TAMPA BAY WAVE STARTUP COMPANIES PITCH INVESTORS AT EXCLUSIVE DEMO DAY

TAMPA, FL (March 09, 2018) – Tampa Bay Wave, Inc., a nonprofit dedicated to building, launching, and growing tech companies in Tampa Bay, hosted an invite-only Demo Day event at FIVE Labs to conclude their most recent 90-day accelerator cohort program. Ten startups in the cohort had the opportunity to pitch their companies to investors from across the southeast and forge invaluable business connections.

Preferhired, Simply Reliable, Records Rescue, Data & Sons, Inzata, RxLive, Simple Showing, Course Align, Verapy and Anchor are among Wave's latest cohort startups who pitched their companies to investors this past Tuesday, March 6. Many startups are already generating revenue and represent high-growth tech verticals including Health Tech, Ed Tech, Big Data, B2B Enterprise, HR/Legal tech, Real Estate tech, and Consumer Tech. Over 100 introductions were made between Wave companies and investors as a result of the event.

Demo Day attracted a favorable local and national investor turnout to the Tampa region. Tampa-based Ballast Point Ventures and Stonehenge Growth Equity Partners attended whileAtlanta-based Fulcrum Equity Partners, North Carolina-based Idea Fund Partners, Boston-based Stage 1 Ventures and the national TiE Angel Fund were also present. Tampa investment company Seedfunders, having recently made a $150,000 investment in Wave accelerator company TSOLife, spoke highly of Demo Day and its positive impact on the local economy.

"Every presentation was professional and informative and all the cohort companies were well prepared. It was well worth the time to attend for any investor," said David Chitester, founder of Seedfunders. "Events like this are essential to help move our startup ecosystem forward and advance the local economy as these companies grow and hire professional workers, rent office space, and utilize support services. I definitely look forward to attending future Wave Demo Days."

Tampa Bay Wave's nationally recognized accelerator program is designed to help tech companies advance their startup to the next phase. Cohort companies are provided critical resources, such as a dedicated Entrepreneur in Residence (EIR), one-on-one mentoring with notable tech founders, pitch coaching, investment readiness programs, investor introductions, and access to Wave's new seed fund.

The TechDiversity Accelerator program, powered by The Nielsen Foundation, recently launched in an effort to foster the growth and development of diverse tech startups in Tampa Bay and beyond. TechDiversity Accelerator companies that successfully complete the program will participate in Tampa Bay Wave's upcoming Demo Day in August 2018, another unique opportunity for founders to present their companies to a room full of hand-selected investors, leaders, and press.

Applications for Wave's newest Accelerator program are now open through March 31st. To learn more and apply, visit tampabaywave.org/accelerator/tech-diversity

ABOUT TAMPA BAY WAVE:

Tampa Bay Wave, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit providing local entrepreneurs with facilitated access to the resources, expertise and capital they need to grow vibrant technology-based companies in Tampa Bay and create high wage tech jobs, thus fostering an innovation-based economy for the region. Since March 2013, Tampa Bay Wave has supported more than 200 tech startups in Tampa Bay thanks to grant funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), plus support from its economic development partners Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa. Tampa Bay Wave also receives support from corporate partners such as Bank of America, Florida Blue, Foley & Lardner, Sourcetoad, Spectrum, Sykes Enterprises, Tampa Bay Rays, TECO, Trenam Law, and Tribridge. For more information, visit www.tampabaywave.org.