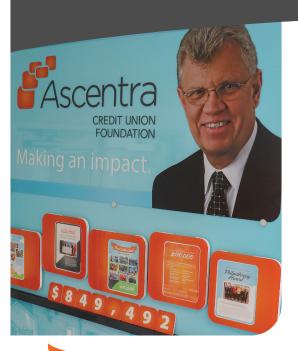
2022 MAKING AN IMPACT







Established in 2014, the mission of the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation (ACUF) 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 will be 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.

Supporting Our Communities

The Ascentra Credit Union Foundation understands that the support we provide is more important now than ever before. That's why in 2022, our giving was focused on supporting well established organizations that are staples in our communities who can quickly put the funds into use to make the biggest and most immediate impacts!

These organizations, such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, Junior Achievement, the Girl Scouts, and the Safer Foundation who are already actively focused on enhancing life experiences and important skills have seen an increased need for funding to help face the new and unforeseen challenges following the pandemic.



In addition, food insecurity increased more than 50% in the Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois region during the

pandemic. The River Bend Food Bank was already working hard to feed our communities but are now facing a decrease in donations and an increase in overhead and daily expenses. In 2022, the ACUF made a \$50,000 donation to assist in the expansion of their facilities to help with these internal and external challenges

This year the foundation raised a significant amount of funds through its annual Paul & Dale Hack N' Give Back golf outing that gathered more than 120 friends, family and colleagues to raise \$26,637.60 to help fund and support the foundation.

In addition to our traditional grant commitments, the foundation gave back to benefit education, healthcare, and local non-profit organizations who are bringing culture, diversity, and awareness to our communities. Total contributions for 2022 were \$186,500.

Ascentra Credit Union Foundation Receives Philanthropy Award

In January, the foundation announced that it was presented the Outstanding Corporation/Corporate Foundation Philanthropy Award by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Quad Cities.

Ascentra was nominated for this award by the Quad Cities Community Foundation (QCCF) for "its contributions to the Quad Cities and beyond in its day-to-day business, in its corporate giving, and in its philanthropic efforts through the Ascentra Credit Union



Foundation," as stated in the nomination summary. Vice President of Grantmaking and Community Initiatives Kelly Thompson added: "In total the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation has granted over \$500,000 since it was created in 2014. Beyond all the numbers, the leaders of Ascentra have the biggest hearts we know. They seek the best grantmaking opportunities every year, thoughtfully and with deep respect for nonprofit organizations and community".

"…the leaders of Ascentra have the biggest hearts we know. They seek the best grantmaking opportunities every year, thoughtfully and with deep respect for nonprofit organizations and community.

- Kelly Thompson, Vice President of Grantmaking and Community Initiatives

Lasting Commitments to Youth

Foundation understands that long-term grants are needed to sustain programs that are important to the growth and unity of our community. Currently, we continue to provide yearly grant money to support two organizations that are vital to the youth of Clinton, Muscatine, and the Quad Cities.



Total Grant Value: \$45,000

(\$30,000 guaranteed + \$15,000 incentive)

Increments: \$10,000 + \$5,000 in 2022, 2023, & 2024

Grant end: 2024



Total Grant Value: \$100,000 Increments: \$20,000 a year for 5 years

Grant end: 2023

Foundation Contributes \$50k to Food Bank Facility Expansion

In conjunction with Pay It Forward Day on April 28, 2022, the Foundation contributed \$50,000 to the River Bend Food Bank for facility expansion.

In 2022, food insecurity within the River Bend Food Bank's 23-county, bi-state region grew to more than 115,000 people, including more than 35,000 children. This meant that 1 in 10 adults and 1 in 5 children were missing meals. The need for food increased more than 50 percent during the pandemic, which is the largest increase in food insecurity since the 2008 recession.

As a result, the River Bend Food Bank distributed nearly 22.5 million meals across their service area last year.

To support a need of this size, the food bank started a capital campaign to support an expansion project that will add an estimated 25,000 square feet of warehouse and volunteer space that will allow them to distribute up to 50 percent more meals and fulfill the unmet need of people experiencing hunger in their service area.

50%+

Need for Food Support

15%+ 120%+

Spending

BLOWN AWAY FOR A GOOD CAUSE

More than 120 Friends, family and colleagues of our credit union and past leaders braved the high winds at Palmer Hills Golf Course in Bettendorf for the 2022 Paul & Dale Hack N' Give Back. It may have been a bad hair day for some, but it didn't stop the stories from flowing, the sun from shining or the celebration from continuing because at the end of the day, the event raised \$26,637 to support the mission of the foundation.

This year, in honor of Paul and Dale, our friends Pat Drennen from 1st Gateway Credit Union and Brian Laufenberg from I.H. Mississippi Valley Credit Union, presented our credit union and foundation with a memorial stone marker with Paul and Dale's photos that reads "Two Great Leaders and even better Human Beings" on it. The stone was placed in the plaza garden at Ascentra's home office.

Since its inception, this event has raised \$184,167.42.











\$15,000 Grant to Bettendorf **Public Library Foundation**

In 2022, the **Bettendorf Public** Library Foundation reached out to us about the need to upgrade the technology in the four meeting

rooms at their





facility. These public meeting spaces are an attractive amenity for local businesses, community organization, non-profits and schools. Ascentra has used them many times to host our Booker Bear reading program's celebration and award ceremony in the spring of each year.

The total cost of the technology upgrade was estimated to be \$77,161. Since the library foundation funded \$15,000 themselves and planned on grants from the Scott County Regional Authority and the Regional Development Authority totaling \$50,000, they were focused on raising funds to cover the remaining \$12,161 to see the project through fruition. After discussion, the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation board decided to award a \$15,000 grant to the library foundation to help fully fund their need.