

Fall 2009

The Credit Union Difference: Reaching Out to Those In Need



Credit unions are unique in the world of financial institutions. Nowhere is the credit union difference more vivid than in the diverse ways they reach out to millions of low- and moderate-income Americans who seek basic financial services to realize their dreams.

displaced Bosnian refugees.

The examples of outreach are heart-warming, and the results are life changing. Some credit unions offer Individual Development Accounts—savings accounts with matched incentives—to low-income members who are saving for a home, education, or small business development. Others offer financial literacy training to members trying to re-enter the workforce, to people who are incarcerated, and to new Americans such as

Building bridges with the Hispanic community is an important goal for credit unions, as well as fostering

A Long, Cold Winter? Simple Energy Projects Can Save You a Bundle

With heating prices up, it's time to consider saving energy with programmable thermostats, insulation, weatherstripping and upgrading windows and doors.

Programmable thermostat

Electronic thermostats that lower the temperature while you are in bed or away from home are the fastest, easiest way to save energy. In a cold climate, you can save about 5% for a 5° setback that lasts for eight hours. Most of these thermostats sell for less than \$100, and they're ultra-easy to install.

Insulation

Floor of unheated attic: Check recommended insulation levels, and lay new insulation at right angles to the old. Basement or crawl space: Fasten foam or fiberglass panels to the walls and cover with drywall. Either glue panels to the wall or fasten them to furring strips. Heating ducts: Insulate in unheated attic or basement by wrapping with fiberglass insulation.



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Weatherstrip

Weatherstripping is a flexible sealer for the moving parts of windows and doors. Many new windows and doors require a specific type of weatherstrip, which you may locate in hardware stores or on the Web. The generic "V-strip" adapts to many doors and windows and can even be applied in cold weather. The weatherstrip at the threshold often needs replacement. If the door bottom is still leaky, add a door sweep to seal against the floor or threshold.

Caulking

Caulking seals exterior cracks around windows, doors, pipes, and vents. Scrape away old caulking and dirt, then squirt caulking into the crack.

Replace windows

Jamb kits are an easy way to update double-hung windows, with a product that can be installed and cleaned from the inside. You can install a jamb kit in less than an hour without touching the storm window, jambs, or casing molding. Order a kit to match the size of your window. Nail the vertical tracks inside the side jambs and insert the replacement sash.

Replace storm door

Battered storm doors are easy to replace on a standard-size door opening. A wooden door has better durability and will insulate better. Strip off the old door and follow directions while screwing the new one to the jambs, using a drill and other basic tools.



entrepreneurship through business loans. Credit unions also offer alternatives to lenders who often take advantage of low-income people who are not using mainstream financial institutions. Coupled with financial literacy programs, these individuals are able to build savings accounts and improve financial well being.

Some credit unions offer financial counseling programs as well as programs for area schools, colleges, and universities. Student credit unions operate in many schools, allowing the credit union to work with the resources and needs of the school.

And these are just a few of the many ways credit unions impact small and large communities across the country.

Generations is here to serve you. Contact you local branch or visit www.gencomcu.org to learn how we can help you realize your dreams.

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CONSUMER Loan Pricing (as of Sept. 1, 2007)

	Premier	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
New Auto	7.00%	9.95%	13.65%	15.00%
Used Auto	7.50%	10.95%	14.65%	16.00%
Signature Loans	13.00%	15.00%	16.00%	N/A
Payday Loans	15%			

All rates reduced by .25% if direct draft (except payday loan)

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

6 Months	0.50%
12 Months	1.25%
24 Months	1.75%
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