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**Education Credit Union Launches the  
Education Credit Union Foundation to enhance their  
community involvement and outreach in the Texas Panhandle.**

**Amarillo, Texas** – Education Credit Union (ECU) is pleased to announce its launch of the Education Credit Union Foundation.

“The Foundation is being formed to continue and grow the legacy of community involvement and caring for which the credit union has such a rich track record,” said Foundation Executive Director Tricia Bass. The ECU Foundation’s mission is to promote public trust in philanthropy as well as academic, financial, and cultural learning.

“The Foundation promotes upward socio-economic mobility of children and adults in the Texas Panhandle community,” Bass explained.

The Foundation’s three main areas of focus are:

- **Pocket Change Grants for school employees:** Since 2009, ECU has awarded over half a million dollars in PCGs in the Texas Panhandle, and the Foundation will carry on with this program with the intention of awarding more grants to benefit more students! The application period is 8/1 – 10/15. Grant funds are delivered to school campuses prior to winter break each year.
- **Scholarships:** ECU is prepared to award four, \$4,000 scholarships to member-students each year.
- **Philanthropy:** The Foundation will award money to select 501(c)(3) organizations who request funds. The funding periods will be January – March; April – June, and July – September.

“We are eager to Learn More about the needs of our community so that we can continue to find ways to Give More!” Marcus Smith, Interim CEO and Foundation President said.

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**Pictured from left to right:** Marcus Smith, Foundation President; Tricia Bass, Executive Director; Lindsey Murphy, Foundation Vice President; Haley Pate, Foundation Secretary; Linda Purdy, Foundation Treasurer; and Buddy Stephens, Foundation Director.

For more information or to contact the foundation's representatives, you can visit:

<https://www.ecu-foundation.org>

### **About Education Credit Union**

Education Credit Union, founded in 1935, has grown to achieve assets of over \$400 million and serves more than 32,000 members. Decorated with the 2017 NAFCU Credit Union of the Year Award, Bauer Financials' Superior 5-Star Rating, and ranked by Forbes as a top three credit union in Texas, ECU clearly lives up to its mission statement to excel in service, care, and financial protection for members and their families. ECU's membership is open to individuals in education, including homeschoolers, employees of public and private institutions of learning, school council or Board members, as well as any individual who lives within a 10-mile radius of its seven branches throughout Amarillo, Bushland, and Canyon. With values such as superior member service, ethical behavior, long-term planning and training, teamwork, defect free processes, products and services, financial stability and long term success, a motivated Board, management, and staff, respect for individuals, involvement and caring for the community, staff empowerment, and promotion of financial literacy, Education Credit Union is committed to fulfilling their vision to be the preferred financial provider through all stages of life for their members. For more, visit: [www.educationcu.com](http://www.educationcu.com).

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