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Group Health Credit Union Opens New Branch in South Lake Union

(Seattle, WA) – Group Health Credit Union (GHCU) announced the opening of its new Lake Union branch and 24-hour access ATM in the heart of South Lake Union. The new branch is the only state-chartered credit union in the area open to anyone in Washington.

A grand opening celebration was held on Friday, February 1. GHCU marked the opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony attended by GHCU President and CEO John Iglesias, GHCU Board Members, GHCU Senior Management and employees and community attendees.

"We are excited to serve the financial needs of those who live and work in the thriving South Lake Union area," stated John Iglesias, Group Health Credit Union President and CEO. "We are committed to providing a convenient and easy banking option, while exemplifying the credit union difference. As a not-for-profit cooperative, our members, who are owners, benefit from better rates, lower fees and more personal service."

Located at 310 Westlake Avenue N., the branch is housed in the new Westlake/Terry Building, a sustainable, eco-friendly facility co-owned by Vulcan Inc. and Group Health Cooperative. The building is expected to become one of Seattle's first commercial projects developed under the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Gold certification standards.

"We're delighted to welcome Group Health Credit Union to South Lake Union, which will provide an important new service for the fast-growing neighborhood's diverse base of employees and residents," said Robert S. Arron, Senior Director of Marketing and Leasing at Vulcan Inc. "Located directly on the popular Seattle Streetcar line, their presence at the Westlake/Terry Building will further enrich the area's bustling streetscape along with the project's other retailers including Portage Bay Cafe, Rain Fitness, Great Northwest Soup Company and Starbucks."

The branch was designed by Cheryl Bloom of Bloom Design Group and features green materials including Eco Surface® rubber mats and Mohawk® carpet tiles. Weber Marketing designed and created the branch interior merchandising.

Staffed by four employees, the branch does not have a traditional teller line. Members are invited to sit down and conduct their business with any staff member who is able to perform all services and transactions.

In honor of the grand opening, between the dates of February 1-9, GHCU is offering a special certificate rate and will donate \$25 to the Group Health Community Foundation for every new checking account opened at the new branch. (Must be the member's first GHCU checking account.)

Founded in 1948 by nine doctors from Group Health Cooperative celebrates its 60th year serving its members. Today, GHCU has \$230 million in assets, 27,000 members and is open to anyone who lives or works in Washington. The credit union offers a full array of financial products and services including checking and savings accounts, home and auto loans, credit cards and more. GHCU has four other branch locations: Capitol Hill, Northgate, Redmond, and Tukwila. Visit www.ghcu.org for more information.

GHCU is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.

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Photo caption: GHCU President and CEO John Iglesias and GHCU Board Member Kevin Cornwell perform the ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Lake Union branch grand opening.