



NEWS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 30, 2024

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Virginia Credit Union League Announces Recipients of the Vizo Financial Empowerment Grants for 2024

RICHMOND, Va. — The Virginia Credit Union League, together with the Credit Unions Care Foundation of Virginia, is thrilled to announce the recipients of the 2024 Vizo Financial Empowerment Grants. Thirteen Virginia-based credit unions will benefit from a collective \$50,000 in grant funds aimed at enhancing financial literacy and empowerment across the Commonwealth.

This initiative marks the first year of a planned five-year program, with \$1 million worth of funding, designed to support projects that promote financial education, reduce dependency on predatory financial services and strengthen community well-being.

This year's grant recipients are:

- 1st Advantage Federal Credit Union
- Baylands Family Credit Union
- Call Federal Credit Union
- Credit Union of Richmond
- DuPont Community Credit Union
- Freedom First Federal Credit Union
- Hampton Roads Educators Credit Union
- Henrico Federal Credit Union
- Newport News Municipal Employees Credit Union
- Peoples Advantage Federal Credit Union
- Richmond Heritage Federal Credit Union
- Topside Federal Credit Union
- Virginia Credit Union

The selection criteria focused on each credit union's commitment to enhancing financial education, fostering wealth-building, improving creditworthiness and increasing the overall financial well-being of individuals within their communities. Successful initiatives demonstrate a clear, beneficial impact on community financial health.

The receiving credit unions have undertaken projects that align with the goals of financial empowerment and community service. Each credit union is committed to using the granted funds to further these objectives and will provide a summary report detailing the outcomes and effectiveness of the funded projects.

"We are proud to kick off this significant initiative, which will continue to unfold over the next four years," said Karima Freeman, Interim CEO of the Virginia Credit Union League. "We are profoundly grateful to Vizo Financial for providing the funding that makes these grants possible. These grants represent a strong commitment to our community and reflect our dedication to enhancing the financial stability and literacy of our members across the state."

"On behalf of Baylands Family Credit Union's Board of Directors and Management, we thank the Credit Unions Care Foundation of Virginia and VIZO Financial Corporate Credit Union for this opportunity and support," said Teresa Millis, President and CEO, of grant recipient Baylands Family Credit Union. "We are so grateful to them both and recognize the contributions by both organizations that strengthen our credit union community as a whole. In addition, we appreciate the Virginia Credit Union League that advocates so strongly for all credit unions in Virginia and gives its support and energy to helping credit unions thrive. We couldn't do what we do without you!"

About the Virginia Credit Union League

The Virginia Credit Union League is the state trade association representing the 100 member-owned, not-for-profit credit unions headquartered in the Commonwealth. Celebrating its 90th anniversary this year, the League provides regulatory, political, and public advocacy; professional development; and a range of informational and operational resources to ensure a thriving credit union industry since 1934. Learn more at vacul.org.

About Vizo Financial Corporate Credit Union

Vizo Financial Corporate Credit Union's goal is to drive credit union success through proven EXCELLENCE, unmatched EXPERTISE and engaged PARTNERSHIPS. It is a state-chartered corporate credit union that serves CUSOs, leagues, chapters, and more than 1,100 credit unions

in the U.S. and Canada. Vizo Financial provides money management, payments, core processing, and education solutions. For more information, please visit www.vfccu.org.

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