



For Immediate Release
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Launch of year two of PHX Startup Week returns spotlight to entrepreneurs **Chase to announce \$400,000 in grants to nonprofits assisting small businesses**

PHOENIX – Year two of [PHX Startup Week](#) kicks off on Monday, Feb. 22, to bring together the Valley's entrepreneurs for five days of educational workshops and panels, inspirational keynotes and networking at no cost to participants. There will be myriad of happenings that will be held from Phoenix to Chandler, Scottsdale and Tempe.

- **The kick-off will be held Monday, Feb. 22 at 8:45 a.m. at Chase Basecamp, the epicenter for Monday's activities, 111 W. Monroe St. – 19th Floor, Phoenix.**
- **EMBARGOED UNTIL MONDAY, FEB. 22, 9 a.m.:** At the kick-off, JPMorgan Chase & Co. will announce \$400,000 total in philanthropic grants - \$100,000 each to four Valley nonprofit organizations that assist small businesses and have strong programs for women and minority entrepreneurs. Executives from these nonprofits will provide information about how their programs can help entrepreneurs.

Representing the organizations at the kickoff event will be:

- Gonzalo A. de la Melena, Jr., President/CEO of the **Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**
- David Adame, President/CEO of **Chicanos Por La Causa**
- Courtney Klein, Co-Founder and CEO of **SEED SPOT**
- Roberto Valdez-Beltran, Market Manager for **Accion Arizona**
- **To help entrepreneurs find local resources, the Phoenix Source Finder, an online database and print guide created by U.S. Sourcelink, will be unveiled. Sponsored by Chase, the easy-to-read visual illustration of key entrepreneurial resources will be distributed at PHX Startup Week, and the website phoenixsourcefinder.com will go live on Feb. 22.**

Chase returns as the presenting sponsor of [PHX Startup Week](#), which premiered last year to celebrate everything entrepreneurial during the week-long series of events focused on connecting, inspiring and strengthening entrepreneurs. Several years ago, Chase began its sponsorship of Startup Weeks in Denver and has been expanding its sponsorship to include more cities. In addition to Phoenix and Denver, Chase is sponsoring Startup Weeks in Seattle, Tampa, Dallas, Columbus, and for the first time in Detroit.

"When startups thrive, our community thrives," said Noreen Bishop, Chase's regional manager for Business Banking. "Startups are innovators and job creators and they contribute to the local economy. Through Chase's sponsorship of Phoenix Startup Week and our philanthropic contributions, we want to help grow this ecosystem to its full potential."

****The following grant information is EMBARGOED until Monday, Feb. 22, at 9 a.m.****

\$100,000 grants each to four Valley nonprofit organizations will help entrepreneurs, small businesses

JPMorgan Chase will announce philanthropic grants to the following nonprofit organizations:

- [Accion](#). The grant helps fund the organization's staff efforts to ensure that entrepreneurs in Arizona have better access to the financial education and credit that Accion provides. Accion helps entrepreneurs with the tools they need to operate, grow or start their business, and offers small business loans and other resources.
- [Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#). This grant supports the Chamber's minority business enterprise and women's business enterprise initiatives with workshops, outreach, cohort trainings, networking events and conferences. The Chamber operates the **Phoenix Minority Business Development Agency Business Center**, which is one of 40 centers nationwide and was recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce as the No. 1 such business center in the nation for 2014-2015. The Hispanic Chamber promotes the success of Hispanic-owned and small businesses.
- [Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.](#), for its subsidiary, [Prestamos](#). The grant supports the efforts of Prestamos to provide access to capital to small businesses in low-income communities to create jobs and revitalize communities. Through Prestamos, CPLC has provided more than \$43.8 million in loans to small businesses in the last five years, creating more 1,900 jobs. CPLC is a community organization dedicated to building stronger and healthier communities.
- [SEED SPOT](#). The grant supports the following SEED SPOT programs: the **Latino Entrepreneur Program**, which partners with the Univision television station in Phoenix for a "casting-call" for entrepreneurs to participate in a boot camp; the **Women's Entrepreneur Program**, targeting women entrepreneurs who have an idea, prototype or existing business they are looking to scale; and the **Cohort Capital Training Program**, which helps graduates of SEED SPOT's accelerator program raise capital. SEED SPOT is dedicated to educating, accelerating and investing in entrepreneurs who are creating solutions to social problems.

About Chase

Chase is the U.S. consumer and commercial banking business of JPMorgan Chase & Co. (NYSE: JPM), a leading global financial services firm with assets of \$2.4 trillion and operations worldwide. Chase serves nearly half of America's households with a broad range of financial services, including personal banking, credit cards, mortgages, auto financing, investment advice, small business loans and payment processing. Customers can choose how and where they want to bank: 5,400 branches, 17,000 ATMs, mobile, online and by phone. For more information, go to Chase.com.

About PHX Startup Week

PHX Startup Week is an annual week-long, Valley-wide showcase and celebration of Arizona's entrepreneur community. Launched in 2015, the shared mission is to serve current and future entrepreneurs with quality content and meaningful connections. The vision is to foster the world's most generous community for entrepreneurs. Register free to attend or get involved by visiting phxstartupweek.com.