



# BUILDING BIOSCIENCE BACK BETTER IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Madison Jackson  
Build Back Better Regional Challenge  
SWREDA Conference 2023

GREATER OKLAHOMA CITY  
A BETTER LIVING. A BETTER LIFE.

# Oklahoma Biotech Cluster \$35M Awarded

**Vision:** Create an absorptive ecosystem to utilize for home-grown commercialization

**Project:** Uniting regional research, manufacturing, clinical trial capacities in an integrated value chain to scale domestic production of bioscience products & technologies

**Goals:**

- Foster inclusive access to high-wage career pathways
- Increase R&D programs
- Expand scientific infrastructure

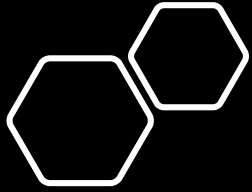
# More than 60 Partner Organizations

## Project Leads

- Greater OKC Chamber
- Innovation District
- OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center
- University of Oklahoma
- Tom Love Innovation Hub

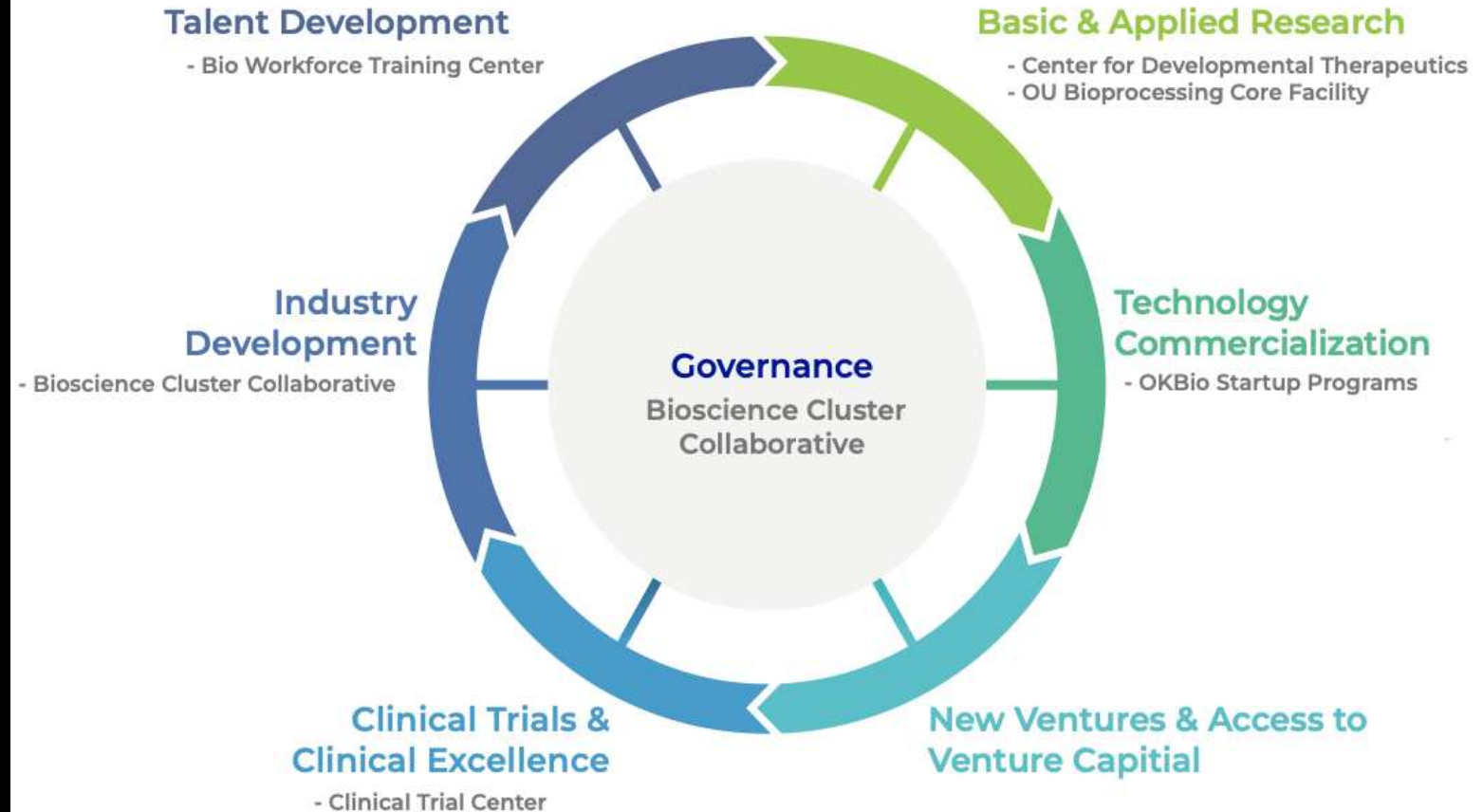
## Stakeholders

- Industry
- Academia/Research
- Entrepreneurs
- Investors
- Public sector
- Community organizations (Tribal Nations, OKC Black Chamber, Latino Community Development Agency)



# Key Elements in Growing a Biotech Innovation Ecosystem

## Oklahoma Biotech Cluster



# Scaling Domestic Production of Bio Products & Technology

- **OK Bioscience Cluster Collaborative:** Leads regular convenings of industry leadership, conduct needs assessments, encourage regional connectivity, and spur policy advocacy
- **Center for Therapeutics - Translational Research Labs:** Development of 10 translational research labs dedicated to drug discovery within the OU Stephenson Cancer Center.=
- **Clinical Trial Center:** Initiative to double the size of the existing trial program at OU's Stephenson Cancer Center
- **Oklahoma Biotech Startup Programs:** Supportive programming to build a regional startup pipeline
- **OU Bioprocessing Core Facility:** Provides state-of-the-art high-throughput, advanced bioprocessing equipment and services to instructors and researchers, local nonprofits and private companies
- **Biomanufacturing Workforce Training Center:** Program to meet the growing demand for skilled labor & will enable the formation of inclusive, non-degreed career pathways into high-wage jobs

# Regional & National Implications

## **National - Strengthens US Competitiveness & National Resiliency**

- Federal Priority: Diversifying innovation/production hubs to protect against future disasters/shocks and to unleash potential in Middle America
- Increases onshoring for the biomanufacturing production process
- Need for expanded domestic supply chain for pharm production

## **Regional**

- Increases regional research in quantity & quality to translate more viable commercialized products
- High wage jobs and economic diversification
- Meeting growth needs of existing companies

# Progress to Date

- **Construction for Clinical Trial Center & Therapeutics Labs – starts 2023**
- **Program Launches**
  - Bioscience Collaborative – in process
  - OU Bioprocessing Core Facility – January 2024
  - OKBio Startup Programs – early 2024
  - Workforce Training Center – January 2025
- **Establishment of advisory boards & hiring key roles**
- **Equipment purchases**
- **Strategic Planning with TEConomy to launch new statewide Bio entity**
- **Industry collaboration on biomanufacturing research projects**

A wide-angle photograph of a river at dusk. In the foreground, a person in a red kayak is paddling across the water. The middle ground features a modern architectural complex with a prominent white pyramid-shaped structure. In the background, a city skyline is visible under a dark, cloudy sky. Several tall stadium light towers are scattered across the scene.

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