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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pen Air Gifted \$100K to Big Brothers Big Sisters of NWFL for 30th Anniversary Campaign

Pensacola, FLA. (May 9, 2019) – On Thursday, May 9, Pen Air Federal Credit Union (Pen Air) presented a gift in the amount of \$100,000 to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida (BBBS) in partnership of the BBBS 30th Anniversary Campaign. The presentation was held at the new BBBS building, located on Creighton Road in Pensacola.

BBBS has named their community-based program "Pen Air Community Mentoring" in appreciation of the gift. The funds will go toward furthering the mission of BBBS, which is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever.

"We are beyond thankful for our strong partnership with Pen Air and for all that they have done for our Littles," said Paula Shell, Executive Director of BBBS of Northwest Florida. "Pen Air is dedicated to enhancing the lives of all that they serve, and we are grateful for their constant support of our mission. We are truly honored to name our core program after such a gracious institution.

"Mentoring is a large part of our culture and values at Pen Air. It's a principle that we encourage our employees to exercise internally and throughout the community," said Stu Ramsey, President and CEO of Pen Air. "As a strong community partner, we feel that it is our responsibility to help the next ones in line to see the great potential and possibilities of going after their dreams. I would like to encourage our community to join us in our support of the 30th Anniversary Campaign, and find a way to give your time, talents or treasure to enhance the lives of these youth."

Pen Air has had a successful partnership with BBBS through the "School to Work" program, which buses in seven "littles" from B.T. Washington High School to Pen Air's corporate office to meet with "bigs" monthly.

"The relationships made, and foundations established in the first year of the program have proven to enhance the lives of the "littles" and equally for their "bigs"," said Casey Brueske, Community Education and Events Coordinator for Pen Air. "The one-to-one time spent discussing the "littles" goals, school work, current challenges and successes, as well as learning about money and job skills have rooted into meaningful and lasting friendships for the students and Pen Air's staff."

The funds given by Pen Air will participate in the match promise by the Bear Family, which promises to grant matching funds up to \$500,000 during the 30th Anniversary campaign. To learn more, visit bbbsnwfl.org.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida has been the area's leader in one-to-one mentoring for 30 years by serving children ages K-18. Our mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. Last year, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida served 660 children in Northwest Florida.

At Pen Air Federal Credit Union, respect is a guiding principle. As the largest and oldest credit union headquartered in Pensacola, Florida, with \$1.4 billion in assets, Pen Air is dedicated to enhancing lives through exceptional service, strength, and financial solutions. With sixteen locations in Northwest Florida



and Southeast Alabama, Online and Mobile banking, we provide a worldwide reach. Pen Air is a not-for-profit, member-owned financial institution, serving the community and improving lives since 1936. For more information, visit www.penair.org or call (850) 505-3200/toll free (877)4PENAIR.

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