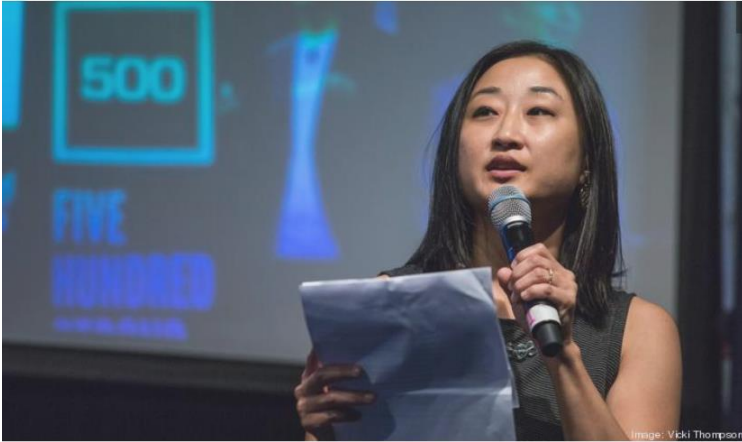


## Silicon Valley venture capital firm to open offices in South Florida

By [Debora Lima](#)



Silicon Valley venture capital firm 500 Startups will open offices in downtown Miami.

An investor in more than 2,000 companies worldwide, the firm's expansion to South Florida is aimed at identifying new deal opportunities in Latin America and within the local landscape, CEO Christine Tsai said.

"We believe that today more than ever it is imperative that we show the world what an authentically diverse and thriving tech ecosystem looks like," she said.

The Kauffman Foundation's latest analysis of startup activity in U.S. metropolitan areas ranked the Miami MSA No. 1. On the basis of startup growth, however, the region continues to lag other places nationwide. By launching operations in Miami, 500 Startups is poised to combat that gap, said Raul Moas, director of the Knight Foundation's Miami program.

The firm's local presence also symbolizes how effective efforts to mold the region into a hub for technology have been so far, and suggest additional growth opportunities lie ahead, Miami Commissioner Ken Russell added.

"With this investment in our startup community, we are poised to become one of the most influential markets for new ideas and the capital that funds them," he said.