FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union Raises $2,806.27 for Shelter, Inc.

In photo: *AAACU Board Members and staff present a check to Shelter Inc.* ***From left to right:*** *Lauren Clarke—SEG Coordinator, Mary Reitler and Jeff Trelfa—Board Members, Board Chairperson Dave McNeil, Judy Suszek and Kendra Bartz from Shelter Inc., Donald J. Mills—President and CEO of AAACU, Sheila Panknin and Tom Lanway—Board Members.*

Alpena, Michigan, October 18th, 2010: Through the hard work of its employees and the generosity of its membership, Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union was able to raise $2,806.27 for Shelter Inc.

Shelter, Inc. is a private, non-profit agency providing safe shelter and supportive services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault since 1978. Their primary service area encompasses the northeast Michigan counties of Alcona, Alpena, Iosco, Montmorency and Presque Isle. Their mission is to end personal violence in our communities through advocacy, education, community collaboration and systems change. Shelter, Inc. provides a vast array of services, free of charge, to assist those whose lives have been affected by domestic violence and sexual assault, including emergency shelter, counseling and 24-hour crisis intervention. They also offer many additional services including long-term housing, information and referrals and legal advocacy. Shelter, Inc. 24-Hour toll-free crisis line is (800) 396-9129.

"This is a very timely donation for Shelter, Inc.," Kendra Bartz, Life Skills/Education Specialist for Shelter Inc. stated at the check presentation ceremony. "October is nationally observed as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic Violence affects individuals and families of all social economic groups and is present and active in all communities regardless of how small or immense the census. Domestic violence is an equal opportunity travesty soliciting victims from groups of every age, color, height, weight, national origin, marital status, physical or mental handicap, gender, religion and race."

Shelter is holding domestic violence awareness walks on October 23rd at Northern Lights Arena/Bi-path and at the Alpena Alcona County Courthouse in Harrisville. Walks were held on October 16th at Furtaw Field in Oscoda, Knaebe's Mmmunchy Krunchy Apple Farm in Rogers City, and Thunder Bay Golf Resort

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in Hillman. Walk participants can register on-line at shelterincalpena.org or at the Walk. Registration begins at 9 and the Walks begin at 10 a.m. Donations and pledges are accepted but not required.

Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union employees select four community or charity organizations that they would like to fundraise for during each quarter of the year. During the 3rd quarter of 2010 (July 1st though September 30th) the staff of Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union chose to focus their efforts on Shelter, Inc.

Each branch of Alpena Alcona Area organized many different fundraisers to raise money for the charity. Book sales, bake sales, and raffles were just some of the activities used to raise funds. Candy bars were sold at teller windows, and staff could donate $2.00 on Fridays to dress down in jeans and sneakers. The Lincoln branch also collected clothing, non-perishable and personal items.

Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union serves members primarily in Alpena, Alcona, Montmorency, and Iosco counties with 8 locations—a main office located in Alpena, with branch offices in Ossineke, Lincoln, Atlanta, a Tiger Branch in Alcona Community Schools, Oscoda and Tawas offices, and an additional branch in Alpena. As of September 30th, 2010, Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union provides service to 27,177 members and has total assets equal to $242,162,086.

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