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**LiftFund receives \$50,000 grant from the CenterPoint Energy Foundation to support small businesses**

**HOUSTON, TX –** LiftFund is pleased to announce they are the recipient of a \$50,000 grant from the CenterPoint Energy Foundation. The gift will further LiftFund’s small business lending and business education initiatives in the Greater Houston area.

“We’re pleased to be able to support this worthy organization, whose work in Houston is supporting and developing small businesses, which is so crucial, especially now,” said Alicia Dixon, Community Relations Director with CenterPoint Energy. “We know our gift will be put to good use and will further the work and mission of LiftFund in Houston.”

LiftFund supports thousands of small businesses in Texas and beyond by providing access to capital and other resources, education and business support. Funding from the CenterPoint Energy Foundation will be used to provide micro and small business loans and strengthen LiftFund’s online small business education efforts, including platform enhancements for workshops and webinars, and strategies to further engage small business owners.

LiftFund provides free online courses designed to guide and help small business owners build the skills they need to grow and maintain their businesses. Everything from financial to marketing support is provided through online learning. CEO and President Janie Barrera said these funds will help augment and already thriving educational program.

“We are thrilled to receive this generous gift,” Barrera said. “Our mission aligns with that of the CenterPoint Energy Foundation in which we each ‘strive to be a catalyst in our communities by leveraging everyday opportunities and resources to achieve extraordinary outcomes.’ We each accomplish our missions by helping to build strong foundations.”

The CenterPoint Energy Foundation supports organizations whose missions fall within two main strategic areas of community vitality and education. Within this framework, gifts and grants support infrastructure such as community development, affordable housing, STEM, literacy, and workforce development.

To learn more about LiftFund's services and funding options check out their website at: [www.liftfund.com](http://www.liftfund.com).

### **About LiftFund:**

LiftFund is a nonprofit small business lender that transforms lives by opening doors and leveling the financial playing field in entrepreneurship. Established in 1994, in San Antonio, Texas, LiftFund provides responsible capital and business education to small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs. Since 1998, LiftFund has supported over 4,300 Houston small business owners with over \$70.8 million in small business loans. Since its inception, LiftFund has made over 25,000 loans totaling more than \$415 million across its 15 state footprint, which includes: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, California, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, New York and Texas.