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Nueterra Capital joins forces with LaunchKC to fuel new Health Accelerator

Participating businesses will be eligible for cash awards, business mentoring

KANSAS CITY, MO (June 27, 2019) – The Downtown Council and the Economic Development Corporation of Kansas City, Missouri, and Nueterra Capital announce the formation of a new Kansas City vertical accelerator – the Launch Health Accelerator, powered by Nueterra Capital - designed for early-stage businesses that are working to disrupt the current healthcare system.

With national healthcare spending projected to grow to \$3.6 trillion in 2019, up 4 percent from \$3.5 trillion in 2018, healthcare remains a top issue for Americans. To keep up with the changing world, the healthcare industry needs to change the way healthcare is delivered and the way it's consumed. Additional opportunity lies in payment reform, increasing transparency in pricing, as well as capitalizing on data and analytics. The Launch Health Accelerator powered by Nueterra Capital aims to foster new ideas and support companies that are working on transformative solutions in each of these areas.

“We are delighted to announce this new accelerator,” said Drew Solomon of LaunchKC, a partnership of the DTC and EDC. “This continues the evolution of the LaunchKC grant competition into specific industry verticals like the Fountain City Fintech accelerator and the Black & Veatch IgniteX Cleantech Accelerator.

“We’re also very excited to welcome Nueterra Capital as the healthcare lead sponsor. Nueterra has been on the frontlines of reforming our healthcare system and we are looking forward to their leadership and investment experience across the spectrum of healthcare and medical services.”

LaunchKC continues to see momentum, as it enters its fifth year, having granted more than \$2 million to attract and retain 38 tech startups in Kansas City. Led by the DTC and EDC, LaunchKC has received more than 2,000 applications from interested start-ups from 25 states and 10 countries throughout the years.

“We all agree that the current healthcare system is not sustainable and is in need of disruption. With the formation of the Launch Health Accelerator powered by Nueterra Capital, we’re looking for companies with fresh ideas on how to make healthcare more accessible, with more predictable outcomes and transparent costs,” Jeremy Tasset, Nueterra Capital CEO. “ I’m hoping we see service and technology ideas that give rise to improving care and lowering costs that can be readily integrated into existing clinical workflows, and some that are truly disruptive,”

The Launch Health Accelerator powered by Nueterra Capital will begin accepting applications today (June 27, 2019) and will review only the first 250 companies to apply. The first cohort of five companies will begin later this summer.

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In addition to a minimum \$50,000 cash award from Nueterra Capital, companies accepted into the program will receive \$10,000 in software development work from LaunchKC's development partner, Full Scale; Husch Blackwell will be providing business and legal advice; and additional services like accounting, marketing, and business mentoring from legacy partners. Each company will have the opportunity to appear on Full Scale's "Startup Hustle" podcast, one of the top 100 business podcasts on Apple. LaunchKC will continue to add other professional services throughout the application and judging phases.

LaunchKC also announces that local tech and healthcare entrepreneur, Don Peterson, will lead the accelerator program as Entrepreneur in Residence. "Don adds a wealth of experience and a track-record of disrupting the healthcare industry with his most recent venture, Infusion Express," Solomon said.

"I'm excited and honored to be a part of this new program. I love the fact that we're integrating an outstanding venture fund into it right from its beginning," said Don Peterson. "Nueterra Capital has an exceptional pedigree and a tremendous track record of investing in companies determined to make a positive difference in the industry," Peterson said.

For information about LaunchKC, visit the www.LaunchKC.org

For more information about applying to the Launch Health Accelerator powered by Nueterra Capital, visit launchkc.org or call Drew Solomon 816-691-2135.

About Nueterra Capital

Nueterra Capital is a healthcare-focused venture capital firm that invests in companies on the leading edge of healthcare reform. Nueterra Capital invests in healthcare providers, services, and technology companies whose business model reshapes the healthcare industry through advanced payment methods, innovative risk transfer models, data analysis, and advocating patient consumerism. Nueterra Capital has offices in Leawood, KS and Nashville, TN. To learn more, visit www.nueterra.com.

About LaunchKC

LaunchKC is evolving from a proven grants competition into a tech accelerator platform that will continue to leverage grants, as well as create new opportunities for investors, entrepreneurs, workers and the tech ecosystem of Kansas City. The accelerator platform is designed to attract scalable companies to the city in order to create more jobs and opportunities, while growing the local economy. To learn more, visit www.launchkc.org.

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