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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VyStar Employees Embody Purpose-Driven Culture Through Unmatched Volunteerism

JACKSONVILLE, FL — At VyStar Credit Union, “Do Good” isn’t just a phrase — it’s a purpose. It’s a shared commitment that fuels how we serve our members, support our communities, and show up for one another. In 2024, that purpose came to life through more than 40,000 employee volunteer hours, an unprecedented total for our credit union. This time was spent in support of causes that uplift and transform lives. Through our Pay It Forward program alone, employees directed \$119,000 in donations to support local nonprofits. Altogether, VyStar’s philanthropic contributions totaled \$7.2 million last year - an investment that’s reshaping communities across the areas we serve.

This spirit of service runs deep in our culture — and it’s led by employees who don’t just talk about giving back; they lead by example. That’s why VyStar proudly honors the recipients of our Volunteer of the Year Awards, recognizing employees whose commitment to service reflects the very best of who we are.

“These honorees represent what makes VyStar special,” said Brian Wolfburg, President/CEO of VyStar Credit Union. “Their dedication reflects our collective purpose to Do Good and make a lasting difference in our communities. Volunteerism isn’t a side effort here it’s part of our DNA.”

Meet our 2024 Volunteer of Year Honorees

Minette Torres, Consumer Lending Closing-Fund Manager (183 Volunteer Hours)

Minette exemplifies servant leadership, championing causes with heart and humility. From SAFE Animal Shelter to OneJax, she consistently mobilizes others while leading by example. She leads volunteer efforts across her team, a team that has dedicated countless hours to causes close to their heart. Her approach is personal and hands-on, often volunteering alongside her mother as part of a family legacy of giving back. She leads with heart and inspires others to do the same.

Chad Whitley, Member Service Specialist (112 Volunteer Hours)

Chad’s commitment to service is reflected in everything he does – both in the community and with his team. He leads by example volunteering for events like the Gingerbread Extravaganza, ACPS, the Lotos Flower and LiftJax. He’s also initiated and organized his own efforts, Odyssey of the Mind. Whether helping coordinate logistics, rallying others to join in, or amplifying causes through VyStar’s LevelUp Resource Group, Chad is a connector and catalyst. His dedication to VyStar’s purpose to Do Good has made a tangible impact-empowering others to serve and strengthening the communities we call home.

[Discover](https://vystarcu.org/personal/resources/blog/vystar-credit-union-honors-outstanding-volunteers-for-exceptional-community-service) the full list of honorees and their stories - <https://vystarcu.org/personal/resources/blog/vystar-credit-union-honors-outstanding-volunteers-for-exceptional-community-service>

To view the story on YouTube, click here <https://youtu.be/F7hv1Hy6NzI>

VyStar’s deep-rooted commitment to volunteerism is one reason we were recognized by Jacksonville Magazine as a “Company with Heart” and named a finalist in Ragan’s CSR Awards in the ‘Employee Volunteer/Community Relations Program’ category.



To learn more about VyStar at vystarcu.org

About VyStar Credit Union

VyStar Credit Union is the second-largest credit union headquartered in Florida, with 79 full-service branches across Florida and Georgia, 1 million members and assets of over \$14 billion. VyStar is the top mortgage lender in Northeast Florida and a major employer in the region with over 2,500 employees across the communities it serves. VyStar membership is open to everyone who lives or works in the 49 contiguous counties of Central to North Florida, 29 Georgia counties, and past and present military members and their families all over the world. VyStar members have access to 55,000 surcharge free ATMs worldwide. For more information, visit vystarcu.org, and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X \(Twitter\)](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

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