

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union raises \$4,063.46 for the Shriners Hospital for Children



Alpena, Michigan, July 20th, 2009—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 2nd quarter of 2009, the staff of Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union chose to focus their efforts on Shriners Hospitals for Children with a goal of raising \$3,000. With hard work and generous support from the community, Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union surpassed their goal, and was able to present Shriners Hospital for Children with a check for \$4,063.46.

Shriners Hospitals for Children is a one-of-a-kind international health care system that provides free care in a family-centered environment for thousands of kids with orthopaedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate. The fundraising committee at Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union met with a long-time Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union member and Shriner, Michael Barnett, to learn more about the Shriners. The committee was amazed at the number of young people the Shriners help each year in our own communities—over 200 children each year. The Shriner's van leaves Alpena and picks up patients all the way to Lansing. A normal trip transfers two to four patients for treatment. Transportation, food, and housing are provided free of charge to the child receiving treatment and one of his/her parents or guardians. The closest Shriners Hospital is in Chicago, and the closest Shriners Burn Center is in

Cincinnati. This means a round trip to either hospital is 1,000 miles and consists of an overnight stay.

All 87 employees of Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union along with their family and friends got involved in the fundraising efforts. With eight branch locations, a variety of events were held to raise money: an "AAACU Bowl-a-Thon" at Village Lanes of Harrisville, a tip night at AuSable Inn of Oscoda, a used book sale, a bake sale, a bottle drive. Candy bars were available at teller windows for members to purchase.

After the check presentation ceremony, one employee stated, "If we can improve the life of even one child, we have made a difference and are living the Credit Union philosophy of 'People Helping People.' This is a real example of how credit unions are different from other financial institutions."

A non-profit financial institution, 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 a new, additional branch in Alpena. As of June 30, 2009, Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union provides service to 26,900 members and has total assets equal to \$226,994,811.11.

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