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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CREDIT UNIONS (CU) KIDS AT HEART®**  
*Prepares for the 2025 Boston Marathon*

**Burlington, Massachusetts, November 25, 2024:** For the 26<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, dozens of credit unions from throughout the Northeast will collaborate to sponsor a team of credit union runners in the most challenging and prestigious road race in the world, the Boston Marathon.

The 2025 CU Kids at Heart Team consists of eight runners and their young patient partners from Boston Children's Hospital, one of the leading pediatric care facilities in the U.S., and beneficiary of the CU Kids at Heart Foundation's annual fundraising activities. To date, CU Kids at Heart has raised more than \$9 million which has been used to fund numerous hospital research projects and initiatives.

CU Kids at Heart was organized in the mid-1990s by Eastern Corporate Federal Credit Union (EasCorp) and quickly became a favorite public service activity of the local credit union community.

Runners train rigorously all winter long for the Boston Marathon, which next takes place on Patriots' Day, Monday, April 21, 2025. And in what has become a hugely popular ritual, Team runners meet their patient partners just several hundred yards from the finish line in order to absorb wide smiles and cheers and lift their spirits across the finish line. It's been rumored, though never confirmed, that their feet no longer touch the ground for the remainder of the race.

The CU Kids at Heart Team runners, their patient partners and sponsor credit unions are:

- Angie Lauder, first-time runner with CU Kids at Heart. Angie is partnered with Matt Bridges and sponsored by Stewart's Federal Credit Union of Saratoga Springs, NY.
- Brenna Lorenzen, first-time runner with CU Kids at Heart. Brenna is partnered with Maddy Loftus and sponsored by Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union, Lowell, MA.
- Evan Lowell, first-time runner with CU Kids at Heart. Evan is partnered with Vraj Purohit and Kyaire Andrews and sponsored by EasCorp and Vertifi Software, Burlington, MA.
- Dr. Ed Smith of Boston Children's, fifth-time runner for the CU Kids at Heart Team. Ed is paired once again this year with Everett Chase.
- Johan Romero Luna, first-time runner with CU Kids at Heart. Johan is partnered with Ryan Clough and Tim Stevens and sponsored by Hanscom Federal Credit Union, Littleton, MA.

- Jon Holso, first-time runner with CU Kids at Heart. Jon is partnered with Jack Ciaccio and sponsored by Granite State Credit Union, Manchester, NH.
- Kevin Dobson, first-time runner with CU Kids at Heart. Kevin is partnered with Isla Saunders and sponsored by Service Credit Union, Portsmouth, NH.
- Michelle McGee, first-time runner with CU Kids at Heart. Michelle is partnered with Anthony Micalizzi, Jr. and sponsored by Digital Federal Credit Union, Marlborough, MA.



*Photo above: Kevin Dobson and Isla Saunders*

Speaking of the Team's runners, CU Kids at Heart Foundation Chair, Jane Melchionda said, "They run to raise money for life-saving research and care. They run for the love of their patient partners. None of them are favored to win. All of them are champions."

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#### **About Credit Unions Kids at Heart® Foundation**

Credit Unions Kids at Heart was founded in 1996 by Eastern Corporate Federal Credit Union (EasCorp) and a small group of Massachusetts credit unions to leverage the collective impact of credit union charitable efforts and as a reflection of the industry's belief in collaboration in service of a greater good. Today, Credit Unions Kids at Heart is a favorite philanthropic activity of the credit union community in New England and beyond, with more than 50 participating credit unions, corporate sponsors, and other business partners. The organization and its dedicated supporters are presently committed to funding research activities aimed at the prevention, treatment, and/or cure of pediatric neurological diseases. Since its founding, Credit Unions Kids at Heart has donated more than \$9 million toward its mission to help children live healthy and happy lives. To learn more, please visit [www.cukidsatheart.org](http://www.cukidsatheart.org).

*2025 Platinum Sponsors:* DCU, EasCorp, and Vertifi Software, LLC

*2025 Corporate Sponsors:* ALM First, Corpay, GT Reilly & Company, Members Mortgage, The Kelliher Corbett Group at Morgan Stanley, and Student Choice

*2025 Participating Credit Unions & Foundations:* 600 Atlantic FCU, Albright CU, Arlington Municipal FCU, Beverly Municipal FCU, Boston Firefighters CU, Cambridge Firefighters FCU, Central One Federal CU, Chelsea Employees FCU, Coastal1 CU, Common Trust FCU, Digital FCU, Direct FCU, Dutch Point CU, EasCorp, Energy CU, Granite State CU, Hanscom FCU Charitable Foundation, Holyoke CU, Homefield CU, HTM CU, Liberty Bay CU, Lynn Firemen's FCU, Marblehead Municipal FCU, Massachusetts Family CU, Members Plus CU, Merrimack Valley CU, Methuen FCU, Middlesex-Essex Postal Employees FCU, Mills42 FCU, MIT FCU, NASA FCU, PCT FCU, Quincy CU, Service CU, Somerset FCU, Somerville MA Firefighters FCU, St. Anne's CU, St. Anthony of Padua FCU, St. Jean's CU Charitable Foundation, St. Mary's CU, Stewart's FCU, Stoneham Municipal Employees FCU, Taunton FCU, Tewksbury FCU, Webster First FCU, and We Share A Common Thread Foundation.