



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Mechanics Cooperative Bank Employees Dress-Down  
to Raise Over \$14,000 for Local Non-Profits!**

TAUNTON, MA: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Jeans for Charity" fundraiser was another huge success in 2022! Mechanics Cooperative Bank employees that enrolled in the Jeans for Charity program were allowed to wear jeans each Friday and Saturday throughout the year with their charitable contribution made weekly, via payroll deduction. In addition, Mechanics Cooperative Bank agreed to match these employee donations totaling \$14,490 raised in 2022!

The non-profit donation distribution was decided by a vote from the employees enrolled in the program. We are happy to announce the three winning organizations are St Jude Children's Research Hospital, Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County and Forever Paws Animal Shelter. Each organization received a gift from Mechanics Cooperative Bank and their employees totaling \$4,830 each!

"Our employees rose to the occasion this past year to raise a significant amount of money for these three amazing organizations," said Joe Baptista, President & CEO of Mechanics Cooperative Bank. "Giving back to our community through programs like this represents the very best of what community banking is all about – and helps make our Let's Keep it Local! philosophy a reality. Thank you to all those who participated for your kindness and generosity."

**About St. Jude Children's Research Hospital:**

The mission of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is to advance cures, and means of prevention, for pediatric catastrophic diseases through research and treatment. Consistent with the vision of our founder Danny Thomas, no child is denied treatment based on race, religion, or a family's ability to pay. For more information please call (800) 822-6344 or visit <https://www.stjude.org>.

**About Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County:**

The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) of Bristol County, a program of JRI, is a private, non-profit agency that assists children and families impacted by the trauma of abuse and violence. A coordinated multi-disciplinary team comprised of investigative agencies, family advocates, specialized health services and treatment services works together. For more information please call (508) 674-6111 or visit <http://cacofbc.org>.

**About Forever Paws:**

Forever Paws works to give animals the gift of time through managed intake. This allows us to offer comprehensive treatment and care to stray, abused, or abandoned animals. Forever Paws continues to operate under no-kill practices, offering care for all treatable conditions with no restrictions on length of stay. We will always place the quality of life of an animal as our most paramount charge. Forever Paws is devoted to educating future generations to foster compassionate and humane attitudes towards all species of animal. We are a non-profit organization, relying on donations, fundraising, and dedicated benefactors and supporters. For more information please call (508) 677-9154 or visit <https://www.foreverpaws.com>.



**About Mechanics Cooperative Bank:**

With total assets of \$650 million, Mechanics Cooperative Bank offers a wide variety of personal and business deposit and loan products. As a Massachusetts co-operative bank, 100% of customers' deposits are always fully insured. Established in 1877, Mechanics Cooperative Bank is Massachusetts' second-oldest co-operative bank with nine conveniently located branches in Bridgewater, Taunton, North Dighton, Somerset, Swansea, Fall River, Westport and New Bedford. For more information, call 1-888-MECHANICS (632-4264) or visit [Mechanics-Coop.com](http://Mechanics-Coop.com). Member FDIC. Member DIF. Equal Housing Lender.

*Photo Caption: Mechanics Cooperative Bank presents three \$4,830 checks totaling \$14,490 to the winners of their Jeans for Charity Fundraiser! From left is Lara Stone, Co-Executive Director of the Children's Advocacy Center, Colleen Barboza, Fall River Branch Manager of Mechanics Cooperative Bank and Beverly Andrade of Forever Paws Animal Shelter. Not Pictured: Joe Durkin, Regional Executive Director of Development for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.*