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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Unitus Community Credit Union's Build and Save Program Matches Nearly \$170,000 to Help Small Business Owners Build Stability and Opportunity**

*Pilot Build and Save Program Empowers Entrepreneurs Across Oregon and SW Washington.*

**TIGARD, OR – January 29, 2026** – Unitus Community Credit Union (Unitus) is proud to announce the successful completion of its Build and Save Matched Savings Program, matching \$169,905 in savings to help small business owners strengthen savings and help grow their businesses.

Launched on July 1, 2025, in partnership with the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber (HMC) through an Inclusiv Build and Save Matched Savings Initiative grant, the Unitus Build and Save program combined matched savings, financial education, and personalized coaching to support entrepreneurs.

Outreach for the pilot focused on Oregon and SW Washington, with intentional outreach in Washington state, where access to traditional Individual Development Account (IDA) programs is unavailable compared to Oregon's established statewide IDA infrastructure. Participants represented priority communities including East Portland and Clark County, underscoring the strong demand for accessible match savings programs.

"Build and Save is about more than matched savings—it's about empowering small business owners to take control of their financial future," said Megan Snyder, Chief Impact Officer at Unitus. "This pilot proves that when we combine education, coaching, and community partnerships, we create real opportunities for growth and stability."

In just six months, 58 savers enrolled actively saving towards goals that included business equipment, tools, technology and inventory, and emergency savings. Participants contributed more than \$61,000 of their own funds, unlocking a powerful 3 to 1 match accelerating progress toward their goals.

Participants completed a financial education workshop offered by the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber and then connected one-on-one with a Unitus financial coach through the Rise Together app and committed to saving at least \$250. Participants could have up to \$1,000 in savings matched, unlocking up to \$3,000 in matched funds.

For many, the impact was immediate and personal. One member shared that opening a Build and Save account would help bring relief as she supports her family on a single income, with the match helping to cover basic expenses during an unexpected life event.

**About Unitus Community Credit Union**

At [Unitus](#), we're dedicated to improving lives in the communities we serve. As a member-owned local credit union, we invest in people by doing the right thing. Through partnerships with nonprofit organizations, we provide support for community groups through volunteerism and financial donations. Our 106,000 members count on us to serve them and their communities; our 300+ employees share that passion for service. Learn about the local impact Unitus makes by visiting [unitusccu.com](http://unitusccu.com).

**About the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber (HMC)**

The [Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber](#) (HMC) has been a cornerstone of Latino economic development since 1994. By providing technical business assistance, networking, and leadership training, the HMC empowers Latino professionals and entrepreneurs to thrive. Beyond direct services, the Chamber serves as a powerful advocate for the Latino community, partnering with public and private organizations to create a more inclusive and successful regional economy.

**About Inclusiv**

Founded in 1974, [Inclusiv](#) empowers its member credit unions to advance financial inclusion through advocacy, education, technology, and impact investment. Inclusiv is a certified CDFI intermediary instrumental in driving private and public investment in credit unions to build wealth for individuals, households, businesses, and communities formerly excluded from the financial mainstream.