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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

this grant will enable us to narrow the funding gap by connecting underrepresented business founders with dynamic sources of capital.

The pilot program funded by the grant will begin with strategic outreach planning to increase awareness and engagement with the local business investment community among potential entrepreneurs within Ochsner Health System, community colleges and universities. This will involve outreach to existing BIPOC and/or female entrepreneurs, researchers, professors, and student innovators who demonstrate interest and aptitude for technical product development and commercialization. In tandem, the program will begin building a robust network of public and private capital sources willing to support the initiative, focusing on Louisiana State Small Credit Business Initiative funders.

Victoria Adams Phipps, Vice President, Global Philanthropy and Program Officer at JPMorgan Chase, will lead the initiative. JPMorgan Chase and the University of Louisiana will cultivate and empower a diverse pipeline of life science ventures that will go

JPMorgan Chase has long manifested its commitment through substantial financial contributions and impactful partnerships. These collaborative endeavors have been instrumental in nurturing over 350 startups, driving job creation and empowering the infrastructure essential for their growth. JPMorgan Chase champions the ethos that the expansion and robust support of small businesses are pivotal catalysts in diverse employment opportunities and the flourishing of vibrant, inclusive communities across city landscapes.

JPMorgan Chase is proud to support the University of Louisiana as a major Life Sciences hub, and the New Orleans BioInnovation Center as a driver of

