



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **CEO Amy Nelson Honored with 2024 Annie Vamper Helping Hands Award**

**Portland, OR (Jan. 30, 2024)** – Point West Credit Union CEO Amy Nelson has been named a recipient of the 2024 Annie Vamper Helping Hands Award by Inclusiv. This prestigious award recognizes individuals making extraordinary contributions to the Community Development Credit Union (CDCU) movement. The Annie Vamper Helping Hands Award, named after the champion of financial inclusion Annie Vamper, is a testament to those dedicated to empowering low-income individuals through credit unions. Amy shares this recognition with Melissa Marquez, CEO of Genesee Co-op FCU, and Kathy Pierre, CEO of 1199 SEIU FCU.

Amy has played a pivotal role in advancing financial inclusion for historically marginalized communities in 14 Oregon counties. Under her guidance, Point West has achieved significant milestones, including expanding lending opportunities for ITIN borrowers and microbusiness owners. Under her leadership, the credit union has earned designations such as Low Income (LID), Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), and 'Juntos Avanzamos.' Beyond her achievements at Point West, Amy actively engages in financial empowerment and advocates for credit union regulatory and political reforms and is a key figure at GoWest Credit Union Association and the National Association of State Credit Union Supervisors (NASCUS).

"Amy's well-deserved recognition is a testament to her heart for credit unions, her collaborative spirit, and her tenacity in advancing financial inclusion for underserved communities," said GoWest Chief Impact Officer and Foundation Director Sharee Adkins. "Amy's focus on financial wellness, seen most recently through her and GoWest's work in Oregon, underscores the inherent dedication of credit unions to serve low- and moderate-income individuals to help them build better lives for themselves and their families."

In her statement, Amy reflects on the significance of this recognition: "Annie Vamper's legacy inspires us to continue dedicating our efforts to serving low- and moderate-income individuals. True community impact is achieved through the combined strength of passionate teams, supportive credit union and community partners like our local non-profits, Inclusiv and GoWest Association, and our shared commitment to advancing financial wellness for all. This collaborative approach results in a collective impact that unites organizations under the shared mission of community development."

### **About Point West Credit Union**

Point West Credit Union is 100% not-for-profit, member-owned and headquartered in Portland, Oregon. With a bilingual staff ready to help its members achieve financial empowerment, Point West works with its community partners to bring inclusion and equity to the underserved and needed capital to local microenterprise businesses—all with an unwavering commitment to its members and cooperative development. Find out more and join Point West today at <https://www.pointwestcu.com/>.