

# 2021 MAKING AN IMPACT



## Doing more...

As our credit union grows, so does our foundation! While our communities recovered from the impact of the pandemic and the credit union recovered from the loss of a great leader and friend, the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation reached deeper than ever to further our philanthropic outreach in Clinton, Muscatine, and the Quad Cities communities.

In July, we dedicated our new home office to our late President and CEO, Dale Owen. During this event we honored him by making donations to several organizations that he held close to his heart, including an endowment to create a scholarship in his name at Rock Island High School. The presentation was followed by music, food and fellowship for his friends, family, and colleagues to enjoy and celebrate.



Total contributions given to date:  
**\$654,992**

This year the foundation raised more than ever before and gave more than ever before. A rebrand to our annual golf outing led to a max capacity of players and sold-out sponsorships, setting a new fundraising record for the event of \$31,895.

In addition to our traditional grant commitments to Junior Achievement, Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, 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 2021 were \$111,400.**

## MISSION

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.

## Friends of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Local non-profit, Friends of MLK, an organization that aims to memorialize the work of Quad City civil rights icons, partnered with the City of Davenport to build the first formal memorial of MLK in the city.

The ACUF provided a \$2,400 grant to help with the costs of layout and design renderings for a new memorial park that will be built at 501 Brady Street in Davenport, a location that was chosen for its historical significance. The park will include a large stone arch in the silhouette of Martin Luther King, Jr., standing displays which will serve as living historical exhibits, a stage, benches, and spaces for gathering.

The groundbreaking is planned for April 2022 with an opening planned later in the summer.



**“ It is exciting to see** *this vision begin to come to reality. It is our hope that all Davenport residents and Quad Citizens will see this park as an opportunity to gather and honor the life and legacy of Dr. King. This park is our reminder of the fight for equity and justice that has made America what it is today.*

**- Ryan Saddler, Board Chair and CEO of the Friends of MLK**

# Lasting Commitments to Youth

Although our lump sum commitments are needed to help support community needs in time of recovery, the Ascentra Credit Union 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 three organizations that are vital to the youth of Clinton, Muscatine, and the Quad Cities.



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**

Total Grant Value: \$30,000  
 Increments: \$10,000 a year for 3 years  
 Grant end: 2021



**girl scouts**

Total Grant Value: \$50,000  
 Increments: \$20,000 in 2019;  
 \$15,000 in 2020; \$15,000 in 2021  
 Grant end: 2021



Total Grant Value: \$100,000  
 Increments: \$20,000 a year for 5 years  
 Grant end: 2023

## FOR FRIENDS, FELLOWSHIP, AND THE LOVE OF GOLF

With the loss of Ascentra's President and CEO, Dale Owen in 2020, the Lensmeyer family felt it was appropriate to include

Dale and the Owen family in this golf outing, since Paul and Dale were not just colleagues, but good friends.

In 2021, when changing this event to honor both Paul and Dale, we couldn't help but recall their love of golf, thought it really wasn't all about golf. It was about camaraderie, building

relationships, having fun, hacking around, and raising funds for a good cause. This led us to a new name "Paul & Dale's Hack N' Give Back", which felt like the perfect name for an event that is more about friends, fellowship, and Paul and Dale's memory, than it is about golf!

Considering the two people we were celebrating it was guaranteed to be a good time...and it was.

Of course, Paul and Dale ordered up the perfect weather for us once again, which is not always a guarantee for September, and every player spot was filled for a total of **144** golfers and ALL sponsorships were filled, a complete **SELL OUT!**

An amazing **\$31,895** was raised to support the mission of the foundation, a new record for the event.

Since its inception, this event has raised **\$157,312.32.**

**PAUL & DALE'S**  
 HACK N' GIVE BACK



## Run with Carl

Since 2019, the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation has been the title sponsor of the Run with Carl 5K walk/run. Established in 1995, the annual Labor Day run was the primary funding vehicle for the Carl D.

Schillig Memorial Fund until 2014. At that time, the Bettendorf Community Schools Foundation and the Pleasant Valley Educational Foundation joined together to continue the race. Money raised funds grants and scholarships for area students. In 2015, Ascentra began supporting the well-known race but in 2019, the foundation stepped in to become the title sponsor, and has been ever since. Each year we contribute \$10,000 as the sponsor, then host a tent and photo booth on race day.



## Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation

When Ascentra dedicated the new home office to late president and CEO, Dale Owen in July, the foundation made a \$25,000 contribution to the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation, an organization that was near and dear to Dale's heart.

During the dedication ceremony, a check was presented to Monta Ponsetto, the organization's executive director. The endowment will be used to establish the Dale Owen "Be the Light" scholarship, which on an annual basis will provide a Rock Island High School senior with \$1,000 towards higher education. Dale was a proud Rocky graduate of 1986.

