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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GRANTS AWARDED TO SMALL BUSINESSES IN UNDERINVESTED CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOODS GROWING

Small businesses that open new locations or expand their current space can generate commerce, create jobs, and foster the growth of local neighborhood economies. That is why Allies for Community Business and the Small Business Advocacy Council, with support from We Rise Together: For an Equitable & Just Recovery, launched a grant program to help grow local businesses in underinvested Chicago neighborhoods. The program provides \$12,500 to grant recipients to support their efforts to open a brick-and-mortar space, or expand their existing location, in communities where We Rise Together has made complementary investments in community and economic development. This grant program will provide grants to 20 businesses and invest a total of \$250,000 to support local establishments in these same communities.

Beyond financial assistance, grant recipients will also receive coaching and other services to provide the necessary tools to support their success. These new businesses can breathe new life into underinvested commercial corridors, create jobs for local residents and help revitalize entire communities.

The grant recipients include:

- **Monday Coffee Company, LLC:** 3243 W 16th Street Chicago Illinois (North Lawndale)
- **Altogether Lovely Inc.:** 1841 W 63rd Street, Chicago, IL 60643 (West Englewood)
- **ROC & Brownhouse General Contractors Corp:** 2300 E. 71st Stret Chicago Illinois 60649 (South Shore)
- **Chicago Advocate Legal, NFP:** 2320 E. 79th St., Chicago, IL 60649 (South Shore)
- **Fillmore Harvard, LLC (DBA: FH Jerk):** 111 E. 51st St., Chicago, IL 60615 (Washington Park)
- **Mama Chola LLC:** 953 W. 87th St., Chicago, IL 60620 (Auburn Gresham)
- **ALMVGHTY Clothing:** 1955 E 71st street Chicago Illinois 60649 (South Shore)
- **Pineapple Haven Inc (DBA: The Pineapple School Company):** 4156 Roosevelt Road, Chicago, IL 60624 (North Lawndale)
- **Murphy's Lounge 2017 LLC (DBA: BLAQ's Lounge):** 7628 S. Cottage Grove Ave., Chicago, IL 60619 (Greater Englewood)
- **LaSelva Shop:** 1607 W. 47th Street Chicago Illinois 60609 (Back of the Yards)
- **Tatis Floral LLC:** 1415 W 79 th street Chicago Illinois 60620 (Auburn Gresham)
- **Front Porch Arts Center, INC:** 5851 W. Madison St., Chicago, IL 60644 (Austin)
- **Jerk Soule Inc.:** 8216 S. KEDZIE AVE Chicago Illinois 60652 (Auburn Gresham)
- **Da Book Joint:** 6900 S. Stony Island Ave., Chicago, IL 60649 (South Shore)
- **Stoviink Creatives:** 6900 S. Stony Island Ave., Chicago, IL 60649 (South Shore)
- **Jehovah Jireh #1 Outreach Ministry:** 5116 W Chicago Ave. Chicago Illinois 60644 (Austin)
- **Cook It Mama LLC.:** 4752 W Washington Blvd Chicago Illinois 60624 (Garfield Park)

With grant awards being made, representatives from A4CB and the SBAC, as well as We Rise Together, are available for interviews to discuss the need for this program, its potential and impact. Grant recipients are also available to provide first-hand insights into how this initiative is allowing them to grow and expand their business while having a positive impact on their community. This is an exciting opportunity to spotlight a vital program driving real change in Chicago's most overlooked communities. ###