CREATING A Legacy OF Giving

MISSION

The mission of the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation is to improve the quality of life for the membership of Ascentra Credit Union and further the philanthropic outreach in the communities we serve. Our focus is on funding work to enhance youth development, expand credit education opportunities, foster community development, support cultural activities, and invest in ways to enhance the financial viability of the underserved.

VISION

It is the vision of the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation to honor the memory of former President and CEO Paul Lensmeyer and to meet the charitable and educational objectives of the Board of Directors of Ascentra Credit Union.

2015 COMMUNITY IMPACT

In 2015, the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation made significant strides in achieving its mission while successfully implementing its first major fundraising event—The Inaugural Paul Lensmeyer Golf Outing. Our efforts have positively impacted many communities through the creation of our Leadership Grants, a $50,000 commitment to Junior Achievement of the Heartland over a four year period, and becoming the $50,000 co-sponsor of a Habitat for Humanity home in Davenport, Iowa.

LEADERSHIP GRANTS

In 2015, the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation established its Leadership grants and presented $17,000 to 37 different charities and organizations throughout the region. These efforts stem from the credit union’s encouragement of staff to volunteer and give back to the community. The foundation committee wanted to support the causes that the Ascentra volunteer board of directors and senior leadership team are active with, and elected to allow each member to distribute $1,000 among causes they are involved with.

Our leadership team and volunteer board of directors are very passionate supporters of many worthy causes in our region. The financial support through the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation enables us to make an even more profound impact for these great organizations!

- Ascentra President and CEO Dale Owen

- Junior Achievement of the Heartland

The Ascentra Credit Union Foundation announced a $50,000 four year commitment to Junior Achievement of the Heartland. These funds will allow Junior Achievement to expand their programs in Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, focusing on Clinton, Muscatine and the Quad Cities. In addition, many Ascentra staff members volunteer their time as JA teachers for area schools.

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Fostering community development and investing to enhance the financial viability of the underserved are key parts of the mission of the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation. These values align perfectly with the work Habitat for Humanity Quad Cities does. The Ascentra Credit Union Foundation stepped up as the $50,000 co-sponsor of a habitat home to help make their next build possible, along with the Scott County Housing Council, ALCOA and the Habitat ReStore. More than $100,000 must be raised for each house Habitat builds in the Quad Cities.

The Falas were selected into the Habitat program in June of 2014 and have been earning sweat equity hours since. By the time their home is completed, the family will have worked a minimum of 500 hours and attended a series of homeowner-ship classes. The Fala family worked to build their home alongside hundreds of volunteers. The Ascentra crew was also present on two consecutive days to help on the early stages of building this home for the Falas.

As the President and CEO of Ascentra Credit Union for over 20 years, Paul Lensmeyer believed in making a difference in the lives of the credit union members, staff, and our region.

To celebrate Paul’s spirit and continue to raise funds for the foundation, the Paul Lensmeyer Golf Outing was established in 2015. The inaugural golf outing took place on a gorgeous, sunny day full of fun and fellowship that raised over $17,000 for the foundation.

Habitat for Humanity Quad Cities is hard at work to eliminate poverty housing and improve the lives of hard working, low income families.

- Dougal Nelson, Director of Development for Habitat for Humanity Quad Cities

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