NEWS RELEASE

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Junior Achievement of Wisconsin Receives $733,000 from Funds and Foundations within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region

These Grants Will Support the Community First Career Exploration and Financial Literacy Center, a Partnership of Junior Achievement of Wisconsin and Fox Valley Technical College

Milwaukee, Wisconsin – Junior Achievement of Wisconsin has received $733,000 in grants from funds and foundations within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region to support the Community First Career Exploration and Financial Literacy Center (“Center”), a partnership of Junior Achievement of Wisconsin and Fox Valley Technical College.

These include: The David L. and Rita E. Nelson Family Fund, Frank C. Shattuck Community Fund, The Boldt Company, Bright Idea Fund, William Siekman Junior Achievement Fund, Doug & Carla Salmon Foundation, Professional Plating, Inc. Charitable Fund (within the Brillion Family of Funds), and an anonymous fund.

Junior Achievement of Wisconsin with Fox Valley Technical College (“FVTC”) launched a $2,715,250 campaign in May 2018 to support the creation of the Community First Career Exploration and Financial Literacy Center located on the FVTC Appleton campus.

Michael Frohna, President of Junior Achievement of Wisconsin said, “The generosity of donors in Northeast Wisconsin is extraordinary. We are truly grateful for the vision and commitment of these donors who choose to charitably benefit our students through the Community Foundation of the Fox Valley Region.”

“From my perspective, the Center is not a win, not a double win, but an exponential win for this region - a worthy project for Northeast Wisconsin,” said Dr. Susan May, President and CEO of FVTC.

Cathie Tierney, President-CEO of Community First Credit Union, the Center’s lead investor said, “This is an investment in our children’s future for years to come. An investment that will ensure they will be better
equipped to manage their money, experience budgeting in a safe environment, explore career options and see opportunities that entrepreneurship can hold.”

The Community First Career Exploration and Financial Literacy Center will open to the public in January 2020, with a goal of reaching more than 15,000 Northeast Wisconsin students each year. The Center is a “hands-on, minds-on” experiential learning facility, representing Northeast Wisconsin’s communities and economy. The Center’s programming will integrate FVTC’s Career Exploration program with Junior Achievement’s JA BizTown® and JA Finance Park® programs. Through classroom instruction, relevant hands-on activities, and active participation in this simulated economy, students develop a strong understanding of the relationship between what they learn in school and how it can be applied in the real world.

Caption: The Community First Career Exploration and Financial Literacy located on the Fox Valley Technical College Appleton Campus will open on January 22, 2020 to the public.

Caption: Interior construction of the Community First Career Exploration and Financial Literacy Center’s JA BizTown and JA Finance Park Storefronts. (L. to R.) Storefronts representing Manufacturing (sponsored by Miller Electric Mfg. LLC), City Hall, and Credit Union (sponsored by Community First Credit Union).

About Junior Achievement® (JA)
Junior Achievement is the world’s largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. JA programs are delivered by corporate and community volunteers, and provide relevant, hands-on experiences that give students from kindergarten through high school knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship. Junior Achievement of Wisconsin has 12 area offices across Wisconsin and annually serves approximately 150,000 students with more than 9,000 volunteer mentors. For more information on Junior Achievement of Wisconsin and its centennial year, visit wisconsin.ja.org.
About Fox Valley Technical College
FVTC offers more than 200 associate degree, technical diploma and certificate programs, and instruction related to 15 apprenticeship trades, in addition to providing services to business and industry. The college serves about 45,000 people annually, more than any technical college in Wisconsin.

About Community First Credit Union
Community First Credit Union offers banking, investment, financial education and insurance services to more than 137,000 member-owners who live or work in 13 Northeast and East Central Wisconsin counties. The financial cooperative has over $3.2 billion in assets, more than 500 employees and operates 25 full-service branches along with nine non-traditional branches in schools, retirement communities and the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King, Wis.

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