**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Cofounders Capital raises $50M for their new Fund III**

***Serially successful entrepreneurs, enterprise CEOs, and local business executives join in as limited partners investing in CFC Fund III***

Over the past several years, Crunchbase has frequently recognized Cofounders Capital as the “most active investor” in North Carolina, and it seems like the team has no plans of slowing down any time soon. Starting with their inaugural $12M Fund I raised by Founding Partner, David Gardner, the firm has now built a Fund Family anchored in the North Carolina entrepreneurial ecosystem. In 2018 Cofounders launched Fund II after raising $31M in fresh capital, and has just announced that they closed last month on their $50M Fund III, making them one of the largest seed-stage venture capital funds in the southeast.

Cofounders plans to add to their team, but Founding Partner David Gardner, Managing Partner Tim McLoughlin, Partner Tobi Walter, and Venture Partner Scott Albert will keep the core members consistent moving forward. “It certainly has been an interesting year for fundraising and venture capital as a whole, but this new fund will allow us to continue the mission we started 8 years ago,” said Tim McLoughlin, who will take over as Managing Partner. “We will keep working hard to make great returns for our investors, provide early-stage capital to exceptional entrepreneurs, and create hundreds or thousands of jobs in the process”.

McLoughlin said that many of the fund’s characteristics and theses will remain the same. The fund will still invest in B2B software companies at the earliest stages, and still plan to work with first-time founders and companies that are pre-revenue or only have a few paying customers. However, McLoughlin acknowledges that there will be some changes with the larger fund. “This additional capital will allow us the flexibility to write larger initial checks to get companies out of the gate faster, reserve more capital for those companies as they scale, and put meaningful capital to work in some deals that are a little further along than what we’ve typically invested in.”

Because of the network they’ve been able to build with other VC funds, accelerators, and founders across the southeast they’ll be expanding their geographic focus to that part of the country. David Gardner explained “we still plan to deploy this capital predominantly in NC, but we can’t ignore the tremendous deal flow and great opportunities that we’ve been able to generate from our trusted partners, specifically in the southeast”.

Cofounders has made its first investment out of the new Fund III, as part of a $6.5M round of financing in Cycle Labs, a Triangle based startup that has delivered a world-class test automation platform for enterprise customers with warehouse management software. That is Cofounders 33rd investment across their three funds. With the close of the new fund, we can expect that there will be more announcements soon about them putting that capital to work!

**About Cofounders Capital**

Cofounders Capital is a NC based seed-stage venture capital fund focused on B2B software companies in the southeast. Made up of a team of serially successful entrepreneurs, including their limited partners and advisers, Cofounders is currently investing out of their $50M Fund III and has ~$95M in assets under management.

**About Tim McLoughlin**

Tim joined Cofounders Capital at the end of 2015, shortly after the firm raised its first fund, and became a Partner in Fund II in 2018. After graduating from Harvard in 2008 with a B.A. in Psychology he co-founded Prime Time Hockey Southeast, which scaled programs nationally and still operates out of Wake Forest, NC. He was a Young Entrepreneur in Residence for Idea Fund Partners and NC IDEA, where he still serves as a core reviewer for their Seed Grant program. Tim received his MBA from UNC Kenan-Flagler in 2016. In addition to serving on the Executive Committee for the Council for Entrepreneurial Development, he is a guest lecturer at many of the local universities and has a podcast, *First Check*.

**About David Gardner**

David is a serial entrepreneur, writer, adviser, and early-stage fund manager with over thirty years of experience in creating and building software technology companies. After failing at retirement twice, David became the Triangle’s most active angel investor spending his time as a volunteer coach and mentor to startup founders and managing a free acceleratory. To combat the lack of early stage capital in NC, David created Cofounders Capital. As an entrepreneur, David was the founder or co-founder of seven companies including PeopleClick (purchased for $100 million) and Report2Web, which sold for $12M in less than eleven months from inception. He has demonstrated a record for consistency across multiple industries with six successful exits in a row.

**About Tobi Walter**

Tobi is a former investment banker and serially successful tech entrepreneur. Originally from Germany, Tobi has now called Raleigh-Durham his home for the last fourteen years. Tobi started his career with an MBA from Germany’s WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management, before working in investment banking with Societe Generale in Paris, and Morgan Stanley in Frankfurt and London. In 2006, Tobi joined his first startup, studiVZ, widely known as the “Facebook of Germany”. studiVZ grew to become one of Germany’s most visited websites and exited to a large German media conglomerate. Tobi then moved to the Triangle to co-found Shoeboxed, a SaaS fintech startup that empowered business owners to manage receipts, invoices and automate bookkeeping. After successfully exiting Shoeboxed in 2018, Tobi brought his finance and marketing skills to the team at Cofounders Capital.