

2016 COMMUNITY IMPACT



Through 2016, the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation stayed true to its mission of making a positive impact in the communities served by the credit union. It also marked the sophomore year of the foundation's major fundraiser – the 2nd Annual Paul Lensmeyer Golf Outing, which raised over \$15,000.

In 2016, the foundation awarded grants to the Rock Island-Milan School District, The Iowa Credit Union Foundation, The Healthy Happy Family Foundation, and the Midwest Writing Center's David R. Collins Children's Literature Festival.

A 3-year commitment was made to the River Bend Foodbank that totals \$50,000 to help end hunger. Another 3-year commitment was made to the Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Mississippi Valley that will award a total of \$22,500 to the organization. Lastly, the Spring Forward's Summer Enrichment Initiative received a substantial boost when the foundation awarded \$18,897 to help their mission.

The Leadership Grants saw \$17,000 distributed among area organizations and we made our second donation of a 4-year commitment to Junior Achievement of the Heartland that will total \$50,000.

A number of causes and organizations highlighted will be able to continue their service and in some cases expand their efforts to reach and help more people throughout our region.

MISSION

Established in 2014, 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 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.



The Ascentra Credit Union Foundation began a 3-year commitment totaling \$50,000 to the River Bend Foodbank to help create a much needed program director position including a \$5,000 allocation to set up mobile food pantries in Clinton and Muscatine, Iowa providing over 20,000 meals.



“ We are very pleased that the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation is joining in on the efforts, and especially their efforts to reach two locations where we have thousands of members. It's a beautiful thing when we all work together towards the noble goal of ending hunger in our own backyard. **”**

- Dale Owen, Ascentra President and CEO



Big Brothers Big Sisters Of the Mississippi Valley

The Ascentra Credit Union Foundation has committed to a generous grant for a total of \$22,500 for the next three years to support Big Brothers Big Sisters for their volunteer recruitment program. The program includes the community effort, 100 Days / 100 Bigs, as well as a program called Recruit One which encourages existing Big Brothers and Big Sisters to each find just one potential volunteer a year.



LEADERSHIP GRANTS



The summer of 2016 did not offer a break to the senior management and volunteer board of Ascentra Credit Union. They were busy for the 2nd summer in a row giving out a total of \$17,000 in Leadership Grants to 36 organizations and charities throughout eastern Iowa and western Illinois. Each volunteer director and senior manager is given \$1,000 to distribute among efforts and causes that they believe in.

Spring Forward's Summer Enrichment Initiative in Rock Island received a huge boost thanks to a generous \$18,897 grant from the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation for Leveled Literacy Intervention materials.

The grant gives teachers at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center the same tools used throughout the Rock Island-Milan School District as well as consistent measurements with other Summer Enrichment Initiative sites.

“ There are many worthy causes that are important to our volunteer board of directors and leadership team at Ascentra Credit Union. This is a great way to allow those who give so much to our organization to provide help to those causes they know and care about. It really speaks to the people-helping-people philosophy at the core of the credit union movement. ”

- Dale Owen, Ascentra President and CEO

“ This grant is about supporting efforts to decrease summer learning loss for children in Rock Island. It will have a huge impact, not only this summer but for many summers to come. ”

- Dan McNeil, Spring Forward Learning Center Executive Director



Grants given out to date:
\$171,397

PAUL LENSMEYER GOLF OUTING

In 2015 the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation successfully established the Paul Lensmeyer Golf Outing as its annual fundraising event to help further the mission of making a positive impact in

the communities served by Ascentra Credit Union. The 2nd Annual Paul Lensmeyer Golf Outing took place on Monday, September 26th, 2016, at the historic Arsenal Island Golf Club in Rock Island, Ill.

The Lensmeyer family joined the Ascentra staff, friends of Paul, community minded sponsors and dozens of participants in raising over \$15,000 for the foundation while enjoying a beautiful afternoon of golf next to the scenic Mississippi River.

Golf Outing Funds Raised

2016 total: **\$15,477**

Total to date: **\$32,693**

