markets. BlueStone has developed an investment thesis for the Fund based on evaluating strengths and favorable attributes including attractive valuations and low cost of market entry found in the Life Science market in the Southwest US. Based on this investment thesis, the Fund will invest primarily in companies with a geographic focus in the Southwest region of the United States but will also invest in companies that exhibit these positive “Southwest-like” attributes.

BlueStone Venture Partners is led by two managing directors: Mara Aspinall, former CEO of Ventana Medical Systems, now Roche Tissue Diagnostics, an experienced and respected leader in the life sciences industry, and Tom Nickoloff, a successful entrepreneur and business owner/operator with a long and successful track record of venture investing.

Earlier this month, New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez announced that BlueStone Venture Partners will receive up to \$3 million from the Catalyst Fund to invest in New Mexico bioscience startups. The Catalyst Fund invests in emerging venture capital funds that in turn invest in seed and early-stage technology companies throughout New Mexico. Sun Mountain Capital is the manager of the Catalyst Fund.

“Mara and I are thrilled to launch our inaugural venture fund with strong Limited Partner support. We look forward to investing capital in great management teams with powerful technologies, and are pressing hard towards our Second Close, expected to be in late 2018.” said Tom Nickoloff, Managing Director.

BlueStone will look to lead or co-lead in Series A and Series B equity investments in life science companies and expects to hold board of director seats in the majority of its investments. The Fund expects to make its first investment in September.

About BlueStone Venture Partners

BlueStone Venture Partners is a venture capital firm focused on life science technology opportunities primarily based in the US Southwest with focus on the “NATO” states – New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and Oklahoma. BlueStone is committed to investing in early stage market re-defining companies. BlueStone has offices in Tucson, Arizona and Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Learn more about BlueStone at www.bluestonevp.com

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