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PARK COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION EXPANDS ACCESS TO CAPITAL FOR AMPED ENTREPRENEURS THROUGH INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Collaboration supports Black- and Latino-led businesses with affordable financing, mentorship, and community investment

Louisville, Ky. (July 2026) – Park Community Credit Union is fueling the growth of Louisville's next generation of entrepreneurs through an innovative lending partnership with AMPED and the Community Foundation of Louisville.

As part of the 2026 AMPED Business Accelerator program, Park is providing below-market-rate lines of credit to eligible small business owners participating in the accelerator. The initiative is supported by a loan guarantee commitment from the Community Foundation of Louisville through its impact investing program, Invest Louisville, helping expand access to affordable capital while reducing lending risk.

The loan guarantee helps reduce lending risk while expanding access to affordable financing for businesses that may otherwise face barriers to securing growth capital.

The partnership reflects Park's commitment as Kentucky's largest Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Credit Union to remove barriers to financial access and create opportunities for underserved entrepreneurs.

“Access to capital can be the difference between a business idea remaining a dream and becoming a catalyst for growth,” said **Chris Latta, Chief Impact Officer of Park Community Credit Union**. “What makes this partnership so powerful is that it combines affordable financing with coaching and mentorship. This structured approach allows us to support these entrepreneurs with not only a funding source, but with financial empowerment. Together with AMPED and the Community Foundation of Louisville, we're helping local business owners build stronger businesses, create jobs, and generate lasting economic opportunities for themselves and their communities.”

For many entrepreneurs in the accelerator cohort, access to affordable capital comes at a pivotal stage in their business journey.

“This is a wonderful opportunity. It means the world to me,” said **Pamela Estrada**, **Owner of P&S Creations,** which specializes in custom apparel, accessories, and home goods. “Right now, I'm in the process of opening my storefront, and this $25,000 line of credit is going to help me with inventory, equipment, and getting my doors open. I'm just so excited.”

The AMPED Business Accelerator is a year-long business development program that provides Black- and Latino-led small businesses with intensive training, mentorship, access to capital, and other integrated support services. This year's cohort includes 10 businesses representing industries ranging from healthcare and transportation to retail, food services, wellness, consulting, and digital media.

"Access to fair and affordable capital is often the difference between a small business simply surviving and having the opportunity to grow and succeed," said **Dave Christopher Sr., Founder, CEO & President of AMPED**. "Park’s ongoing commitment has been critical to our ability to support entrepreneurs and demonstrates the powerful impact that is possible when financial institutions and community organizations work together to build stronger, more sustainable businesses.”

"Collaborative partnerships like this create meaningful opportunities for entrepreneurs while strengthening our local economy," said **Ron Gallo, President and CEO of the Community Foundation of Louisville**. "We appreciate Park Community Credit Union's commitment to expanding access to affordable capital and hope this partnership inspires others to explore similar opportunities alongside the Foundation.”

With partnerships like this, Park continues to advance its purpose of empowering communities, fueling dreams and cultivating belonging while creating greater access to opportunities for local entrepreneurs.

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About Park Community Credit Union
Park Community Credit Union is a full-service, not-for-profit financial institution serving more than 80,600 members and dedicated to making banking accessible and impactful. As Kentucky’s largest Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Credit Union, Park is a mission-driven, member-owned organization committed to empowering communities, fueling dreams and cultivating belonging. With a member-first approach, Park strives to build thriving communities through financial inclusion and support for underserved populations in Kentucky and Southern Indiana. Guided by its vision of a world where hope, opportunity and belonging unite us all, Park is setting the pace for the future of the financial industry in Kentucky and beyond. Learn more at parkcommunity.com.