



**Media Contact**

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**Firefighters First Credit Union Announces Onsite Degree Program**

*Los Angeles, CA – October, 2017 –*

Firefighters First is pleased to offer our employees the opportunity to further their education through an on-site Bachelor's Degree program using our Tuition Reimbursement benefit (\$5,250 per year). In partnership with the University of Redlands, we offer employees the opportunity to earn their degree while leveraging our Learning Laboratory at our headquarters office.

At the September Welcome Reception and Student Success Orientation, Dixie Abramian, President and CEO of Firefighters First, reiterated "our commitment to being a Learning Organization and to providing unique opportunities for our employees to further their education." We held Information Sessions and Application Workshops to generate interest and were amazed at the level of engagement of those keen to participate in the program. They were willing to make sacrifices today in order to learn and grow within the organization.

On September 6, ten talented employees across multiple levels and departments comprised the Inaugural cohort of the Pathways to the Degree Program, a bridge for those accumulating credits to begin their degree. This program is designed to help employees excel with minimal disruption to family. Small evening classes, one night a week with peers from across the organization strengthen collaboration and strategic alignment as they focus on their first course, Project Management. Just as Alumni reminded students at the Welcome Reception, it will take commitment, time management and courage and before they know it, they will be walking across the stage in their own cap and gown.

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***About Firefighters First Credit Union***

*Firefighters First Credit Union was formed in 1935 as Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union and served firefighters throughout the state of California. In 2017, they received their federal charter and now serve the Fire Protection Industry and their families nationally. Firefighters First currently has assets of over \$1.2 Billion and serves over 40,000 members in over 430 fire departments nationwide. Specific details on eligibility, and more information about the credit union, are available at [firefightersfirstcu.org](http://firefightersfirstcu.org) or by calling 800.231.1626.*



Firefighters First CU Cohorts



From L to R: Firefighters First CU Organizational Development Consultant, Heather Naidoo-Morabito, Senior Vice President Human Resources, Mary Steudle, President & CEO Dixie Abramian, Instructor Lily Otieno (Sempra Energy), Pamela Allen (Redlands), Sue Chhem (Redlands) and Dan Otter (Redlands)

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