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Contact: Virginia Beard (Launch Pad) | Virginia@lp.co | 803.229.5335 Russell Murphy (L+M) | russell@risaheller.com | 646.618.6033

Launch Pad to Host Grand Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on June 6

With a ribbon cutting from Mayor Ras Baraka, Launch Pad's grand opening event will offer opportunities to learn more about initiatives to build entrepreneurship in the Newark community.

June 5, 2018 – NEWARK, NJ – Launch Pad, the community-focused coworking space in Downtown Newark has 61 new members and has hosted 2 member-led events bringing in 30+ and 60+ attendees respectively in just a few short weeks after opening its doors. It's with this excitement for the growing community that Launch Pad will host a ribbon cutting ceremony and grand opening event with Mayor Ras Baraka this Wednesday, June 6 from 5:30-7:30 p.m in the Launch Pad space at the Hahne & Co building, recently-restored by L+M Development Partners, Prudential Inc. and Goldman Sachs Urban Investment Group.

"The last month in Newark has been an exhilarating experience proving that, as a city with both deep-rooted entrepreneurial spirit and a drive for growth and community, this is a city full of people who are serious about doing great work and building one another up to be better. Since opening our doors, the energy and passion that the Launch Pad team has seen in our earliest adopting members has been contagious and we can't wait to see this amazing community continue to grow," says Launch Pad CEO, Chris Schultz.

The inaugural 61 Launch Pad members range from freelancers and startups to larger corporations with teams working remotely. One of Launch Pad Newark's earliest adopters, Phone.com, is one example of how companies can not only thrive and grow in a community-focused coworking space, but also drive collaboration. Not only is Phone.com one of Launch Pad Newark's most engaged members, but they have also partnered with Launch Pad and provide all the VOIP phone and voicemail services at the Newark location.

"We've been part of the Newark and New Jersey startup scene for several years. As a company that has built its reputation on helping small and medium businesses, we believe that growing ecosystems in Newark will be powerful for any business. We share our vision with Chris and Launch Pad and are very excited to partner with them," says Ari Rabban, CEO of Phone.com.

The ribbon cutting ceremony and grand opening event is open to the public and will take place in the Launch Pad space on Wednesday, June 6 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The event will include

complimentary refreshments with beer and wine, tours of the space, speakers, a ribbon cutting with Mayor Ras Baraka and plenty of time to mingle with the Launch Pad team, current Launch Pad members and Newark community leaders.

<u>RSVP to the grand opening event today</u>! To schedule a tour or start your free week of coworking, visit <u>https://lp.co/newark</u>. For media inquiries or more information about Launch Pad, contact Virginia Beard at Virginia@lp.co.

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About L+M Development Partners

Since its inception in 1984, L+M Development Partners, Inc. has been an innovator in developing quality affordable, mixed-income and market rate housing, while improving the neighborhoods in which it works. A full-service firm, L+M works from conception to completion, handling development, investment, construction and management with creativity that leads the industry. L+M is responsible for more than \$7 billion in development and investment, and has acquired, built or preserved more than 22,000 high-quality residential units in New York's tristate area, the West Coast and Gulf Coast regions. L+M is a double bottom line company, where its success is measured not only in financial returns but also by positive impacts. For more information, please visit: https://lmdevpartners.com/.

About Launch Pad Launch

Pad offers beautiful workspaces designed to encourage community for entrepreneurs, creative professionals, and remote workers. Founded in New Orleans, Launch Pad also offers educational programming, mentorship and events for leaders in all of its cities. At Launch Pad, we help our members thrive, and we always say hello! Launch Pad is a company focused on the future of work founded in New Orleans in 2009. The company creates collaborative workspaces for entrepreneurs, creative professionals and remote workers, as well as educational programming designed to help them succeed. Launch Pad is building a network in rising "quality of life" markets where people are choosing to live, and then bringing or creating their jobs. Learn more at <u>lp.co/</u> and follow us @launchpad. If you have any questions, please contact Virginia Beard at virginia@lp.co.