



Indiana Credit Union League

Credit Union **AWARDS** Celebration

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

JW Marriott

White River Ballroom F-J



Program

Welcome

League Chairman Bryan Price

Invocation

Dave Shuey

Dinner

League/Servicecorp

Board of Directors Introduction

Emcee Rich Nye

Awards Overview

Awards Committee Chair Nina Baker

Presentation of Awards

League Chairman Bryan Price

Emerging Leadership Award

Leadership Achievement Award

Professional Achievement Award

Indiana Credit Union Hall of Fame Induction

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TruStage[®]

Award Winners

Emerging Leadership Award

Loren Garber, Origins CU



For the past 11 years, Loren has been a valued member of Energy Plus CU, steadily growing his expertise, responsibilities, and impact. Known for his calm, thoughtful approach, he consistently steps forward to lead when needed.

His commitment extends beyond his credit union. As Treasurer of the 3-E Young Professionals group, a regular Convention and chapter meeting participant, GAC attendee, and PAC contributor, Loren demonstrates a strong commitment to strengthening the credit union movement.

His leadership has been especially evident during Energy Plus's recent merger to become Origins CU, where he played a key role in vendor relations, budgeting, rate decisions, Board presentations, and detailed financial projections. He also steps in to lead Board meetings and support HR responsibilities, providing confidence that the organization is in capable hands.

Loren embraces leadership by stepping outside his comfort zone, taking on visible roles and continually seeking opportunities to grow. He exemplifies the kind of emerging leader who makes a meaningful difference to both his credit union and the movement.

Award Winners

Emerging Leadership Award

Madelyn Hogan, Members Source CU



Since joining Members Source CU in 2021 as a Member Service Representative, Madelyn has built an impressive leadership journey. With no prior financial services experience, she quickly distinguished herself through her enthusiasm, adaptability, and commitment to serving members.

In just three years, she advanced through five roles—from Member Service Representative to Branch Operations Manager—taking on greater responsibility at every step. Along the way, she has invested in her leadership development through the Indiana Credit Union League's Crasher Program, the two-year Ignite Leadership Program, and Credit Union Management School. She also just completed her Development Educator—D.E.— Certification through the National Credit Union Foundation.

Since late 2024, Madelyn has also presented the CEO report at Board meetings, confidently communicating financial and operational information and turning complex information into meaningful insights.

A strong believer in the cooperative spirit, Madelyn believes the future of credit unions will be defined by cooperation, not competition. Her commitment to growth, leadership, and the credit union mission makes her an emerging leader to watch.

Brent Parks, Centra CU



Over the past seven years at Centra CU, Brent has advanced from Network Engineer to Senior Vice President of Technology and Chief Information Security Officer. In that role, he leads a sophisticated technology infrastructure and a growing service delivery team while keeping the credit union's People Helping People mission at the heart of his work.

A respected voice in cybersecurity, Brent collaborates with industry leaders, government security agencies, and other stakeholders to strengthen security awareness. His professional accomplishments include PMP, CISSP, and CCISO certifications. With his expertise and leadership, Centra's IT team has earned national recognition for excellence in network security.

Brent combines technical expertise, vision, and a commitment to developing others. He leads with curiosity, collaboration, and a focus on turning complexity into clarity—helping his credit union and the industry move confidently into the future.

Award Winners

Leadership Achievement Award

Barry Weiss, Members Source CU



Barry's commitment to the credit union movement spans more than three decades. Since 1991, he has served as a volunteer and Board Director for Members Source Credit Union, including roles as Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Treasurer. Throughout his service, he has brought thoughtful leadership, sound financial stewardship, and an unwavering belief in the credit union philosophy of "People Helping People."

That commitment began with a simple car loan early in his career. As a young accountant, Barry turned to his workplace credit union for help financing his first car. The experience was personal, quick, and supportive—and one simple message stayed with him: "We're here to help people." That experience inspired Barry to become a volunteer so that others could receive the same kind of support.

A CPA with a 43-year career in accounting and finance at NiSource/NIPSCO, Barry has put his financial expertise to work for his credit union, developing tools that strengthen accountability, improve transparency and support better Board decision-making. He has also contributed to merger teams and remained actively engaged in League education and events throughout the years.

Professional Achievement Award

David Shadburne, Midwest America FCU



David joined MidWest America FCU in March 2023, bringing nearly 30 years of banking experience, including a decade in the credit union movement. In just a few years, he has helped transform the organization through a renewed focus on purpose, people and community.

