

ADVANCING WHAT MATTERS

**DRIVING CHANGE THROUGH
AGILITY AND ADAPTABILITY**

2025 Corporate Social Responsibility Report



Contents

1

OUR MESSAGE

4

WHO WE ARE

9

COMMUNITY IMPACT
& OUTREACH

22

COMMUNITY-BASED
PRODUCTS & PROGRAMS

34

OUR INCLUSIVE CULTURE

38

INVESTING IN OUR PEOPLE

46

SHAPING A RESPONSIBLE
& RESILIENT FUTURE

51

INNOVATION

55

DUDLEY VENTURES

59

OUR VISION FOR
THE ROAD AHEAD

Our Message

At Valley Bank, we are steadfast in the belief that strong communities are the bedrock of opportunity and lasting progress. Serving the communities we live and work in is one of the most important things we do. It's a core belief on which our organization was founded and it's what guides our actions today.

As relationship bankers, we are not just community members – we are stewards of the communities we serve.

How we show up for our clients, our colleagues, and our community partners is rooted in our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategy, which is defined by four pillars: promoting affordable housing; stimulating community and economic development; inspiring innovation and entrepreneurship; and driving impactful local leadership. This work is brought to life and amplified by the incredible community organizations that we are grateful to partner with each year.

And it's because of these partnerships that 2025 proved to be an exceptional year. It stands as a defining moment for our organization and one that primes us for even greater progress, as we approach our centennial anniversary in 2027.

In 2025, we directed more than \$3.6 billion toward initiatives designed to expand access to affordable housing, fuel small business and entrepreneurial growth, and help families build stronger financial futures. These investments were intentionally focused on areas where we believe our resources can produce sustainable positive results.

Valley originated \$1.8 billion in community development loans to support the development and rehabilitation of affordable housing, nonprofits and community service organizations, the revitalization and stabilization of communities, and sustainable local development and economic growth.

In addition, more than \$800 million of our community investment portfolio was specifically allocated to support low-to-moderate income (LMI) individuals, neighborhoods, and small businesses. Through this targeted effort, New Markets Tax Credit investments in New York City and Los Angeles, supported early childhood education, charter school redevelopment, workforce training hubs, and next generation career pathways in technology, digital media, and culinary arts.

These efforts were amplified by our participation in the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York's (FHLBNY) programs, which resulted in more than \$9 million in subsidies from FHLBNY's Affordable Housing Program. This investment supported the creation and rehabilitation of more than 500 affordable housing units in New Jersey and New York, a marker of the progress that happens when we partner with organizations like the FHLBNY,



whose work is instrumental in the communities we serve. Additionally, we continue to leverage the down payment assistance and Small Business Recovery Grant programs from FHLBNY that provide support for homeownership, small businesses, and nonprofits.

At the heart of all our work are our associates, who contribute their time and expertise to champion causes that address the real needs of our local communities. In 2025, our associates spent more than 13,500 volunteer, board, and committee hours joining our community partners in bringing their work

to life. These contributions supported affordable housing initiatives, career and workforce readiness programs, financial education, and food insecurity as well as providing technical assistance to small businesses – work that results in positive local economic impact and opportunity and long-term stability across our markets.

In 2025, Valley provided more than \$6.8 million in philanthropic support through grants and donations to community partners, with a focus on affordable housing, community services, and economic development across our footprint. Our charitable

contributions prioritized housing- and food-related organizations addressing heightened food and housing insecurity, while also supporting education-focused nonprofits throughout the Bank's service area. Through Valley's Workplace Giving Donation Match Program, associates amplify their charitable impact by matching their donations dollar for dollar. This match program is complemented by the awareness, recognition, and engagement we generate through corporate communications and volunteer initiatives.

This is what it means to be stewards of the communities we serve: It's an acute understanding that it's our responsibility to support our community partners because it's their work that makes a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

The opportunity to partner with organizations who live and breathe this work firsthand is a privilege that we honor and cherish.

This disciplined and intentional work was recognized with a third consecutive "Outstanding" Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) rating in our most recent evaluation in 2025, highlighting the impact of thoughtful planning, consistent execution, and sustained local engagement.

This rating underscored a simple truth: Progress is only possible when we work together.

