**CO-OP MONTH 2015**

**Sample Story for Newsletters, E-news, Blog Posts or Press Releases**

**For an electronic copy, e-mail** **info@nfca.coop** **or visit** [**www.nfca.coop/co-opmonth**](http://nfca.coop/co-opmonth)**.**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – October [Date], 2015:**

***Celebrate Co-op Month — Build a Better World With Businesses You Trust!***

Every October, millions of co-op and credit union members across the United States join the National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA CLUSA) in celebrating Co-op Month. This year’s theme, ***Building a Better World with Businesses You Trust***, is a reminder of the many ways that co-operatives enable people to work together to build enterprises that are rooted in the communities they serve. Unlike other business models, co-ops are owned and governed by their members, the people who use the products and services they provide. Co-ops are also more common than you might think: Here in the United States, 1 in 3 people are members of at least one co-op or credit union.

[Locally…*Use this space to give specifics about any events, activities or promotions you have planned for Co-op Month, or a quote from a staff or board member that exemplifies the way that your co-op builds connections in the community. You can also leave this space blank*.]

Your local food co-op connects through its participation in the Neighboring Food Co-op Association (NFCA), which brings together more than 30 food co-ops and start-ups to build a more healthy, just and sustainable regional food system in New England. If you are not yet a member of your food co-op, we invite you to join with the more than 90,000 people like you who own their local grocery stores.

Co-op Month is also an opportunity to connect with other co-ops in our region and around the world. One of every three Americans is a member of a co-op member! From food co-ops to farmer co-ops, worker co-ops to credit unions, and housing co-ops to energy co-ops, co-operatives make a difference in people’s lives every day. You can “Go Co-op” by joining your local co-ops and credit unions, purchasing co-op products and services, and supporting local co-operative businesses.

To learn more about the co-operatives in our economy at your Neighboring Food Co-ops, just look for the “Go Co-op” signs on our shelves, identifying items produced by co-ops. You may be surprised to find so many items made by co-ops in our region, including dairy products from **Cabot, McCadam** and **Organic Valley**, fresh produce from **Deep Root Organic Co-op**, fairly traded coffee, tea and chocolate from **Equal Exchange**, beverages from **Katalyst Kombucha** and **Green River Ambrosia**, seeds and bulbs from **FEDCO**, naturally fermented vegetables from **Real Pickles**, northeast grown frozen fruits and vegetables from the **Neighboring Food Co-op Association** — and many others.

For more examples of how co-operatives empower people to build a better world, please visit **www.nfca.coop/GO**.

## END ##

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