He has challenged employees and the Board to look beyond day-to-day responsibilities and ask, "Why do we exist, and who are we here to serve?" That focus has strengthened employee engagement and morale, helping MidWest America earn recognition as a Best Place to Work in Indiana for

the past three years.

Under his leadership, the credit union has modernized technology, expanded digital services, updated facilities, and introduced innovative lending programs for underserved communities, first-time buyers, and green initiatives.

David's commitment to community extends well beyond the credit union. His team has contributed more than 3,500 volunteer hours to nonprofits, while financial education efforts have reached more than 1,750 people.

He also provides extensive community leadership through board service with organizations including the YWCA, Youth Service Bureau, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Fort Wayne United, Erin's House for Grieving Kids, and the Boys & Girls Club.

Hall of Fame Inductees

Resolutions for Indiana Credit Union Hall of Fame

Nina Baker, ProFed CU



Whereas she is currently president/CEO of ProFed Federal Credit Union, where she began as a part-time teller and rose to the top position over a 40-year career, providing financial services for generations of members, investing in the careers of numerous staff members, and supporting the Fort Wayne community; and

Whereas her passion and support for credit unions and their ability to collaborate for success has been apparent through her leadership of the Northeastern Chapter for more than 20 years, her credit union's generous support of Riley Hospital, and her work to help establish the Indiana Sister Society of the Global Women's Leadership Network for the benefit of credit union women in Indiana and elsewhere; and

Whereas her contributions to credit union advocacy and her ability to build professional relationships with legislators have been notable both when she has traveled to Washington, D.C., and when she has represented credit unions at events in Indiana, including events at her credit union; and

Whereas her commitment to the League's role in supporting Indiana's credit unions and their 2.8 million members has been demonstrated through her service on multiple League committees, a national committee to address emerging credit union issues, the board of the Indiana Credit Union Foundation, and the Indiana Credit Union League Board from 2017-2026, where she served as chairwoman from 2023-2024.

Now therefore be it resolved, on this second day of October in the year two thousand twenty-six, that the credit union leaders here assembled at the Convention and Annual Meeting of the Indiana Credit Union League do hereby recognize and pay tribute to her commitment to the credit union movement by declaring Nina Baker a member of the Indiana Credit Union Hall of Fame.

Jill Banning, REGIONAL FCU



Whereas she began her career as a computer operator and rose to the position of President/CEO at REGIONAL Federal Credit Union, providing an ever-expanding menu of services to thousands of members and a legacy of respect, teamwork, and support to employees and board members before retiring in 2026; and

Whereas her leadership of a credit union that was started by teachers was instrumental in her commitment to providing financial literacy to students throughout Northwest Indiana, and resulted in the establishment of in-school credit

unions in 13 area schools which were a source of pride and received accolades and awards over the years, as well as a variety of ongoing education for members of all ages about money management, fraud and other financial issues; and

Whereas her commitment to collaboration between credit unions began in the 1990s when she was instrumental in starting Credit Union Centers of Northwest Indiana, which provided shared branching for thousands of members and eventually combined with others to serve Indiana and Illinois through Credit Union Centers, where she was on the board for 22 years and president for three years, overseeing a CUSO responsible for some 300 branches in Indiana, and is part of a network that provides more than 5,400 branches for credit unions in the United States; and

Whereas her commitment to the League's role in supporting Indiana's credit unions and their 2.8 million members has been demonstrated through her service on multiple League committees and the Indiana Credit Union League Board from 2020-2026.

Now therefore be it resolved, on this second day of October in the year two thousand twenty-six, that the credit union leaders here assembled at the Convention and Annual Meeting of the Indiana Credit Union League do hereby recognize and pay tribute to her commitment to the credit union movement by declaring Jill Banning a member of the Indiana Credit Union Hall of Fame.

Hall of Fame Inductees

Resolutions for Indiana Credit Union Hall of Fame

Karen Madry, Afena FCU



Whereas Karen and her colleagues at Afena Federal Credit Union are champions for the underserved, and through her position as President/CEO, she has developed compassionate programs and a culture that supports improving members' financial well-being; and

Whereas her passion for advocacy and for small credit unions has been demonstrated by her service and as Chairwoman of the national small credit union committee, where her work benefited credit unions throughout the United States, and came to the attention of advocacy professionals who invited her to testify before the U. S. Senate Banking Committee on behalf of the nation's credit unions; and

Whereas her international service to credit unions has included award-winning assistance with disaster recovery on the island nation of Dominica, and travel to Africa where she achieved the International Credit Union Development Educator designation, and these and her other achievements have earned her a place in the African American Credit Union Hall of Fame; and

Whereas her commitment to the League's role in supporting Indiana's credit unions and their 2.8 million members is demonstrated by her service on multiple League committees and the board of the Indiana Credit Union Foundation, and where she served as the first African American woman to chair the League Board and to lead an all-female executive committee in 2022-2023.