As we look ahead to our centennial year, we are proud of the progress we have made and poised to embrace the greater opportunities that lie ahead. We will continue to deepen our community impact by investing in our associates and the community partnerships that we hold dear because we know that together, we can move forward thoughtfully, responsibly, and with greater purpose.



A stylized white signature of Ira Robbins on a dark blue background.

IRA ROBBINS
Chief Executive Officer



A stylized white signature of Bernadette Mueller on a dark blue background.

BERNADETTE MUELLER
Chief Corporate Social
Responsibility-CRA Officer

Who We Are

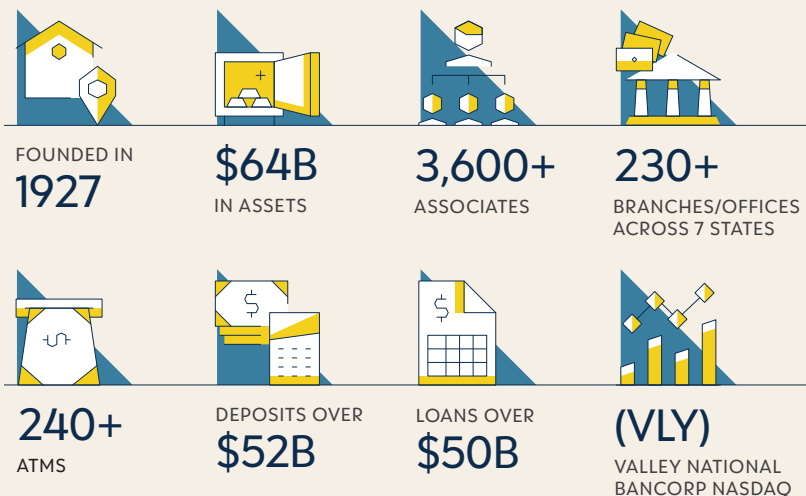
For nearly 100 years, Valley has helped people navigate life's most important moments — buying a first home, growing a business, building a future they can pass on.

At the same time, we've worked alongside our community partners to strengthen the places we call home. From increasing access to affordable housing to championing small businesses and empowering local economies, we've been intentional about building positive change that lasts.

Because at the heart of it all is a simple truth: Everyone has a "how?" they're trying to solve. Whether it's a personal goal, a business ambition, or a community need, that question is where progress begins — and where meaningful partnerships are formed.

As a relationship based bank, we're uniquely positioned to help turn those questions into actions — and intentions into outcomes.

Valley at a Glance



We use our expertise and resources to turn ambitions into achievements, transactions into relationships, and moments into legacies. We bring that same commitment to our community partners, supporting sustainable and equitable change that makes a real difference for the people they serve.

Supporting our partners is core to who we are at Valley. We understand just how instrumental they are to the success of the communities we serve, and we are honored to join them in their missions. We're grateful to the clients and partners who have trusted us with their questions; and believed in us to help them answer their "how?".

WE'VE BEEN ANSWERING

HOW?

SINCE

1927

We are inspired by what we've built together as we embark on the next century of turning moments into milestones.

2025 Recognition and Achievements

Outstanding CRA Rating, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Valley Bank received its third consecutive "Outstanding" rating from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) on its most recent Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) exam, covering the 2022-2024 evaluation period. The OCC evaluates national banks on how effectively they help meet the credit needs of their entire communities – including low- and moderate-income (LMI) individuals and neighborhoods.

America's Best Regional Banks and Credit Unions, Newsweek and Plant-A Insights Group

Valley was named one of America's Best Regional Banks and Credit Unions for by *Newsweek* and Plant-A Insights Group for the second consecutive year. This ranking comes after a comprehensive evaluation of 9,000+ financial institutions, incorporating insights from customer feedback, service offerings, and overall performance.

Best Bank in New Jersey, Gold Medal, GOBankingRates

Valley was named one of the Best Banks by GOBankingRates, earning the prestigious Gold Medal, which recognized Valley as the best bank in New Jersey. This honor highlights Valley's commitment to providing exceptional banking services and products to its customers. GOBankingRates is a leading personal finance and consumer banking website that evaluates banks' customer service and product offerings across the country.

Community Impact & Outreach

Valley is an integral member of the communities we serve, and we have a responsibility to invest our time, expertise, and resources where they can make the greatest difference. By supporting community organizations and collaborating with local leaders, we're helping advance financial empowerment, strengthen economic opportunity, and contribute to the long term health and vitality of our communities.

