



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:

Carolyn Spicer/Maggie Dow

McDermott Ventures

617-557-9190

***Granite Supports Alliance for Lupus***

***Employee charity supported over 51 charities in 2013 so far***

(November 25<sup>th</sup>)- Quincy, MA—Each and every week, employees of Granite Telecommunications, LLC, a provider of local and long distance telephone, data, networking, and other communications and alarm services, have made it their mission to support a different charity. For the week of November 18<sup>th</sup>, a contribution of \$3,250 will be donated to the 2013 “Walk with Us to Cure Lupus” event, hosted by the Alliance for Lupus Research (ALR). The nonprofit organization’s mission is to support prestigious hospitals, doctors, and researchers in their efforts to find better treatment, and eventually prevention and cure, for systemic lupus erythematosus. <http://www.lupusresearch.org>.

Through weekly “Jeans Days,” held every Friday, Granite employees have the option to wear business casual attire or jeans with a donation of \$3 to the selected charity. Each week, the Granite Cares Committee, comprised of Granite employees, chooses a qualifying nonprofit organization nominated by other employees. Granite’s owner, Robert T. Hale, Jr., matches the amount raised by employees. Weekly donations typically range from \$2,000 to \$4,000. This week, employee Catherine Williams identified the cause.

Jeans Day was started in the spring of 2007 when Rob Hale appointed seven employees to develop the concept. As a group, the employees chose the name “Granite Cares” and decided how employees could help the company contribute to local charities. The “Granite Cares” Committee has since seen tremendous support and growth over the years. Through this initiative, Granite has raised \$185,000 for 51 area charities in 2013. Two original members, Kim Meyers and Paul Kostas, remain on the Committee to this day.

**About Granite Telecommunications**

Granite provides communications products to multi-location businesses throughout the United States and Canada. Granite’s core services are local and long distance telephone services, which Granite centralizes and offers a single point of billing and contact for its customers over incumbent carrier networks. Granite offers an array of other communications products, including broadband data, network and voice services, inside wiring and alarm and security and monitoring installation and services. Granite furnishes services to more than two-thirds of the Fortune 100 companies in the United States, and 1.3 million phone lines under management. Granite employs over 1,100 people, most of whom work at its headquarters in

Quincy, MA. For more information, visit [www.granitenet.com](http://www.granitenet.com).