



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

A.J. Guenther
ConnellyWorks, Inc.
(571) 323-2585 ext. 2130
aj@connellyworks.com

Virginia Catalyst Announces Round Nine of Grant Funding
*Organization continues to connect industry and academic research
for the benefit of Virginia's bioscience sector*

RICHMOND, VA – August 14, 2018 – 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 nine of grants to fund the development and commercialization of life science projects that address major unmet needs for improving human health.

Virginia Catalyst awards these funds to help accelerate translational research in the Commonwealth of Virginia. 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 significantly improve human health and 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 research universities and industry

Letters of intent (LOI) must be received by November 15, 2018 at 5:00 PM EST. Projects that meet criteria will be invited to submit a full application. Awards will be announced in March 2019. The LOI submission form and application template, as well as grant criteria, are available on the Virginia Catalyst website (www.virginiacatalyst.org).

"Virginia's entrepreneurial spirit continues to inspire our work," said Mike Grisham, CEO, Virginia Catalyst. "Through the first eight funding rounds, Virginia Catalyst has seen companies and research institutions work together to create high-paying jobs that boost Virginia's overall economy. These funds help bolster Virginia's life sciences sector while also developing technologies that tangibly improve citizens' lives. We look forward to supporting our 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 projects in the Commonwealth and is home to the Virginia Neuroscience Initiative. For more information, visit www.viriniacatalyst.org.

###