Our Corporate Social Responsibility Pillars

Our approach to responsible corporate citizenship is anchored by our four CSR pillars, each of which helps us form partnerships and develop initiatives that meet community needs.



Promoting Affordable Housing

We are promoting affordable housing and empowering individuals to achieve homeownership.



Stimulating Community and Economic Development

We strive to build economic vitality and community well-

being by supporting workforce development, financial education, business growth, and improved health and wellness.



Inspiring Innovation and Entrepreneurship

We are committed to promoting economic development by supporting small businesses, which are the backbone of our local economies.



Driving Impactful Local Leadership

We are engaging with local nonprofit and civic organizations to drive positive change.

Making a Difference from Coast to Coast

Each year, we have the opportunity to partner with a roster of community and nonprofit organizations whose work makes a real and meaningful difference for the people they serve. From promoting financial literacy and increasing access to affordable housing to developing career-readiness programs and meeting people's fundamental needs, we are honored to join our partners in supporting this vital work.

Here's a look at some of our partnerships and highlights from 2025.

New Jersey

For six decades, **Norwescap** has been a beacon of support for low-income individuals and families in Sussex, Warren, Hunterdon, Morris, and Somerset counties. Their programs are designed to provide support for education and employment, improve financial literacy and health and wellness, and provide access to housing. In 2025, our associates connected with Norwescap to provide educational resources on first-time homebuying, credit, and financial basics for their constituents. Because of this work, Valley was recognized as a Community Action Hero during the organization's 60th anniversary celebration.

We proudly attended the **New Jersey Citizen Action Education Fund's Small Business Expo** to provide small business owners with the resources needed to fuel their business growth. The Valley team engaged with numerous small business owners and shared information about the Bank's products and services. They also discussed how the Bank partners with and supports local communities.

We partnered with **TTA Empire, Inc.**, a veteran-owned, minority-owned nonprofit that provides veterans and their families with access to housing assistance, as well as support for physical and mental wellness. A major focus of our engagement has been supporting their flagship housing project: "Homes4Vets," which helps provide stable, long-term housing solutions for veterans. This initiative also increases access to community reintegration services for those transitioning out of the military. Additionally, Valley associates serve on the board of TTA Empire, providing strategic guidance, governance, and professional insight that's positioning the organization for long-term growth.



New York

Valley co-sponsored **The Center for an Urban Future’s “Brooklyn: 50 Ideas for a Stronger, More Equitable Future”** event, a half-day policy forum that spotlighted locally driven ideas on economic development, equity, and community challenges. The event brought together local government leaders, nonprofit leaders, small business advocates, and residents, creating a direct dialogue between community voices and policymakers. The event was a great success, having been attended by hundreds of people in-person and online.

Valley is proud to support NFTE and its mission to bring high-quality, experiential entrepreneurship education to students across the country. Our partnership with NFTE has played a central role in the organization’s work, serving as our second largest volunteer partner in 2024, and our largest partner in 2025. We were honored to be recognized by **NFTE** as the 2025 Corporate Volunteer of the Year for the Mid-Atlantic region for our longstanding commitment to empowering young entrepreneurs and students in underserved communities.



Valley provided a line of credit to support the renovation and expansion of a new Brooklyn facility for **God’s Love We Deliver (GLWD)**, a nonprofit that prepares and delivers medically tailored meals to individuals who are unable to cook for themselves. Founded in 1985, GLWD serves New York City’s most vulnerable populations—90% of their clients live below the poverty level—by offering free meals, nutrition education, and counseling across all five boroughs and surrounding counties.

Associates from our Human Resources and Retail teams joined our interns during our Week of Service to support **Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation’s** Career Readiness Program. Through the program, our associates and interns helped provide career guidance, interview preparation, job search tools, and networking strategies for Cypress Hills’ participants.

Our associates contributed 70+ volunteer hours distributing food and essential resources through **Island Harvest’s** door-to-door delivery service for individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.

California

We marked the grand opening of our first West Coast branch in Beverly Hills with a ribbon cutting ceremony that was attended by city leaders including the Beverly Hills mayor, community members, and Valley Bank executives. During the celebration, we presented a donation to the **Beverly Hills Education Foundation**, which supports public school excellence for students in the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD). The grant will be directed to enhance the opportunities of the BHUSD Business Pathway and Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) students, which will have a positive impact on financial literacy, education, workforce development, small business, and economic development.

