

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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United Way Partners with Ent Credit Union

Ent to Provide Financial Education at Family Success Center

Colorado Springs, Colo. — Pikes Peak United Way is partnering with Ent Credit Union to bring individual financial education counseling and budgeting assistance to community members as they file taxes at the Family Success Center at 1520 Verde Drive.

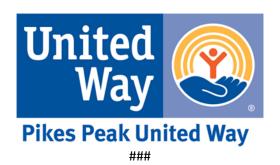
Every Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. in February, Ent will offer credit and budget counseling to families in Southeast Colorado Springs. At the same time, the Family Success Center is providing free tax filing assistance for families who make \$60,000 or less through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance services. Appointments are open today at seven locations throughout El Paso County, including the Family Success Center. VITA registrants are welcome to the one-on-one financial counseling sessions without registration. Walk-ins are also welcome.

"We are committed to improving the financial quality of life for all, not just inside the walls of our service centers, said Emma Protsik, supervisor of financial coaching at Ent Credit Union. "Coaching provided at the Family Success Center means access to financial education resources for community members who may not otherwise have that information."

For Pikes Peak United Way, it's another opportunity to provide needed services to residents of Southeast Colorado Springs. The Family Success Center also hosts adult education with Harrison School District 2; the Sunnyside Market with Care and Share Food Bank of Southern Colorado; medical care through Peak Vista Community Health Center and Fountain Valley Health Care. Other partners include Colorado Springs Sports Corporation, offering a high quality, after-school sports program; National Cyber Security Center; Catholic Charities; Discover Goodwill for career navigation; Thrive Network for entrepreneur mentorship; Mentally STRONG, behavioral health and resilience training; and Junior Achievement, which provides programs for students that includes entrepreneurship and financial literacy. Coming soon will be Lighthouse Early Care, a licensed childcare center for preschoolers.

"Our goal is to provide one location for basic needs and for information that can improve families' lives," said Cindy Aubrey, CEO of Pikes Peak United Way. "This latest partnership provides financial information that many families need. We're so grateful to Ent Credit Union for offering these classes as people already have finances on their minds since it's tax season."

People can register for VITA through 2-1-1, United Way's referral line, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



About Pikes Peak United Way: The mission of Pikes Peak United Way is to enhance youth success and family stability in the Pikes Peak region by leading and lifting the most vulnerable in our community with mentorship, life resources, and real job opportunities. Our signature programs and partner agencies focus on connecting youth and their families to resources at the front end of their life journey to ensure access to fundamental needs of food, shelter, and learning resources. Visit ppunitedway.org for more information. **#LiveUnited**