

Maine's Credit Unions Support Communities Near and Far

The credit union commitment to 'people helping people' affects not only their members but the communities in which credit union employees work and live. The way Maine credit unions care for their communities keeps members returning to their local branches and it's also what drives these dedicated members and staff to continue reaching out to people in need.

Credit unions provide support and assistance to their members, staff and community through a variety of initiatives such as school activities, serving on boards, donating blood, working at soup kitchens, and participating in a variety of other events and activities.

"Maine credit unions are about serving their members and communities," said Jon Paradise, vice president of governmental and public affairs for the Maine Credit Union League. "Without fail, both staff and members of Maine credit unions embrace the credit union philosophy of 'people helping people' each day. And not because we have to, but because it is the right thing to do."

In 2002, a unique program started called, Credit Unions Share for ME. It tracks volunteerism by Maine credit unions and tabulated more than 38,000 hours in 2014.

Since 2001, through the Maine Credit Unions' Campaign for Ending

Hunger, Maine's credit unions have contributed over \$70,000 the Emergency Food Relief Funds of Maine's Red Cross Chapters in memory of 9/11. In 2015 alone more than \$7,000 was contributed to the Emergency Food Relief Funds and hunger organizations in honor of 9/11 anniversary.

The efforts of Maine's credit unions directly impact the people in Maine who most need assistance. In 2015, \$32,200 was raised for the Maine Children's Cancer Program through the efforts of a three-on-three basketball tournament, The 21st annual CU Swish-Out Childhood Cancer Challenge, which is coordinated by Maine's Credit Unions.

Since the tournament began in 1994, the event has raised nearly \$350,000 for the Maine Children's Cancer Program. One hundred percent of the funds raised from this event go directly to the program, allowing all funds to stay in the state of Maine. Next year's event will be held on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2016, at the University of Southern Maine in Gorham.

Visit mainecul.org to see what Maine's Credit Unions are doing in your town, county and across the state. Visit your local credit union to find out more on how you can help your credit union help others in your community.

- **Kasasa®** checking and savings.
- Auto, home, and personal loans.
- Credit cards and lines of credit.

Become a Member Today!

ucu.maine.edu | 800.696.8628



No worries, Mobile and Personal Finance Manager give you 24/7 access to all of your accounts!

Equal Housing Opportunity | Federally Insured by NCUA | NMLS ID: 407658