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THAT CCFA DOES
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TO **ACCELERATE
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HEALTH OUTCOMES.**

VANCE GIBBS: A PASSION FOR RESULTS

After several years as CCFA's General Counsel and a member of its National Board, Vance A. Gibbs assumed the role of Board Chair in 2015. Vance has three decades of experience practicing in the commercial litigation area and the healthcare industry as a Partner in the Baton Rouge law offices of Kean Miller. He brings to his new role a passionate commitment to advancing IBD research and patient support.

"I first got involved with CCFA after our son was diagnosed with Crohn's, and I saw up close the devastating impact of his illness. Parker was in the 8th grade, and all of us were deeply affected. Like many parents in that situation, I felt I had to do something. I wondered how I could help make it better for my son, and every individual suffering with IBD. CCFA gave me the opportunity to act on that motivation, and I began to meet families just like ours, facing some of the same frustrations and fears.

"I spent my first several years as a volunteer in CCFA's Louisiana/Mississippi Chapter and served as its president for several years. My time as a chapter board president gave me a great understanding of how the chapters interact with the national board and office, knowledge that's been very beneficial in my new role as Chair of the National Board.

"Since I joined the National Board several years ago, I've been applying my legal background and analytical skills as a member of various committees. One committee in particular was tasked with exploring and identifying innovative and meaningful ideas, projects, and partnerships

that promise new—and substantially increased—revenue streams to help sustain and advance mission-critical initiatives.

"Like the trial work I do, this challenge involves complicated, rapidly evolving health and medical issues. Making progress requires communicating a vision that everyone can understand, be inspired by, and support. We don't want to miss out on a single opportunity, whether it's partnering to create a patient support app or forming the multi-component IBD Plexus® initiative, a powerful network of resources and unique partnerships to speed IBD research discovery and new drug development.

"Critical to our success will be telling the complex story of how CCFA's diverse initiatives interrelate, creating dynamic synergies that magnify their impact. The recent, breakthrough discoveries of our Genetic and Microbiome research programs, for example, are maximized when considered in relation to each other. And what we're learning from our Pediatric Risk Stratification Study will grow as we follow patients into their teen and adult years through IBD Plexus® and other patient-focused research. Everything that CCFA does works together to accelerate research, support patients, and improve their health outcomes. As the world's leading voice in the IBD arena, we need to communicate that to the world.

"I am astoundingly inspired by what CCFA has accomplished since I became involved, and I look forward to making great strides in the years ahead."