

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Press Contact: Ava Kocher 203-603-5722

## ConnexCares Awards \$30,000 in Scholarship Funds to Fifteen Students

**North Haven, CT (August 5, 2026)** – ConnexCares, the charitable foundation of Connex, is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2026 Scholarship Program. This year, ConnexCares awarded \$30,000 in scholarship funds to fifteen outstanding students in recognition of their academic achievement, dedication to serving their communities, and commitment to pursuing their educational goals.

The ConnexCares Scholarship program reflects the ongoing commitment to investing in future generations by helping student-members pursue higher education. Through this investment, ConnexCares aims to ease the financial burden of education while empowering students to achieve their goals and continue making a difference in their communities.



The following students have each been selected as \$2,000 scholarship recipients: the John R. Edwards Community Involvement Scholarship was awarded to **Cece Gash** of North Haven; the Nicolas G. Hackett Memorial Scholarship was awarded to **Ellianna Essenter** of Monroe; the Arthur B. Haesche Scholarship was awarded to **Harrison Smith** of Branford; the David F. Clark Arts and Music Scholarship was awarded to **Ava DelVisco** of Cheshire; the Merit Scholarships for Hartford, New Haven, Middlesex and Fairfield County were awarded to **Gregory Dunne** of Plantsville, **Tyler Dodge** of North Branford, **Josephine**

**Kliucius** of Branford, **Aniya Swindell** of New Haven, **Sebastian Torres** of East Haven, and **Lily Vest** of Madison; the Merit Scholarships for the towns of New Haven, West Haven and Hamden were awarded to **Xaviare Ager** of Hamden, **Maxwell Bradshaw** of Hamden, **Stephanie Marino** of Hamden, **Ana Cabrera Remigio** of West Haven, and **Zhane Wilson** of New Haven.

ConnexCares awards scholarships annually and will begin accepting applications again in January 2027 for the next school year. To be eligible, a student or immediate family member must be a member of Connex in good standing as of December 31, 2026. To learn more about the scholarship program, please visit [connexcu.org](http://connexcu.org) or call 1-800-CR-UNION.

#### ***About ConnexCares***

Established in 2022, ConnexCares is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes in accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. More specifically, ConnexCares seeks to address community needs by promoting financial literacy and well-being, providing financial assistance for education, addressing children's health, responding to food insecurity needs, and engaging in related volunteer and philanthropic activities.

#### ***About Connex***

One of Connecticut's largest credit unions, Connex is a full-service credit union serving more than 70,000 members at eight branches. Membership is open to anyone who lives, works, worships, or attends school in New Haven, Hartford, Middlesex, or Fairfield counties. For more information, please call 1-800-CR-UNION or visit [connexcu.org](http://connexcu.org).

