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Virginia Catalyst Announces Round Ten of Grant Funding
*Organization continuing to support collaborations
between Virginia research universities and industry*

RICHMOND, VA – April 15, 2019 – The Virginia Biosciences Health Research Corporation (VBHRC), now known as Virginia Catalyst, today announced that it is accepting applications/letters of intent (LOIs) for round ten of grants to fund the development and commercialization of life science projects that address major unmet needs for improving human health and advance Virginia’s economy.

Virginia Catalyst awards these funds to help accelerate translational research and the commercialization of Virginia’s innovations. The awards, which range from \$200,000 to \$800,000, help fund collaborative efforts between industry and Virginia research universities with the goal of:

- Funding innovative, collaborative, translational research projects that elevate the level of sponsored research at Virginia’s universities and have the potential to create high value jobs in the Commonwealth
- Accelerating commercialization of Virginia research university inventions and discoveries and to achieve competitive critical mass through robust collaborations of Virginia

Letters of intent (LOI) must be received by July 10, 2019 at 5:00 PM EDT. Projects that meet criteria will be invited to submit a full application by August 28, 2019. Applications will be reviewed and scored by an independent review team of scientists, venture capitalists and CEOs of Virginia-based life science companies. The top eight applicants will be invited to present the projects in person on Thursday, September 26th. Awards will be announced in October 2019. The LOI submission form and application template, as well as grant criteria, are available on the Virginia Catalyst website (www.virginiacatalyst.org).

“We are proud of being a stimulus for industry to work more closely with our research universities to drive economic growth,” said Mike Grisham, CEO, Virginia Catalyst. “Virginia Catalyst continues to support teams of investigators from research institutions and industry to move their discoveries in the life sciences from laboratories to commercialization. The creation of sustainable companies and high-paying jobs help boost Virginia’s overall economy, support life sciences sector, and tangibly improve citizens’ lives. Cumulatively through the first nine funding rounds, Virginia Catalyst funded a total of \$15.9 million to 31 collaborative projects. Together, these projects have created over 150 new jobs and

have attracted an additional \$140 million of investment capital from venture capital, private equity, corporations and government agencies including DARPA, NIH and NSF. We are proud to continue supporting research investigators and entrepreneurs in achieving milestones that will result in follow-on funding and build sustainable businesses.”

About Virginia Catalyst

Virginia Biosciences Health Research Corporation (VBHRC), known as Virginia Catalyst, has a vision of advancing life sciences throughout Virginia as a means of addressing large unmet medical needs to improve human health and to create high-paying jobs throughout the Commonwealth. Funded by the Virginia General Assembly’s General fund, the University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Tech, Eastern Virginia Medical School, George Mason University, Old Dominion University, and William and Mary, Virginia Catalyst has funding opportunities to support collaborative life science projects in the Commonwealth. For more information, visit www.viriniacatalyst.org.

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