



For Immediate Release

Contact:

Bill Morris

bill@bluestarrecyclers.com

719.494.4436

CO Impact Days Selects Blue Star Recyclers As Social Venture of the Year

March 4, 2016. A panel of expert impact investors selected Blue Star Recyclers as the Social Venture of the Year at CO Impact Days in Denver. The event was attended by more than 200 accredited impact investors, 60 selected social ventures, and more than 500 community members. Founder Stephanie Gripne stated the purpose of CO Impact Initiative is to catalyze \$100 million in impact investments into Colorado social ventures in the next three years.

60 social ventures were invited to present poster displays for investors and Blue Star Recyclers (www.bluestarrecyclers.org) was one of 8 category award winners that include energy producing engines, opiate prescription tracking systems, childhood education programs, and art and music programs. Those eight winners participated in a Shark-Tank-like panel with experts in the field of impact investing. After questioning, the five judges unanimously selected Blue Star Recyclers as the Social Venture of the Year.

CEO, Bill Morris, told the audience that Blue Star Recyclers discovered the unique abilities of people with autism and other disabilities to be extremely efficient in recycling electronics. This population faces over 80% unemployment and recycling just 16 computers will keep an employee working for a day at Blue Star Recyclers. He stated that he was humbled to receive this award on behalf of the amazing team at Blue Star.

As broadcaster Kyle Dyer of Channel 9 presented the award with Dr. Gripne, she noted that she has been impressed with Blue Star Recyclers ever since she did a story about Blue Star's expansion in Denver that includes refurbishment of computers and distribution to low-income families.

About Blue Star Recyclers

Blue Star Recyclers is an award-winning, 501c3 social enterprise, with a mission of providing certified electronics recycling services to create local jobs for people with autism and other disabilities. Blue Star Recyclers delivers measurable results in job creation, taxpayer savings and environmental stewardship, and operates facilities in Colorado Springs and Denver. Blue Star Recyclers was co-founded in 2009 through initial and ongoing support of the Fagnant family,

owners of Qualtek Manufacturing (www.qualtekmg.com), a Colorado Springs custom metal manufacturing company. Blue Star offers pick-up of computers and other electronics from businesses and accepts drop-offs from individuals at the Blue Star facilities. For hours and information, go to www.BlueStarRecyclers.org, or call 303-534-1667.