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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

UPDATE: U.S. Department of Education Approves Continuation Award for Idaho Community Schools Initiative

United Way of Treasure Valley (UWTV) announced today that the U.S. Department of Education has approved the continuation award for the Full-Service Community Schools grant following further clarification and review.

This update follows a statement released on Monday regarding the denial of UWTV's appeal for funding reconsideration. On December 31, 2025, UWTV received an updated response from the U.S. Department of Education confirming that, after further clarification and review of documentation provided, the continuation award has been approved.

"We are thrilled by this outcome. This is a powerful demonstration of how deeply important Community Schools are for Idaho's students and families," said Megan Remaley, President and CEO, United Way of Treasure Valley. "We're grateful that this work can continue, and we're eager to move forward alongside our school and community partners."

UWTV noted that this outcome reflects both the impact of Community Schools across Idaho and the strength of the Idaho Coalition for Community Schools—a partnership-driven effort rooted in shared leadership among schools, communities, and statewide stakeholders.

UWTV expressed deep gratitude to the Idaho Department of Education, a key Coalition partner, and Superintendent Debbie Critchfield for their leadership and advocacy. Their close collaboration within the Coalition helped elevate local voices and ensured the importance of this work for students and families was clearly recognized.

"Community Schools help remove barriers to learning by connecting families to the services and supports they need, empowering parents to be active partners in their children's education—and that work matters," said Idaho Superintendent of Public Instruction Debbie Critchfield. "I appreciate the U.S. Department of Education's careful review, reconsideration, and communication on an issue that means so much to Idaho families and communities."

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