****

**Contact**

Zach Christensen

602.390.7655

zach@mitchellstankovic.com

 **Underground Announces Enterprise Xchanges – Shifting the Industry Inside Out with Vulnerable Collaboration**

“OMG, just how much better can the Underground get?” exclaimed Roxy Ostrem, Vice Chair of Ventura County Credit Union. “I have no idea but the Xchanges were damn awesome.”

****Mitchell, Stankovic & Associates Underground announces a new service, Enterprise Xchanges, bringing conversations into your community starting with CUNA Mutual Group’s Engagement Resource Groups to exchange ideas and increase strategic influence resulting in vulnerable collaboration that will drive future initiatives. “The Mitchell Stankovic Underground challenged the status quo once again partnering with CUNA Mutual Group to bring together industry thought leaders to engage Employee Resource Groups and change the industry from the inside out,” shared Brandi Stankovic, Chief Strategy Officer, CU Solutions Group.

As organizations build out Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives, Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) have become an internal grassroots effort to enhance culture, understand the diversity of employees and, in many cases, help define strategy for the future. “ERGs have been integral for organizations to further connect their people for awareness and the emphasis has typically been internally focused,” said Susan Mitchell, CEO of Mitchell, Stankovic & Associates and founder of the Underground. “We, along with CUNA Mutual, saw an opportunity to collaborate and bring both an outside perspective in as well as share CUNA Mutual’s incredibly diversified culture out to the industry.”

CUNA Mutual has a robust Engagement Resource Group program with 13 ERGs and more than 1200 employees engaged. From African- and Asian- American to Alies with Disabilities and the Modern Family, CUNA Mutual has demonstrated a commitment to culture and diversity for it’s employees. Each ERG was invited to the event with breakout sessions led by 14 industry thought leaders to share ideas, best practices and challenge the industry, and their organization, to action. “I love seeing leaders like this, who were so authentic and willing to share their stories and their lives to help the movement,” shared Gerry Singleton, vice president of credit union system relations at CUNA Mutual. “These efforts and impact will be felt and known for a long time. Thanks for joining us in this great journey!”

Mitchell, Stankovic and the Underground also held a Board of Director Xchange, bringing together volunteers from across the country to connect and have an intimate conversation about what keeps them up at night and priorities in 2021. Amber Harsin, CEO of Prodigy said, “The Underground Xchange was a unique way to connect organizations to the larger credit union community by sharing experiences, exchanging ideas and working to enhance our shared world together.” For more information about Underground Xchanges, contact Zach Christensen, zach@mitchellstankovic.com.

***# # #***

[*Mitchell, Stankovic & Associates*](http://MitchellStankovic.com/index.html) *(MSA) mission is to stand up for issues that will make a difference to a diverse world of people, the bottom line for credit unions and change member lives globally. Clients glow when asked about MSA because they know what a partnership truly means – working together to achieve financial democracy. MSA believes that credit unions have a social purpose, and its advisory services emphasize doing the right thing as good business, garnering sustainable growth and relevance within the market. From CEO Leadership Transitions to Strategic Planning and Director Advisory Services to Modernizing Board Governance, MSA consulting practice has 25 year clients who have become champions to encourage new clients from all over the world. Serial entrepreneurs, MSA consultants have founded industry initiatives like the* [*Underground Movement*](http://mitchellstankovicassoc.podia.com/)*, Global Women’s Leadership Network, CU Pride, HRD Network and they volunteer on governing bodies of Worldwide Foundation and Credit Union DEI Collective.*

***About CUNA Mutual Group***

*Built on the principle of “people helping people,” CUNA Mutual Group is a financially strong insurance, investment and financial services company that believes a brighter financial future should be accessible to everyone. Through our company culture, community engagement, and products and solutions, we are working to create a more equitable financial system that helps to improve the lives of those we serve and our society. For more information, visit*[*cunamutual.com*](https://www.cunamutual.com/)*.*

*We provide a wide variety of events and resources to inform, educate and engage our employees in issues related to diversity and inclusion. Through our* [*Engagement Resource Groups (ERGs)*](https://www.cunamutual.com/about-us/diversity-equity-inclusion)*, we provide employees with similar backgrounds and passions to connect. These staff-led groups promote the personal and professional development of a diverse and inclusive mindset. ERGs support our business goals and help drive the company forward.*