



Media/Editorial Contact:

Anam Javaid, We Connect The Dots, Inc.
Phone: (631) 468-7475
Email: ajavid@we-connect-the-dots.org

Jovia and We Connect The Dots Continue to Build on Partnership to Impact Long Island Youth in 2022

Long Island's leading credit union will support non-profit's technology and workshop programs for underserved students

Westbury, New York, March 3, 2022 – [Jovia Financial Credit Union](#) announced its sponsorship with partner [We Connect The Dots](#), a Westbury, NY-based non-profit that offers underserved youth the opportunity to engage in experiential learning programs for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM). Jovia will support the non-profit's educational programs throughout 2022. The programs include exploration of technology careers, workforce development, and student-led community education programs like their signature annual Code-A-Thon and summer CreatingSTEAM programs. This year's sponsorship also includes two new workforce development programs, "UpSkill NY" in partnership with Suffolk County Department of Labor, and "AI Challenge" in partnership with Amazon AWS Academy.

We Connect the Dots was founded by entrepreneur and Microsoft veteran Laurie Carey to address the digital divide in communities nationally. Currently the organization works with students, primarily in Long Island and in the Greater New York Metro area. The not-for-profit's programs incorporate diverse populations including providing underrepresented populations from low-income communities with opportunities to access and personally experience working in STEAM focused disciplines. These programs give students the skills they need to enter the workforce or continue their education in STEAM related fields such as engineering, science and computing.

Renu Dalessandro, Chief Marketing Officer, Jovia Financial Credit Union commented, "Advancing the education and skills of young students and promoting financial literacy are hallmarks of our community initiative in supporting our youth. By working in unison with We Connect The Dots, we are making a great impact within Long Island school districts to advance technology and we're creating amazing learning experiences for our students. STEAM careers are in high demand and our efforts will encourage student interest.

"Leadership throughout Jovia Financial Credit Union understands the importance of supporting STEAM education and career advancement. Their sponsorship will provide direct access to programs for those who need it most. These efforts will raise the awareness of students and teachers about the many STEAM related opportunities and career paths that exist," said Laurie Carey, Chief Executive Officer, Nebula Professional Development Academy. "This partnership is critical, especially during the pandemic, when

the challenges related to educating underrepresented youth have become more complex.”

For more information about We Connect the Dots, event sponsorships, please call (631) 468-7475 or visit: www.wctd.org

For more information about Jovia Financial Credit Union, visit www.jovia.org, or call 1-855-JOVIA4U, or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/JoviaFinancialCreditUnion/>

About We Connect The Dots

We Connect the Dots, a non-profit educational organization founded by Laurie Carey in 2013, seeks to use learning and coaching models to create positive outcomes across education and professional development communities and provide engaging learning experiences. We Connect the Dots’ unique, project-based, experiential learning programs for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) help students to realize that these disciplines are essential to their future and give them hands-on skills to compete in the 21st Century workforce. We Connect the Dots exists in-concert with Ms. Carey’s for-profit entity, Nebula Academy (a DBA of Laurie Carey Consulting, LLC). Nebula Academy’s mission is to use cognitive learning and coaching models to create positive outcomes across education and professional development communities, where technology is used as a tool for supporting productive and engaging learning experiences. www.wctd.org.

About Jovia Financial Credit Union

Jovia Financial Credit Union is one of Long Island’s leading credit unions that has proudly offered its affordable banking services to Long Islanders for more than 80 years. With more than \$3.8 billion in assets and over 200,000 members, Jovia has 21 branches and a shared branch network throughout Nassau and Suffolk counties. To join Jovia, eligible members must live, work, attend school, or regularly conduct business in Nassau and/or Suffolk counties (excluding the townships of East Hampton, Southampton and Shelter Island). Existing Jovia members may also sponsor immediate family members or household members. Jovia has been named FORBES 2019 and 2020 Best in State Credit Union. For more information, visit www.jovia.org, or call 1-855-JOVIA4U, or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/JoviaFinancialCreditUnion/>