



Winter 2011

specifics

the official newsletter of Minnesota Family Involvement Council

“Bid High, Bid Often” and help ease students’ financial burdens

This year the average undergraduate at the University of Minnesota’s will pay approximately \$12,300 in tuition and fees. With a four-year academic career, students could potentially graduate owing \$50,000 to their alma mater. However, you and your credit union can help ease students’ financial burden of pursuing secondary education.

The FIC is currently planning for its annual silent auction, and we need your help to reach our \$12,000 goal. Join us at the Network Annual Meeting on April 8-9 at the Sheraton in Bloomington, and help us make this goal a reality.

Now accepting donations!

Your credit union can participate by making a monetary donation or donating an item for the silent auction event. One hundred percent of the funds raised will be given back to credit union members statewide working to further their education.

Our Mission

The Minnesota Family Involvement Council’s (FIC’s) mission is to enhance the future of the credit union movement by promoting financial awareness solutions.

Bid at the Silent Auction

If you’re attending the Network’s Annual Meeting, be a high bidder. The silent auction is the FIC’s only fundraising initiative. Even in uncertain economic times, the FIC raised enough funds last year to award 20 scholarships to credit union members. We are looking to increase the amount raised in 2011, and with your help, we can!

Members of the FIC will be contacting credit unions in the coming months. Watch for details and be sure to check the FIC’s web site for more information (www.mnfic.org).

FIC session at Network Annual Meeting to focus on Multigenerational Money Conversations

The FIC will be hosting a session at the MnCUN Annual Meeting, which is set for April 8-9 at the Sheraton Hotel in Bloomington. This year the council will explore the topic of multigenerational money conversations – which focuses on opening up the lines of communication between different age groups to discuss money issues.

According to reports, family conversations about money are becoming increasing common.* However, families are ill-equipped to have those conversations. They need and want help navigating this new normal of the 21st century. Credit unions have an opportunity to help educate their members and even advocate for financial education. By playing an active role in helping members participate in money conversations, credit unions will begin to see healthy spending habits develop in their members.

This year’s FIC session will offer participants a high-energy workshop that will include a multigenerational focus group. It will also feature success stories from financial institutions who are engaging their members in money conversations.

Be sure to attend the FIC’s session in April. Annual Meeting registration materials will be available on the Network web site in mid-February.

* Share Save Spend, 2009 Financial Sanity Research

Minnesota Family Involvement Council

LeAnn Achtenberg, Chair
Anoka Hennepin Credit Union
E-mail: leann.achtenberg@ahcu.coop

Bridget Moeller, Vice-Chair
Greater Minnesota Credit Union
E-mail: bmoeller@gmccu.com

Andrea Molnau, Secretary
Unifed Educators Credit Union
E-mail: molnau@uecu.coop

Angie Pidde, Treasurer
SouthPoint Federal Credit Union
E-mail: angie.pidde@southpointfed.com

Shannon Garrity
Postal Credit Union
E-mail: sgarrity@postalcu.org

Greg Hird
First Alliance Credit Union
E-mail: ghird@firstallianceecu.com

Kristina Wright, MnCUN Liaison
E-mail: kwright@mncun.org

Angela Mattson
St. John’s Credit Union
E-mail: amattson@stjohnscu.com

Kathlynn McConnell
Members Cooperative Credit Union
E-mail: kathlynn.mcconnell@membersccu.org

Lynn Meisner
City-County Federal Credit Union
E-mail: lmeisner@ccfcu.org

Kat Smithe
Soo Line Credit Union
E-mail: ksmithe@slcu.com

Bill Wagner
Hiway Federal Credit Union
E-mail: bwagner@hiway.org

Rachel Anderson, MnCUN Liaison
randerson@mncun.org

Last Call for Scholarship Applications

The FIC Scholarship deadline is quickly approaching! Spread the word to your members that they can apply to receive one of the committee's scholarships. This year, the FIC will award two \$1,000 scholarships and eighteen \$500 scholarships to 20 members of Minnesota credit unions.

The scholarship is open to any credit union member attending a college or university, graduate or law school, two- or four-year program or community or technical college in the fall of 2011/spring 2012. In order to apply, students must be a member in good standing of a credit union affiliated with the Minnesota Credit Union Network and headquartered in Minnesota.

Those interested in applying for a scholarship must complete a one-page application form and submit a typed essay answering the question, "What does the phrase 'living within your means' mean to you? How can your credit union help you achieve this?" Applications must be submitted by Tuesday, February 1, 2011.

With the rising costs of education, this is one way to help ease the burden of financing a post-secondary education. For resources to help your credit union promote the scholarships to your members, visit the FIC web site (www.mnfic.org). On the scholarship web page, you will find a sample web banner, newsletter article, and a list of promotional ideas.



Free Services

- ❖ Classroom Reporting - Is YOUR credit union involved in Financial Education? If so, please remember to report it!



Volunteers Wanted

Are you interested in promoting financial awareness solutions to credit unions? Do you have a passion for the future of the credit union movement? If your answer is yes, this is the committee for you. FIC committee members contribute their knowledge and expertise to aid Minnesota credit unions in the pursuit of financial education solutions. If you are interested in joining the committee or would like more information, contact any member of the FIC (see page 1 for contact information).

FIC Website:

www.mnfic.org

Free Services

- ❖ The FIC is awarding \$11,000 in scholarships to Minnesota credit union members. There's still time for your members to apply. Scholarship applications are located at www.mncufoundation.org/FIC_Scholarships_344.html.