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Virginia Catalyst Announces Round Eight of Grant Funding

Organization accepting applications for collaborative life sciences projects that address major unmet human health needs

RICHMOND, VA – December 6, 2017 – 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 eight of grants to fund the development and commercialization of life science projects that address major unmet needs for improving human health. The awards, which range from \$200,000 to \$800,000, will accelerate translational research in the Commonwealth of Virginia through collaborations between industry and Virginia research universities. The purpose of this funding is to:

- Fund 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
- Accelerate commercialization of our research university inventions and discoveries and to achieve competitive critical mass through robust collaborations of our research universities and industry

Letters of intent must be received by February 1, 2018 5:00 PM EST. Projects that meet criteria will be invited to submit a full application. Awards will be announced in April 2018. The LOI submission form and application template, as well as grant criteria, are available on the Virginia Catalyst website (www.virginiacatalyst.org).

“Virginia has emerged as one of the leading states for translational research, innovation, and commercialization of life science discoveries that improve human health,” said Mike Grisham, CEO, Virginia Catalyst. “Our goal at Virginia Catalyst is to drive economic development, create high paying jobs in the life sciences through commercializing Virginia’s discoveries and inventions. We look forward to supporting our research investigators and entrepreneurs in achieving milestones that will result in follow-on funding and building sustainable businesses.”

Virginia Catalyst is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation funded by the Virginia General Assembly’s general fund and seven of Virginia’s research universities, including Eastern Virginia Medical School, George Mason University, University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), Old Dominion University and William and Mary.

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.virginiacatalyst.org.

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