Now therefore be it resolved, on this second day of October in the year two thousand twenty-six, that the credit union leaders here assembled at the Convention and Annual Meeting of the Indiana Credit Union League do hereby recognize and pay tribute to her commitment to the credit union movement by declaring Karen Madry a member of the Indiana Credit Union Hall of Fame.

Bryan Price, Indiana University CU



Whereas Bryan Price has devoted nearly four decades to the credit union movement, beginning his career in 1986 and advancing through positions of increasing responsibility, including Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President, before being appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Indiana University Credit Union in 2007; and

Whereas, throughout his career, he has demonstrated a commitment to professional excellence, including earning the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation, and has led the credit union with vision, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to the financial well-being of its members and the communities it serves; and

Whereas he has represented credit unions and their members in Indiana and nationwide through his service on the Indiana Department of Financial Institutions Board, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago's Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Credit Union Advisory Council, and America's Credit Unions' Advocacy Policy Committee; and

Whereas he has been a steadfast advocate for credit unions throughout his career, engaging with legislators and regulators, hosting visits at his credit union, and serving as a spokesperson for Indiana credit unions at the annual Governmental Affairs Conference; and

Whereas he has demonstrated his commitment to the Indiana Credit Union League and its work on behalf of Indiana's credit unions and their 2.8 million members through service on multiple League committees and on the League Board from 2020 through 2026, including service as Board Chairman from 2025 through 2026.

Now therefore be it resolved, on this second day of October in the year two thousand twenty-six, that the credit union leaders assembled at the Convention and Annual Meeting of the Indiana Credit Union League recognize and pay tribute to his exceptional service and commitment to the credit union movement by inducting Bryan Price into the Indiana Credit Union Hall of Fame.

Hall of Fame Inductees

Resolutions for Indiana Credit Union Hall of Fame

John McKenzie, Indiana Credit Union League



Whereas John McKenzie has led many key initiatives to benefit Indiana's credit unions, their leaders, their employees, and the 2.8 million credit union members in Indiana; and

Whereas his work has involved strengthening credit unions' advocacy effectiveness, including the 1991 battle to preserve the independence of the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund, the 1998 effort to protect field of membership expansion for federal credit unions, as well as protecting the federal tax exemption and interchange income through many challenges, and state-level work to help pass legislation to expand state-chartered credit union field of membership options; and

Whereas the League's service capability and commitment to collaboration have grown during his tenure as a result of many efforts, including building a card services program and establishing a self-insured association health plan, both of which have provided millions of dollars in total cost savings to participating credit unions and, at the same time, built the organization's financial strength. He was also at the forefront of developing the state's shared branching network, where the League continues to provide managerial and operational support for 300 locations statewide; and

Whereas he came to the League in 1986 after working as Executive Vice President of the state's corporate credit union, arriving at a time when the organization had under \$1 million in retained earnings, and he has overseen the growth to nearly \$40 million, reinforcing the financial strength of the League and its ability to support Hoosier credit unions, and

Whereas his other contributions to the credit union system have included leading fundraising efforts among credit unions to establish the Indiana Military Veterans Hall of Fame and to serve on that board, serving on the Credit Union National Association Board for the benefit of credit unions across the country, and working with the World Council of Credit Unions to host representatives from around the world, which resulted in receiving the Distinguished Service Award; and

Whereas he will retire from the Indiana Credit Union League at the end of this year, after 40 years of legacy building that will benefit Indiana credit unions, the League, and credit union members long into the future.

Now therefore be it resolved, on this second day of October in the year two thousand twenty-six, that the credit union leaders here assembled at the Convention and Annual Meeting of the Indiana Credit Union League do hereby recognize and pay tribute to his commitment to the credit union movement by declaring John McKenzie a member of the Indiana Credit Union Hall of Fame.

