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Arizona Federal Credit Union Gifts Second Round of Community Funds Through Local Artist, Local Causes Debit Card Program

13 local non-profits receive funds totaling \$26,000

PHOENIX, AZ – (May 3, 2021) – Arizona Federal Credit Union announced today that 13 local non-profits are the recipients of a collective \$26,000 generated through the local credit union's *Local Artist, Local Causes* Visa® debit card. Launched in August 2020, the give-back debit card initiative distributed \$23,500 to local non-profits during the first round of distributions in November 2020. Thousands of memberowners utilizing the card with proceeds from every debit card purchase going into the community fund has been continuously building the funds available to distribute during this second grant cycle.

"Our member-owners have embraced the *Local Artist, Local Causes* card as a continuous way to give back to the community," says Jason Paprocki, executive vice president and chief operating officer at Arizona Federal Credit Union. "We received an increased response to our second round of applications as word of the program has spread in the community and we are excited we can create a greater impact with our second distribution of funds."

Unique to this program, nonprofit recipients must have an operating budget under \$2M to qualify and meet criteria set forth by Arizona Federal's focus on education, equality/social inclusion, community services, children and youth, and sustainability. Below is the complete list of the organizations receiving funds:

Angels on Patrol, Aunt Rita's Foundation, Cancer Support Community Arizona [CSCAZ], Future Stars, HeARTsy, Helens Hope Chest, Kids Need to Read, Lights, Camera, Discover, Million Dollar Teacher Project [MDTP], Project Roots, Skye's the Limit Foundation, Tiger Mountain Foundation, Village 360

"We want to thank Arizona Federal Credit Union and all those that helped with the Local Artist, Local Causes grant," said Dionne Washington, co-founder and director of operations of Project Roots. "We are happy to announce that we will use all the funds granted to Project Roots on the restoration of our Agave Farms location. By restoring this garden, we project that we will be able to feed 300 families each growing season."

"It is eye-opening to see just how many fantastic nonprofits are out there filling gaps to support our communities in a number of ways," says Rachel Galvez, marketing partnerships manager at Arizona Federal. "Through our first distribution, we were able to witness the positive impact that each of these deserving nonprofits has on the individuals they serve, and we are excited to continue to build our Local Artist, Local Causes family to amplify awareness of these hyper-local nonprofits doing fantastic work."

Arizona Federal also facilitates similar give back initiatives with debit card programs for the Arizona Humane Society and the 100 Club of Arizona and combined with the *Local Artist, Local Causes* program, has distributed nearly \$50,000 in grants to local nonprofit organizations in the first quarter of 2021.

Arizona Federal will continue distributing bi-annual gifts to local non-profits through the *Local Artist, Local Causes* Visa® debit card program. For more information on Arizona Federal Credit Union and the *Local Artist, Local Causes* give back program, please visit arizonafederal.org/community.

About Arizona Federal Credit Union

Arizona Federal is a \$2.5 billion not-for-profit, local cooperative providing financial services and expertise to more than 140,000 member/owners. Founded in 1936, the credit union empowers members to take hold of their financial future through the delivery of leading-edge self-service tools and mobile apps, competitive rates on loans and deposits, robust home loan solutions, identity protection services, and small business services and commercial loans. Arizona Federal has a history of local community involvement and is the sponsor of the LiveNation Theatre venue and exclusive credit union partner of the Phoenix Rising FC. The credit union has 14 locations across the Phoenix metropolitan area. Deposits are federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration. For more information: ArizonaFederal.org.

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