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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Unitus Community Credit Union Named a Top Five Most Philanthropic Corporation, Wins Innovation in Philanthropy Award for Educator Pipeline Partnership

Recognition reflects Unitus' record giving in 2024 and its innovative educator pipeline partnership with Western Oregon University

**Portland, Ore., October 23, 2025** – Unitus Community Credit Union has been named the fifth most philanthropic large corporation in the Portland metro area by the *Portland Business Journal* and has also been honored with the 2025 Innovation in Philanthropy Award for its partnership with Western Oregon University's Bilingual Teacher Scholars program.



This marks the fifteenth consecutive year Unitus has been recognized among the region's top corporate givers, reflecting its long-standing commitment to building equitable opportunity and strengthening the communities it serves.

"We are grateful to be recognized again for the collective work of our team and our community partners, who are addressing the most urgent needs facing Oregon families," said Steven Stapp, President and CEO of Unitus Community Credit Union. "We believe that meaningful impact happens through collaboration and long-term commitment, and we are proud to invest in programs that help communities thrive."

The *Portland Business Journal* recognized Unitus based on more than \$686,000 in cash contributions in Oregon and SW Washington. Beyond the award's regional criteria, Unitus contributed more than \$750,000 in total donations and sponsorships, and \$815,000 globally in cash and in-kind contributions, including volunteer time. Unitus employees volunteered 1,852 hours in 2024.

The Innovation in Philanthropy Award recognizes the impact of the Unitus funded Bilingual Teacher Scholars cohort at Western Oregon University, a multiyear initiative that supports first generation and transfer students on the path to becoming licensed bilingual educators. The partnership responds directly to Oregon classrooms where more than 40% of students are ethnically or linguistically diverse, yet less than 15% of teachers share their background.

"Our partnership with WOU reflects how we approach philanthropy at Unitus," said Aimee Berg, VP of Community Engagement and Financial Education. "We look for solutions that are relational, measurable, and centered in equity. The Bilingual Teacher Scholars program is not just changing individual lives; it is changing who has the power to lead and teach in our education systems. That is the kind of innovation we are committed to."



## **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.