Past Award Winners/Inductees

Indiana Credit Union Hall of Fame

1989 Paul Aimone	William H. Yohler	Bruce Ingraham
W. Lloyd Alsmann	1990 S.M. (Pete) Crear	Carol Stanley
Leona Bruno	Judy M. James	2009 Ann Garmon
E.E. Barnbrook	Michael H. Phipps	2011 Norm Blum
James A. Barney, Sr.	Robert W. Pogue	Ron Collier
Gregory L. Blount	Robert D. Swem	Sandy Heller
Walter Campbell	1991 Rudy J. Rossi	2012 Millie Cox
Clarence Clarkowski	1992 Anthony J. Alt	Loren Roth
Richard V. Cleaver	Larry Zehrung	2013 Ron Mazur
Jim Coffin	1993 Bruno J. Setlak	2014 Lori Gonzalez
S.P. (Sal) DeMao	1994 Americo (Bill) Borgetti	Ruth Jenkins
Kenneth C. Duncan	Jerry Yerkes	Lamoura Munse
Robert H. Gard	1995 Richard J. Devine	Robert "Smokey" Stowers
Earl Hardy	Leo Kaminsky	2015 Jeffrey McComas
Waymon B. Hawkins	1996 Loretta Burd	George McNichols
E.R. (Tony) Hile	F.E. Maxwell	2016 Jerry Walters
W. A. Hinz	Dan Schoenherr	2017 Karol Griffin
Harry B. Holloway	1997 William F. Hannah	Frank Gulley
Morton E. Jester	1998 Randy Glassburn	Chris Wardrip
Charles W. Jones	Donna Hasty	2018 Dave Fleming
Ruth E. Kelly	2000 Ronald Budzinski	Doug True
Laurence B. Kilburn	John Jeter	2020 Dallas Berg
W.G. (Bill) Kirby	2002 Trent Kerr	Chuck Donovan
Maxwell A. Meise	2004 William Connors	Karla Salisbury
Clarence E. Oldham	Shirley Wilhelm	2021 Kevin Ryan
Ralph N. Phelps	2005 Gary Irvin	2022 Matt Lambert
L. S. Poliquin	Roger Sepanski	Kevin Willour
Richard J. Rice	2006 Ed Meyer	2023 David Abernathy
Fred Robinson	Barbara Berghoff	2024 Paul Obermeyer
Harold E. Short	2007 Angela Dufour	2025 Kevin Sparks
Logan K. Smith	Mike Hussey	2026 Nina Baker
Michael Verkuilen	Ron Linstromberg	Jill Banning
William R. Warner	Ralph Marvel	Karen Madry
Douglas Yoder	2008 Jenny Budreau	John McKenzie
		Bryan Price

Professional Achievement Award

1990 Juanita (Jinks) Happel	2002 Jack Sheets	2014 Randy Glassburn
1991 Alex J. Knaver	2003 Dick Kibbey	2015 David Abernathy
1992 Eugene G. Hills	2004 Ann Garmon	2016 Cindy Duke
1993 Loretta Burd	2005 Ron Collier	2017 Amy Sink
1994 Mike Hussey	2006 Ron Budzinski	2018 Bill Schirmer
1995 Joseph J. Baldin	2007 Bruce Ingraham	2019 Paul Marsh
1996 George Dixon	2008 Dallas Bergl	2021 Kevin Ryan
1997 James Mills	2009 Lisa Schlehuber	2022 Kevin Willour
1998 Barbara A. Berghoff	2010 Michael J. Burch	2023 Bob Falk
1999 Sandy Heller	2011 Loren Roth	2024 Andy Burggraf
2000 Carol Stanley	2012 Karla Salisbury	2025 Rick Silvers
2001 Art Schai	2013 Chris Wardrip	2026 David Shadburne

Past Award Winners/Inductees

Volunteer Achievement Award*

1990 Frank W. Meyer	1995 Robert Matthews	2002 Ralph Marvel
1991 Richard H. Dunnuck	1996 Jerry Spindler	2003 Ed Meyer
Bruno J. Setlak	1997 Logan K. Smith	2004 Stephen Lovejoy
1992 Clarence Huhnke	1998 John D. Wilson	2005 Robert Weaver
1993 Robert (Smokey) Stowers	1999 Mark Trgovich	2006 Robert Sturm
1994 Arnold Bass	2000 Robert Tillema	Gene Wessel
	2001 Luther Ferrell	2007 James Barney

*Renamed Leadership Achievement Award in 2009.

