



National Institutes of Health Federal Credit Union (NIHFCU) Announces New Partnership with The DAISY Foundation To Salute Nurses for Superior Care

Rockville, Md. (March 19, 2012) – The National Institutes of Health Federal Credit Union (NIHFCU, www.nihfcu.org), one of the largest credit unions in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and the nation's largest serving the healthcare and biomedical industries, has announced a major new partnership with The DAISY Foundation, an international organization with a significant presence in the Mid-Atlantic region that recognizes and rewards nurses for outstanding and compassionate care. NIHFCU joins other prestigious organizations dedicated to healthcare such as the GetWellNetwork, Kimberly-Clark and Hill-Rom.

"We are delighted to salute the important work of outstanding nurses through our new partnership with The DAISY Foundation," said Juli Anne Callis, President and chief executive officer of NIHFCU. "The DAISY Award is known for its ability to fuel a culture where all employees are celebrated for the work they do. Many of NIHFCU's members and potential members are hardworking nurses in the Washington D.C. and Baltimore, Md. metro areas, so it is a natural fit that we celebrate their achievements through a well-recognized program like The DAISY Award."

The DAISY Foundation is a not-for-profit organization established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes. Patrick died at the age of 33 in late 1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease (DAISY is an acronym for "diseases attacking the immune system"). The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired the Barnes' to express their profound gratitude to nurses for the extraordinary compassion and skill they bring to their patients every day.

The DAISY Foundation facilitates the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses in more than 1,100 healthcare facilities in seven countries. This includes 34 hospitals in the Mid-Atlantic region that the NIHFCU is chartered to serve. DAISY Award recipients are nominated by their, peers, physicians, patients and families, and other staff and administrators to receive:

- A certificate held in a leather holder proclaiming the recipient an "Extraordinary Nurse."
- A DAISY Award pin.
- A unique hand-carved serpentine stone sculpture from Zimbabwe entitled "A Healer's Touch."
- A spotlight page on the DAISY Foundation's website featuring a photo and telling the story of why this nurse was honored.

Each DAISY Award facility also receives a large celebratory banner that is hung in the recipient's unit for a month, generating very positive conversation about the special role nurses play in patient care.

"We are thrilled to have NIHFCU's support. This organization clearly values the role of nurses in healthcare, as we do," said Bonnie Barnes, president and co-founder of DAISY Foundation. "We are very touched by their commitment to helping us honor nurses for their extraordinary work, and we know that nurses and patient care will truly benefit from our partnership."

As the nation's largest credit union serving the healthcare and biomedical industries, NIHFCU offers a wide variety of affordable loans and banking solutions to meet the needs of busy healthcare and biomedical professionals, including nurses, who commonly work around the clock. This includes unique refinancing programs, use of any ATM in the world for free, a toll-free 24/365 national call center; free financial check-ups, enhanced mobile banking services with smartphone apps, free online money management tools and more. In addition, the NIHFCU is also an approved Small Business Administration (SBA) Lender for business start-ups and expansions.

About NIHFCU:

The National Institutes of Health Federal Credit Union (NIHFCU) is one of the largest credit unions in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and the nation's largest serving the biomedical and healthcare industries. With 10 branches, more than \$520 million in assets and over 43,000 members, NIHFCU provides a full range of convenient, high-quality financial products and services to meet the needs of a growing and diverse membership in Maryland, Washington, D.C., Virginia and West Virginia. For more information, visit www.nihfcu.org.

About The DAISY Foundation:

The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation is based in Glen Ellen, CA, and was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes and the extraordinary care he received from nurses during his 8 week hospitalization. Patrick's family expresses their gratitude to nurses with programs that recognize the extraordinary compassion and skill of direct care nurses (The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses, now in over 1,100 healthcare facilities), that honor the inspiration provided to nursing students by their dedicated faculty (The DAISY Faculty Award), and with grants for nursing research and evidence-based practice projects (J. Patrick Barnes Grants for Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Projects). More information is available at www.DAISYfoundation.org.

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