When destructive wildfires devastated Southern California in the first quarter of 2025, several local organizations jumped into action to support recovery efforts including: the **Neighborhood Housing Services of Los Angeles**, **Abode Communities**, the **American Red Cross Los Angeles Region**, and the **Los Angeles Regional Food Bank**. Valley directed funding to support these organizations, addressing both immediate needs and long-term rebuilding projects.

Our Los Angeles Community Engagement & Nonprofit Luncheon brought 14 representatives from eight nonprofit partners together at our Los Angeles office to discuss

volunteerism opportunities, first-time homebuyer education resources, and the introduction of community lending products and programs in Los Angeles County including our BankOn Certified Journey Checking account, which is a cost-effective tool that specifically meets the needs of unbanked and underbanked individuals. Attending nonprofit partners included: **Neighborhood Housing Services of Los Angeles**, **Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Los Angeles**, **Abode Communities**, **Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles**, **Junior Achievement of Southern California**, **Beverly Hills Education Foundation**, **The Posse Foundation Los Angeles**, and **People Assisting the Homeless (PATH)**.



Chicago

Mercy Home for Boys & Girls provides a safe and stable place to call home for children suffering from neglect, abuse, and housing instability. In addition to that critical support, it also connects hundreds of children and families throughout metropolitan Chicago with a vast network of accredited professional service agencies that can offer more resources for those in need. To support Mercy Home's work, our Chicago team participated in its on-site professional networking event, coaching participating youth on how to build and refine their networking skills.

The Chicago team connected with students at **Arrupe College of Loyola University Chicago** to discuss career opportunities, conduct informational interviews, and help students develop their networking skills. This work supports Arrupe College's mission to provide its students with a comprehensive education and career readiness experience at an affordable cost. As part of our intern program's Week of Service, the Chicago team and its intern provided mentorship and career guidance to participating students.



Alabama

Valley associates partnered with **Valiant Cross Academy** in Montgomery to deliver a financial education presentation to 10th and 11th grade students, sparking strong engagement and receiving positive feedback from both students and faculty. Through a foundation of strong academics and leadership training, Valiant Cross Academy provides young African American men in Montgomery with the skills and character development needed for long-term success. The school operates with an intentional focus on creating educational opportunity and stability for students who often come from underserved communities.

Our associates led a fraud awareness seminar for seniors in Pell City, educating attendees on common elder fraud schemes and how to avoid them. The session provided practical guidance on recognizing scams, protecting personal and financial information and reporting suspected fraud, reinforcing our commitment to financial education and protecting vulnerable populations.

Our Commercial, Retail, and Credit teams in the Montgomery market joined the **Heart of Alabama Food Bank** to help pack and distribute thousands of pounds of food, resulting in a record-setting year for the organization. The effort highlights the power of teamwork in action. Special thanks to our associates who demonstrated our commitment to community service.

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This is something I truly enjoy. We work for an organization that supports the community we serve, and this year, Heart of Alabama Food Bank made a new record packing and distributing food to those in need.

– Valley Associate

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For more than 48 years, **Family Connections** has served youth and families in crisis, providing emergency shelter, crisis intervention support, and counseling. Along with the Bank's Birmingham market manager and a Family Connections board member, Valley has been proud to support Family Connections in its mission to provide critical services that promote long-term stability for youth and families in Birmingham.

Florida

2025 marked the opening of our “Future Founders” storefront with **Junior Achievement (JA) of South Florida**, which provides financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurial resources to more than 80,000 students in Broward and Palm Beach counties. The Future Founders storefront provides students with the opportunity to learn about personal banking, how financial services can support business growth, and how customer relationships play a key role in community success. In addition to the storefront's opening, Valley joined JA at its Celebration of Impact Breakfast, which brought together 250+ business and community leaders dedicated to empowering the next generation through education and workforce development initiatives.





Valley interns from the Tampa and St. Petersburg markets partnered with **Metropolitan Ministries** in Tampa to deliver a Money Smart financial literacy session for teens and families facing homelessness and economic hardship. Through interactive discussions, interns helped participants build practical budgeting and saving skills, reflecting Valley's commitment to community engagement and financial empowerment.