Leadership Achievement Award

2009 Vicki Garrett	2015 Milton Flowers	2022 Rick Rambo
2010 John Lightle	2016 Don Weaver	2023 Tim Yoder
2011 Jerry Walters	2017 Bob Urick	2024 David Kish
2012 Steve Kozel, Sr.	2018 Rona Edquist	2025 David Brokaw
2013 John Dierdorf	2019 Randy Jones	2026 Barry Weiss
2014 Kenny Greenwell	2021 Frank Gulley	

Emerging Leadership Award

2007 Lisa Halboob	Charlie King	Brent Joyce
Doug True	Cari Palmer	Marissa Lynch
2008 Melissa Comfort	2015 Meaghan Elpers	2022 Brandon Demitruk
Carma Parrish	Claire Kellerns	Allie Foley
2009 Michael Hostetler	Amanda Middleton	Jeanna Richardson
Matt Snively	2016 Jason Ford	2023 Amanda Edwards
Kevin Sparks	Brittani Richards	Todd Roach
2010 Kim Kniola	Kerie Sekal	Lindsay Wirtz
Kevin Kosek	2017 Stephanie Snow	2024 Carl Fry
Kim Stambush	Mike Wiggington	Kendra Morris
2011 Bill Hord	2018 Danielle Combs	Lorraine Tomlin
Brett Rinker	Jennifer Horton	2025 Bryce Carden
2012 Andrew Spurrison	Chris Sipes	Amy Reinhardt
2013 Diedre Davis	2019 Andrea Brown	Amy Wells
Tara Holloway	Elizabeth Olson	2026 Loren Garber
Sven Leander	Angie Peters	Madelyn Hogan
2014 Chad Gramling	2021 Blake Dearing	Brent Parks

2026 Awards Committee

Nina Baker, Chair
ProFed FCU

Cari Palmer
Origins CU

Amy Benner
Solidarity Community FCU

Dan Bullock
Sterling United FCU

Julie Eskew
First County FCU

Kendra Fleckner
TLCU Financial

Karen Houser
Natco CU

Connie Lodde
Independent FCU

Jennifer Mulligan
Hoosier United CU

Julie Ragsdale
Indiana University CU

Kerie Sekal
INOVA FCU

Lindsay Wirtz
Everwise CU

Statewide Award Winners

2026 Dora Maxwell Social Responsibility Community Service Award Winners

Asset Size (in millions, except where noted)	Place	
\$50-250	1 st	Members Source CU Concern for Community
\$250-1B	1 st	PrimeTrust Financial CU..... Soup Crawl
	2 nd	Hoosier Hills CU Better Together ReUnion Impact Reports
		Investing in McCordsville's
	HM	Financial Center First CU Fast-Growing Community
\$1B+		Opening Doors for Students,
	1 st	Indiana University CU Schools and Families
	2 nd	FORUM CU FORUM Community Day

2026 Louise Herring Philosophy in Action Member Service Award Winner

Asset Size (in millions, except where noted)	Place	
\$250-1B	1 st	Hoosier Hills CU Smart Spending Accounts – Teen Incentives
		Building Better Banking
	2 nd	Financial Center First CU From the Inside Out

2026 Desjardins Adult Financial Literacy Award Winners

Asset Size (in millions, except where noted)	Place	
\$250-1B		Game On: A New Way to Experience
	1 st	Financial Center First CU Financial Education on TV
	2 nd	INOVA FCU Financial Freedom Adult Program

2026 Desjardins Youth Financial Literacy Award Winners

Asset Size (in millions, except where noted)	Place	
\$50-250	1 st	Members Source CU Youth Financial Resilience Initiative
\$250-1B		A More Connected Approach
	1 st	Financial Center First CU to Youth Financial Education
	2 nd	INOVA FCU Youth Financial Freedom Empowerment

Statewide Award Winners

2026 Dora Maxwell Social Responsibility Community Service Award Winners

ASSET CATEGORY: \$50-250 million

1st Place: Members Source CU

Concern for Community

Members Source Credit Union's commitment to Concern for Community came to life throughout 2025 through year-round engagement focused on families, youth, financial education, inclusion, and local partnerships.

A centerpiece was the annual Community Day, which brought together approximately 500 community members and more than 20 local businesses and organizations for a family-focused celebration. Attendees enjoyed free activities, entertainment, giveaways, and opportunities to connect with local resources, businesses, and community leaders. The event promoted local partnerships and economic vitality while creating an inclusive environment where families could connect and celebrate their community.

The initiative extended well beyond Community Day. The credit union supported youth through baseball celebrations and school partnerships, promoted financial literacy through education programs, participated in chamber events throughout Northwest Indiana, and supported inclusive organizations such as Exceptional Equestrians Unlimited.

