

[Happy music playing]

Clouds moving against a blue sky.

Female voice: For credit unions, helping people is a mission, a passion, a calling. In everything we do, credit unions are difference makers.

Screen fades to white.

Erin: Hi, I'm Erin Doan, administration and community relations director for Vizo Financial. Welcome to the December episode of Difference Makers! And, as always, I'm happy to be joined by Brittany Hockenberry.

Brittany: Thank you, Erin...and hi, everyone! I can't believe it's the end of 2020. We've seen so many great credit union difference maker stories so far...how about we check out a few more?

Erin: That's why we're here, right?

Brittany: Sure is!

Erin: I'll get us started with this story from Erie Federal Credit Union in Erie, Pennsylvania. The credit union held their "Sock-tober" event in October.

Brittany: Oh, that sounds fun! Tell us more about Sock-tober...

Erin: Gladly! Sock-tober is an annual event for Erie FCU, where they ask members to donate winter socks for non-profit shelters in the local community. This year, the credit union also asked for hats, scarves and gloves to help prepare for overcrowding in shelters and a potential for increased homeless people without a place to stay this winter.

Brittany: That's amazing! Do you know how much they were able to donate?

Erin: Yes, Erie FCU's members donated enough winter apparel to fill 10 storage bins (like you'll see in the picture here). The bins were then dispersed to four shelters, including the Upper Room, the Sisters of Saint Joseph's Neighborhood Network, St. Patrick's Haven and the Erie United Methodist Alliance.

Brittany: Job well done, Erie FCU – not just assisting the community, but anticipating the needs of others and doing your best to help out. I love that story!

Erin: It's definitely a good one. Now let's head down south to State Employees Credit Union in Raleigh, North Carolina. The credit union's charitable foundation, the SECU Foundation, recently donated a total of \$3 million to the North Carolina Community Foundation. This foundation makes grants that allocate money and provisions to non-profits in underserved communities in North Carolina.

Brittany: That's right, Erin. And due to the struggles felt by those underserved communities because of the pandemic, the SECU Foundation's donation will help local non-profits that provide services in health care, human services, housing and education.

Erin: Thank you to State Employees Credit Union and the SECU Foundation for providing much-needed COVID-19 relief to your local communities.

Brittany: Agreed! Your work is making a *huge* difference! What's up next, Erin?

Erin: How about this neat story from Visions Federal Credit Union in Endwell, New York?

Brittany: Yes, this one is awesome...I hear it involves a special gift for culinary students?

Erin: It does! Visions FCU donated 75 custom aprons to students at the Academy of Hospitality and the Culinary Arts program at Leonia High School in Leonia, N.J.

Brittany: This is where the students can learn about the culinary and hospitality industries while gaining the skills to further their careers in these areas after high school.

Erin: It's the perfect gift, right?

Brittany: Sure is...I love the creativity of the credit union!

Erin: Me too. Supporting education in a fun way – can't go wrong there. Kudos to Visions FCU!

Brittany: Next up is a story from First Capital Federal Credit Union in York, Pennsylvania.

Erin: Yes, all throughout October, First Capital FCU collected food items from staff and members to donate to the West York Area School District Bulldog Pantry.

Brittany: Awesome! Tell us more about the Bulldog Pantry!

Erin: Well, it supplies food and additional items to families and students in the school district the first Thursday of each month.

Brittany: I also believe the school's life skills students work at the pantry to learn first-hand the value of hard work and supporting those in need. Is that right?

Erin: Absolutely! And with the donation from First Capital FCU, they had even more food to share with the community.

Brittany: A big shout out goes to all of the credit unions we talked about today. Your efforts are certainly appreciated! Now, Erin, what's on the agenda for Vizo Financial?

Erin: The end of the year is all about radiothons for the Corporate!

Brittany: That's fun! Tell us more!

Erin: On November 12-13, we and Central Pennsylvania credit unions acted as the naming rights sponsors for the annual Pay 4 Play radiothon to benefit Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Penn State Children's Hospital in Hershey, Pa.

Brittany: And the total raised from the radiothon was astronomical – over \$315,000!

Erin: I know, it's amazing isn't it!? We were so proud to be a part of it!

Brittany: And just a few days ago, on December 15 and 16, we joined Carolinas Credit Unions in sponsoring the Duke Children's radiothon in Durham, North Carolina. Duke Children's is another health network affiliated with CMN Hospitals.

Erin: And, don't forget, Brittany...the total from that was another impressive feat.

Brittany: How could I? I'm still mind-blown by it all!

Erin: Me too, and we want to thank the radio hosts of both 105.7 The X Rocks and MIX 101.5, as well as the miracle families who told their stories and the many credit unions that offered their support through the sponsorships.

Brittany: Yes, thank you all so much! What a positive way to end the year.

Erin: It definitely is. I can't wait to see what credit unions have in store for 2021. And with that said, please continue to share your stories with us differencemakers@vfccu.org!

Brittany: Thank you all for fulfilling our mission of people helping people.

Erin & Brittany: Credit unions ARE difference makers!

[Happy music playing]

Fades to Vizo Financial logo V and a red heart and the words, "CUs" in green on gray background. The logo fades into the Vizo Financial logo. Vizo Financial logo fades out and disclaimer text appears on screen.

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