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NEWS RELEASE

The Cooperative Trust
Visa
African-American Credit Union Coalition

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AACUC has its Crashers!

20 Filene Crashers will attend AACUC's Commitment to Change Series

MADISON, WI – The Cooperative Trust is pleased to announce that African-American Credit Union Coalition (AACUC) is hosting 20 Crashers from across North America to attend AACUC's Commitment to Change 5-part series.

"I am so inspired by Doug Leighton, Jacque Sinatra and Becca Davies at VISA. They came to me after the AACUC Networking Meeting and Hall of Fame Induction during the CUNA Governmental Affairs Conference and offered to sponsor Crashers for our conference," said Renée Sattiewhite, ceo of the AACUC. "Cortney Angeley from Filene's Cooperative Trust, Andrea Finley from SC Telco FCU, Opal Tomashesvska from CUNA Mutual Group and AACUC's Chair of the Young Professionals Summit have created a program that is going to be EPIC! I kind of wish I was 30 years younger so I can participate."

Crash is a non-stop, career-changing program for credit union young professionals that allows them to participate in the industry's conferences (in-person and virtually) with complimentary registration, exclusive networking opportunities, leadership development tools, and sessions with industry leaders from organizations such as Filene Research Institute, Visa, CUNA Mutual Group and the NCUA.

"It is an honor to partner with AACUC and support the Crashers attendance at the Commitment to Change Conversation Series. Crashers are the future of the credit union movement and we are excited to be a part of their experience," said Doug Leighton, head of community accounts at Visa.

Crash AACUC will host 20 emerging leaders from across North America. Accepting the invitation to Crash this event comes with a one-year membership to AACUC that was generously gifted from AACUC.

"We are thrilled to have a strong partner with Visa who has made it possible to bring Crash to AACUC," Filene's Director for Community Development, Cortney Angeley, commented. "The Cooperative Trust and the Crash program provides exceptional experiences to help emerging leaders develop their careers. Most importantly, the opportunity to be part of AACUC's Commitment to Change Series will bring even more awareness to racial injustices that take place within our industry, as well as provide tools and a network of people who believe in the same mission, ending racism"

Crash events are designed to spark new ways of thinking and build lasting relationships for emerging leaders and rising talent within the credit union industry. Crashers will end this series with a new hunger to help strengthen their communities and organizations. Crash is a launching pad for many young professionals' careers and gives them the confidence and insight to make a profound and lasting impact in the industry.

In the wake of COVID-19, Filene's Cooperative Trust has evolved the Crash program to ensure we are living our purpose and mission – to provide emerging leaders a voice and development opportunities they

wouldn't normally have access to. Beginning in January 2021, Filene will take Crashers on a 10-month journey through Filene's research Centers of Excellence. Crashers will participate in monthly virtual sessions that will include the cutting-edge research Filene is known for, while providing a space and cohort for the Crashers to continue to network and develop. Recruitment begins September 1, 2020.

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About The Cooperative Trust: *The Cooperative Trust, with its award-winning Crash programming, is the international community of emerging credit union professionals, brought to you by Filene Research Institute and made possible by Credit Union National Association. To learn more, check it out live at cooperativetrust.com.*

About AACUC: *The AACUC is a 501c3 non-profit organization created in 1999 to increase the strength of the global credit union community through professional development and advocacy. It has become an all-encompassing organization for individuals (professional and volunteers) in Credit Unions, Insurance, Regulators, Consultants and other entities in the credit union industry. AACUC is considered a leader in the credit union industry adopting the 8th Cooperative Principle and providing knowledge of how credit unions can become more diverse and inclusive.*

About Filene: *Filene Research Institute strengthens organizations through innovative research and incubation to improve consumer financial well-being. As an independent cooperative finance think tank, Filene's membership network connects a community of leaders and bright minds to change lives through innovation, truth and cooperation. In addition to delivering cutting-edge, actionable academic research, Filene also provides incubators to test and scale solutions, events to spark organizations into action and advisory services to help accelerate and implement innovation. For more information, visit filene.org and [@fileneresearch](https://twitter.com/fileneresearch).*