

[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.

[Happy music playing]

Erin: Hi, I'm Erin Doan, administration and community relations director for Vizo Financial. Welcome to this episode of Difference Makers! And, of course, please help me welcome my co-host, Brittany Hockenberry.

Brittany: Thanks, Erin! Happy to be celebrating more credit union Difference Maker stories with you!

Erin: Likewise! Well, with all this excitement, let's get started on those stories, shall we?

Brittany: We shall, indeed. Our first one is from Pheple Federal Credit Union in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

Erin: Pheple recently held a clothing drive supporting Feeding the Spirit. They collected gently used clothing, purses, shoes and other apparel and donated them to Feeding the Spirit's Fill-a-Truck event.

Brittany: From there, the items were given to Mission Partners for folks in need. And, in turn, Mission Partners compensated Feeding the Spirit for the donations, which go toward the organization's weekly meal distributions.

Erin: One event that benefits two charities? I'd say that's some excellent teamwork!

Brittany: Agreed! Great idea, Pheple FCU!

Erin: And it's an idea that many credit unions share. In fact, there's a similar story from Educational Systems Federal Credit Union in Greenbelt, Maryland.

Brittany: Yes, in the same clothing drive fashion (no pun intended), Educational Systems FCU donated over 3,700 hats, gloves, scarves and socks – plus 550 toiletry bags – to elementary, middle, high school and community college students in the eight counties it serves.

Erin: And those donations were made through the credit union's Support Education Foundation, which was created in 2017 to help them better serve the education community.

Brittany: I'd say that's mission accomplished then, wouldn't you?

Erin: Absolutely! Congrats, Educational Systems FCU!

Brittany: Now, let's head back to PA for these initiatives from First Capital Federal Credit Union in York, Pennsylvania.

Erin: It seems First Capital has been quite busy so far in 2021.

Brittany: Really? How so?

Erin: On February 18, the credit union also donated hats, scarves and mittens to the West York Area School District.

Brittany: I'm seeing a theme here!

Erin: Yes, winter certainly was a time of giving for many credit unions. In that same spirit, First Capital participated as a book drop-off site for the Women's United book drive in early March. The book drive was held as part of the United Way of York County's #yorkreads initiative and in honor of Read Across America.

Brittany: That's wonderful! I sense there's some more from First Capital, though.

Erin: You're right! In further support of the United Way of York County, the credit union donated a check of \$8,242, which was presented by president and CEO, Sue DeStephano.

Brittany: Ok, you were right – First Capital FCU has definitely been busy rocking the Difference Makers way of life.

Erin: They certainly have!

Brittany: Well, I think that brings us to our final credit union story of the day from TruMark Financial Credit Union in Fort Washington, Pennsylvania.

Erin: Earlier this year, TruMark Financial donated 100 blankets to five shelters in their communities, including: Interfaith Hospitality Network of Main Line, Good Samaritan Services, Bethesda Project, Pathways PA and the Family Service Association of Bucks County.

Brittany: Thank you, TruMark Financial CU, for your dedication to serving those in need!

Erin: So now it's time to take a look at Vizo Financial's community efforts. Are you ready, Brittany?

Brittany: I sure am!

Erin: Great! Let's start with the Walk for Children's event for Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC that just took place a couple weeks ago on June 5.

Brittany: Oh, yes! That's always a fun one. We participated as part of the Pittsburgh Credit Unions team, along with several credit unions in the area. Vizo Financial had several employees and their families walking in the event, isn't that right?

Erin: Yes, and we also had team sponsors including New Alliance FCU, Pheple FCU, Clearview FCU, Chrome FCU and Visionary FCU. Century Heritage FCU also did some of its own fundraising for the event and had walkers join in the fun. Thank you to all the credit unions that participated.

Brittany: That's excellent! Thank you to all of the credit unions that participated in some way to help raise so much money for Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC!

Erin: I echo that sentiment – your commitment to helping kids and CMN Hospitals is so appreciated!

Brittany: And speaking of CMN Hospitals, we have big news! Our annual Hot Dog Eating Contest is coming up on July 21, and I can't wait!

Erin: I know, I'm so excited! As always, all money raised from the Hot Dog Eating Contest will go to Penn State Children's Hospital in Hershey, Pa.

Brittany: I heard a rumor that it's going to be virtual again this year?

Erin: That's right! And because it's virtual, we encourage credit unions everywhere to participate! Become a contestant, purchase a sponsorship, make a donation or just tune in and support this fun event. All are invited to help us raise money for our local CMN Hospital.

Brittany: If you're interested in being a part of our virtual Hot Dog Eating Contest, head over to the Upcoming Events page at www.vfccu.org and check out more details and – even better – get registered!

Erin: Registration closes July 9, so don't wait!

Brittany: Well, Erin, this has been another fantastic episode. Any words before we say our goodbyes until next time?

Erin: Yes! I just want to encourage everyone to tell us your stories that we can share right here on the show by emailing differencemakers@vfccu.org!

Brittany: Please do! And, as always, thank you all for fulfilling our mission of people helping people.

Erin & Brittany: Credit unions ARE difference makers!

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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