



# speciFICs

Fall 2011  
the official newsletter of Minnesota Family Involvement Council

## FIC scholarships available

The Minnesota Family Involvement Council has scholarship money available for Minnesota credit union members. This year we are offering **\$12,000** in scholarships. The amount will be awarded in the form of two **"Harvey Bakke" \$1,000 scholarships** and twenty **\$500 scholarships** to a total of 22 Minnesota credit union members.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a student pursuing post-high school education in the 2012/2013 school year (fall and spring semester) and must be a member of a credit union headquartered in Minnesota that is affiliated with the Minnesota Credit Union Network. The applicant must be a credit union member in good standing (as determined by the applicant's credit union). The school the applicant plans to attend can be a public or private university, college, graduate or law school, or two- or four-year community or technical college. Schools must be accredited by the U.S. Department of Education.

To apply, eligible credit union members must complete a one-page application form and submit an essay answering the following question: "What impact has social media had on your financial decisions and how could credit unions utilize these tools to help you with your financial goals?" The FIC will use members' answers to provide future education sessions to credit unions.

The scholarship packet is available online at [www.mnfic.org/scholar.htm](http://www.mnfic.org/scholar.htm). This web page also contains scholarship promotional materials, including a downloadable web banner, sample newsletter article and ideas to generate interest. With questions, please contact any member of the FIC.

### Minnesota Family Involvement Council

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## You Are Invited!

The FIC is seeking credit union professionals and volunteers to serve on our committee. As a committee of the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation, the FIC is committed to promoting financial awareness within the credit union movement. Interested credit union professionals and volunteers from all areas of Minnesota are welcome to submit an application to serve on the committee. We look forward to hearing from you! If you are passionate about financial awareness, financial educational and full-family involvement in Minnesota credit unions, contact FIC Chair, Bridget Moeller at (320) 679-8122 or [bmoeller@gmccu.com](mailto:bmoeller@gmccu.com).

*The FIC's mission is to enhance the future of the credit union movement by promoting financial awareness solutions.*

## Classroom Reporting

Is YOUR credit union involved in educating youth or young adults on financial literacy or credit union careers topics? If so, remember to report your presentations on [www.nyib.org](http://www.nyib.org).

## Minnesota's Help in Reaching Youth

On July 25-28, credit union professionals from around the nation came together to discuss one common idea – financial education. The National Youth Involvement Board (NYIB) held its annual conference in Pittsburgh, PA, which focused on the theme, “Up Your Youth”. The conference discussed youth outreach and helping credit unions’ lower the average member age.

According to Janice Quigg, North Central Regional Coordinator, “We were granted enthusiastic presenters who pushed us to think outside of the box and introduced us to new ways to reach youth and keep their focus.”

Another focus of the conference was to highlight credit unions’ outreach to students and classroom presentations. From July 2010 to June 2011, Minnesota educated more than 3,600 students through 185 presentations. National reports from the NYIB website state they reached their goal of educating more than 450,000 students!

Quigg stated “We’ve already begun laying out our 2012 conference, continuing to strive to bring something for everyone. Please save the date for NYIB 2012 in New Orleans on July 30 – August 2!”

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## Our Thanks to Three Dedicated FIC Members

After serving a combined total of 22 years on the Family Involvement Council, three of our dedicated committee members have “retired” from the Family Involvement Council.

- **LeAnn Achtenberg** served the FIC for 10 years, from 2001 to 2011. Over the years, she served in a variety of capacities including Secretary from 2005-2007 and Chair from 2007-2011. Achtenberg was awarded the FIC Volunteer of the Year award in 2008.
- **Kat Smithe** served the FIC for 9 years, from 2002 to 2011. Kat was the recipient of the FIC Volunteer of the Year award in 2006. She dedicated much of her time to our projects including the SpecifICs newsletter and the FIC website development and maintenance.
- **Bill Wagner** served on the FIC for 3 years, from 2008 to 2011. Bill, along with LeAnn, were instrumental in the development of our Start 2 Go workshop in 2010, which helped credit union staff gain ideas on how to infuse energy into their life stage programs and clubs.

LeAnn, Kat and Bill were all dedicated to the FIC mission, and involved in the committee’s silent auction, scholarship program and other projects. The entire committee extends a heartfelt thank you to all three of these outstanding individuals who had a shared passion for the goals of our committee. You are true leaders, and it was a pleasure to work side-by-side with each of you.



*LeAnn Achtenberg*



*Kat Smithe*



*Bill Wagner*