Associates from the Bank and Valley Insurance Services (VIS) participated in the Palm Beach County Food Bank's third annual Meal Build Food Drive, which provided 660+ meals for individuals and families experiencing food insecurity across Palm Beach County. The drive resulted in about 800 pounds of food being donated to those in need.

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It was an honor to be recognized by an organization whose mission aligns powerfully with our values at Valley Bank: to create opportunity, uplift communities, and invest in the future. Valley Bank is proud to support a movement that's making a lasting difference in the lives of young people.

– Valley Corporate Social Responsibility-CRA Regional Officer

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We partnered with **Suits for Seniors** to help advance its mission of preparing high school seniors for life after graduation through mentorship, financial education, and leadership development. Suits for Seniors also provides students with tools like tailored suits, laptops, and scholarships. Valley was honored with the organization's 2025 Impact Partner Award for the Bank's ongoing partnership and commitment to supporting youth empowerment through the program.

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We are profoundly grateful for Valley Bank's belief in our mission and for the impact this gift will have across our district.

– Morris Educational Foundation Executive Director

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Community Spotlight: Empowering the Next Generation

Education-focused philanthropy is a key pillar of our CSR program, which helps expand access to learning and to workforce and career readiness programs, through partnerships with local organizations.

In 2025, Valley made several donations to support educational scholarships across our footprint. As part of this effort, we donated to eight organizations across New Jersey and Florida that share our commitment to promoting student success. These grants supported a wide range of initiatives including classroom resources, student enrichment programs, and scholarships.

These organizations included in New Jersey:

- Foundation at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) (Newark)
- Morris Educational Foundation (Morristown)
- Ramapo College Foundation (Mahwah)
- Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology (Paterson)
- LEAD Charter School (Newark)
- Hillsborough Educational Foundation (Hillsborough)
- Passaic Board of Education (Passaic)

And in Florida

- CARE Elementary School (Miami)

“We are profoundly grateful for Valley Bank's belief in our mission and for the impact this gift will have across our district,” said Morris Educational Foundation Executive Director. “Valley's generosity directly fuels innovation in our classrooms, expands access to meaningful learning experiences, and opens doors for students who depend on scholarship support to pursue their dreams. Their support is more than a donation; it is an investment in possibility.”

Community Spotlight: Nourishing Communities in Need

At Valley we understand how critical food security is to the health and stability of the communities we serve. Our nonprofit partners are on the front lines every day, ensuring families have access to nutritious meals. We are proud to support their missions and stand beside them during this time of heightened need.

Throughout 2025, Valley made several donations to food pantries and food banks to support those experiencing hunger across our footprint. In the last quarter of 2025, we were proud to donate to leading food banks in New Jersey, New York, Florida, Alabama, California, and Illinois as part of our commitment to address food insecurity during a period of heightened demand. The support came at a time when many households were navigating uncertainty around Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and community organizations were facing an increased pressure to meet basic needs.

These donations supported the following 12 food banks expanding access to nutritious food for families in need:

- Community FoodBank of New Jersey
- Island Harvest (Long Island, NY)
- City Harvest (NYC)
- Feeding Westchester (Westchester, NY)
- Feeding Tampa Bay (Tampa, FL)
- Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida
- Feeding South Florida
- Community Food Bank of Alabama
- Heart of Alabama Food Bank (Montgomery Area Food Bank)
- Los Angeles Regional Food Bank
- Second Harvest of Silicon Valley
- Greater Chicago Food Depository



Community Spotlight: Advancing Affordable Housing

In September 2025, we proudly announced that seven of the projects we support received over \$9 million in subsidies from the Affordable Housing Program (AHP) offered by the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York (FHLB NY). This marked the largest awarded total of subsidies and projects for Valley through the AHP, reflecting both long-standing and new client partnerships.

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These awards reflect the strength of our partnerships with nonprofit organizations, developers, and the FHLB NY. Together, we're able to bring forward the solutions needed to expand access to affordable homeownership, support small businesses, and drive community development across the region.

– Valley Corporate Social Responsibility–CRA Senior Vice President

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Each project was part of the development, preservation, and rehabilitation of more than 500 affordable housing units across New York and New Jersey:

- Enhancements to Twin Oaks Apartments in partnership with Community Development Corp. of Long Island
- 30 West Street – Haverstraw in partnership with Westhab, Inc.
- Westfield Two and Westfield Three in partnership with Second Westfield Senior Citizens Housing Corporation
- Paterson Pillar Supportive Housing in partnership with Pillar Care Continuum

- Prairie Pond in partnership with House of David Preservation, Inc.
- Preservation of Syracuse Housing for People with Disabilities in partnership with Community Options NY, Inc.

