

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***LEVERAGE* Invests \$600,000 to  
Advance League Advocacy and Foundation Efforts**

**TALLAHASSEE, FL** – The Board of Directors for *LEVERAGE*, the wholly-owned holding company of The League of Credit Unions & Affiliates, has announced the approval of \$500,000 in donations, in addition to \$100,000 previously donated to the Credit Union Impact Foundation, to fund strategic priorities aimed at advancing the operating environment for credit unions. The combined total of \$600,000 will support initiatives that enhance advocacy, disaster resilience, and political engagement for credit unions across the region. Bringing the five-year total of these funds to \$3,672,511 that *LEVERAGE* has invested into the movement.

"Credit unions are built on the principles of collaboration and community impact, and this value transfer reflects those principles in action," said Olabode "Ola" Anise, Chair of the *LEVERAGE* Board, Chair-Elect of The League Board, Chair-Elect of the Credit Union Impact Foundation Board, and President and CEO of Azalea City Credit Union. "We are dedicated to supporting the sustainability of individual credit unions and strengthening the entire ecosystem, ensuring our collective voice is heard and our communities are supported in times of need."

"Supporting initiatives like The League's Advocacy Fund, state PACs, and disaster resilience ensures that credit unions can continue to advocate effectively and provide critical support to members and communities during times of need," expressed Richard J. "Rick" Skaggs, Chair of The League Board, Vice Chair of the *LEVERAGE* Board, Chair of the Credit Union Impact Foundation Board, and President and CEO of USF Federal Credit Union. "These investments strengthen the foundation of our industry, helping credit unions navigate challenges, drive positive change, and deliver lasting value to those they serve."

This value transfer includes:

- **\$350,000** allocated to **The Advocacy Fund**, which helps elect credit union-friendly candidates at the federal and state levels in our four-state footprint and supports various advocacy initiatives. This funding also supports the D.C. Credit Union House modernization project, which aims to preserve the rich history of the credit union movement in Washington, D.C. and also provide a place for credit unions to meet and advocate with policymakers.

- **\$150,000** to support The League's four state **Political Action Committees (PACs)**. By electing pro-credit union candidates, we are building coalitions in our state legislatures that support and enhance the credit union industry.
- **\$100,000** allocated to the **Credit Union Impact Foundation**, to support the disaster resilience fund, a fund designed to assist credit unions impacted by natural disasters.

"*LEVERAGE* is proud to support the long-term success of our credit union community through this value transfer," said Steve Willis, President of *LEVERAGE*. "These contributions reflect our dedication to fostering an environment where credit unions feel supported—whether through advocacy, political engagement, professional development funding, or recovery after natural disasters."

"This value transfer is a testament to our combined team's commitment to strengthening the credit union movement and supporting our members through our unique structure," stated Samantha A.M. Beeler, President of The League of Credit Unions & Affiliates. "By investing in Advocacy and Foundation efforts, we are not only supporting our credit unions at the state and federal levels, but we are also supporting them in their communities. We appreciate the generosity of our for-profit partners who are focused on fueling the mission and advancing the cause of member credit unions."

The League of Credit Unions & Affiliates is committed to empowering credit unions with the resources they need to advocate for their members, strengthen their operations, and support their communities, ensuring a resilient and thriving future for the entire credit union movement.

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### **About The League of Credit Unions & Affiliates**

*The League of Credit Unions & Affiliates provides a platform for advocacy, collaboration, and innovation, representing 381 credit unions across Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Virginia and their 32.7 million members, as well as \$453.6 billion in assets. The League serves as an advocate through credit union engagement, advocacy impact, Foundation resources, and *LEVERAGE* products and services. Join us in supporting credit unions by learning more at [www.the-league.coop](http://www.the-league.coop). Follow The League on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#).*