



News Release
For Immediate Release

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Valley First Credit Union Expands Membership Charter Counties

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Valley First Credit Union recently received approval from the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation to begin welcoming new members from both Kern and Sacramento Counties. This expansion of membership charter is in addition to the 10 Central Valley Counties Valley First already serves. Anyone who lives, works, worships or attends school in the now 12 counties served by Valley First can take advantage of the credit union's offerings.

"This is an exciting addition to our ability to help more people in the California communities we serve," said Valley First President and CEO Kathryn Davis. "Our mission of Banking with a Purpose can now extend to the people of both Kern and Sacramento counties fulfilling our strategy of serving the entire Central Valley."

Unlike banks, credit unions are required to have a defined membership charter of people who are eligible for their services. The charters are often formed around common bonds – in the case of Valley First, living in certain geographic areas.

As the Credit Union continues to expand its physical footprint throughout the Central Valley, it also continues to invest heavily in technology to also provide best in class electronic and remote services to meet consumer demand.

"In today's world, we're often opening accounts and approving loans in a fully electronic environment based on consumer preference to transact that way," said Davis. "Saving money on car loans and helping fund a mortgage for someone's family home is seamless online due to the investments we've made in technology over the past 24 months."

In addition to consumer and business financial products and services, the team at Valley First will also begin engaging in the communities of Kern and Sacramento Counties, the way it already does in the rest of its membership area. In 2021, Valley First donated more than \$180,000 to local non-profits.

About Valley First Credit Union

Valley First Credit Union is a Community Development Financial Institution with \$895 million in assets serving the growing and diverse communities of Calaveras, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Tuolumne Counties. With eight branches throughout the central valley, the Credit Union is committed to banking with a purpose to better the financial lives of the people and businesses in the communities we call home. For more information, please visit <https://www.valleyfirstcu.org/>

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