“These awards reflect the strength of our partnerships with nonprofit organizations, developers, and the FHLB NY,” said Valley Corporate Social Responsibility–CRA Senior Vice President. “Together, we're able to bring forward the solutions needed to expand access to affordable homeownership, support small businesses, and drive community development across the region.”

Workplace Giving

Valley launched its Workplace Giving program in 2023, providing associates with the opportunity to support their favorite charities through donations matched dollar-for-dollar by the Bank. The program matches eligible donations from \$25 to \$500 annually, covers transaction fees, and has been enhanced to improve access and participation since its launch. Through ongoing awareness and platform improvements, Valley has supported a wide range of causes, matching more than \$56,000 in associate donations to over 190 nonprofit organizations in 2025.

Causes of note in 2025 included support for Go Red for Heart Month, Black History Month, Hunger Action Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and relief efforts for areas affected by the Los Angeles wildfires. The donations made in 2025 exemplify a company-wide culture of giving – one that encourages and empowers our associates to seek out and share causes that matter to them.

Valley Cares

Serving the communities we live and work in is central to who we are as an organization, and it's why we make it a priority to provide our associates with opportunities to support their favorite charitable organizations. Through our

Valley Cares program, full-time associates are provided 16 hours of volunteer time off to use each year. In 2025, our associates dedicated more than 13,500 volunteer hours, demonstrating that our community commitment isn't just a tagline – it's the essence of who we are.



Community-Based Products & Programs

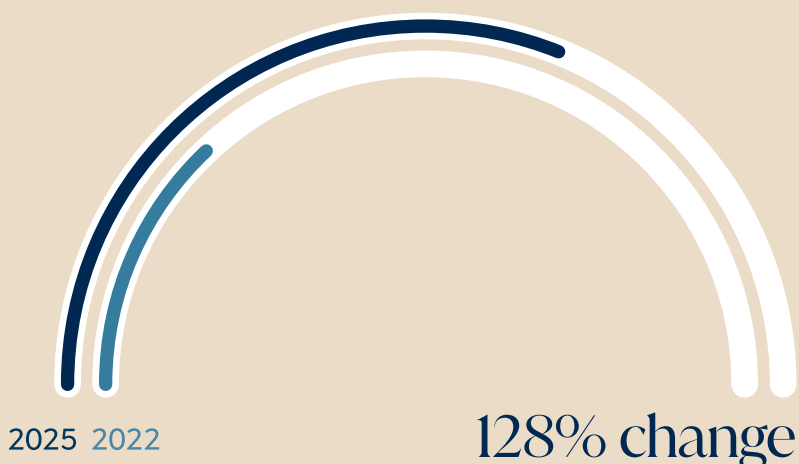


Consumer Banking

In 2025, our Consumer Banking segment was redefined to reflect who we are today and who we're becoming. Our new structure brings together key departments of Consumer Banking to better align around our customers' needs and help them achieve their next chapter of growth with greater clarity and collaboration.

Valley's Consumer Banking organization is made up of multiple business lines including Retail Banking, Residential Mortgage and Small Business Banking (SBB), Digital & Assisted Channels, Product & Pricing, Sales & Service, Consumer Credit, Specialized Lending, and Wealth & Insurance.

Growth in CRA-Qualifying Board Participation



Retail Banking

Our branch network plays an active role in supporting the communities we serve through meaningful, hands on engagement. To improve the Bank's operational efficiency and to allow for a more cohesive customer experience, we realigned our Residential Mortgage and Retail Banking teams to ensure full collaboration across both departments. Teams regularly host in branch and local events designed to foster connection and promote financial wellness through educational seminars and networking opportunities. These programs help customers and community members better understand mortgage options, savings and checking products, and other financial tools that contribute to long term financial confidence.

Beyond the branch, our associates demonstrate a strong commitment to community involvement by volunteering with local nonprofit organizations, providing charitable contributions, helping advance initiatives, events, and causes that strengthen the neighborhoods where we live and work, and serving on boards and committees.

The Retail Management Team has increased its participation in CRA-qualifying boards over the past few years.