These efforts are especially meaningful because of the credit union's culture of service. Employees, volunteers, board members, and supervisory committee members all participated, demonstrating that community involvement is a shared responsibility—not simply a corporate initiative.

ASSET CATEGORY: \$250 - 1 billion

1st Place: PrimeTrust Financial CU

Soup Crawl

The Muncie Soup Crawl, a collaborative initiative of PrimeTrust Financial FCU and Second Harvest Food Bank, combines community connection, local business support, and a commitment to fighting food insecurity.

Held annually during ArtsWalk in downtown Muncie, the event draws thousands of participants who visit soup stations hosted by local restaurants, caterers, and nonprofits. Attendees sample recipes, vote for their favorite, and celebrate the community through the Vickie Copley People's Choice Award. Recyclable serving materials and handcrafted bowls from local artisans add a sustainable, distinctly local touch.

Most importantly, 100% of proceeds support Second Harvest Food Bank's "The Big Idea" initiative, which addresses food insecurity through partnerships with local schools. The Soup Crawl also strengthens the local economy by bringing visitors downtown and providing participating businesses and organizations with valuable exposure.

2nd Place: Hoosier Hills CU

Better Together ReUnion Impact Reports

At Hoosier Hills Credit Union, community impact is woven into the culture. During the 2026 all-staff meeting, “ReUnion,” Team Members turned connection into meaningful action through two creative service initiatives: Pie It Forward and a blanket-tying project.

Through Pie It Forward, Team Members raised \$3,650 for Lawrence County Cancer Patient Services, a nonprofit providing direct financial assistance to individuals and families facing the challenges of cancer treatment. Team Members donated to “vote” for leaders and peers to receive a pie in the face, transforming a light-hearted activity into a meaningful fundraiser.

Team Members also created more than 50 no-sew tie blankets as part of a collaborative activity designed to strengthen relationships while giving back. The blankets were donated to New Hope for Families and the Bloomington Animal Shelter, providing comfort to vulnerable individuals, families, and animals.

Honorable Mention: Financial Center First CU

Investing in McCordsville’s Fast-Growing Community

In September 2025, Financial Center invested \$1.5 million to open a new branch in McCordsville, one of Central Indiana’s fastest-growing communities. Rather than treating the opening as a traditional branch launch, Financial Center spent months developing a community-focused market entry strategy designed to build relationships and add value.

The team partnered with local businesses and vendors, hosted a 12-day Sidewalk Series, brought local food trucks to the community through Food Truck Fridays, and personally visited area businesses. A co-branded wine partnership with Daniels Vineyard and a networking-focused ribbon cutting further demonstrated the commitment to becoming part of the community, not simply entering the market.

The approach generated nearly 400 community giveaway entries, more than 500 event attendees, and more than 100 financial coaching requests. A special 10% APY certificate for new members exceeded its first-month goal by three times, with more than 150 certificates opened.

Today, McCordsville is one of Financial Center’s fastest-growing branches. Its team is actively involved with the Town of McCordsville and Chamber of Commerce, while the branch manager provides financial education to local businesses.

ASSET CATEGORY: More than \$1 billion

1st Place: Indiana University CU

Opening Doors for Students, Schools and Families

IU Credit Union’s Opening Doors for Students, Schools and Families initiative reflects a year-round commitment to strengthening communities through education, nonprofit partnerships, and employee involvement.

Statewide Award Winners

In 2025, IUCU invested more than \$300,000 in sponsorships and community contributions, awarded more than \$40,000 in scholarships, and contributed \$50,474 through IUCU and employee support of the local United Way campaign. Its high school debit card program generated an additional \$23,500 for local schools through everyday member activity.

IUCU's support reached students, families, educators, and community organizations through scholarships, school-supply and warm-clothing drives, youth literacy and financial education, arts education, student and educator recognition, youth sports, food security, housing support, and more. Employees reinforced this commitment through classroom visits, financial education, reading programs, volunteer service, and community events.

2nd Place: FORUM CU

FORUM Community Day

FORUM CU celebrated its 50th anniversary in Fishers and 84 years of service with a Community Day at its headquarters on October 18, 2025, coinciding with International Credit Union Day. The event welcomed the entire community for a day of connection, education, and celebration.

Families enjoyed games, music, food trucks, a Fishers Fire Department truck tour, and a photo opportunity with Indy Ignite mascot Pepper. Attendees also participated in a treasure hunt featuring FORUM team members and explored educational stations focused on fraud prevention and financial coaching. Free paper shredding provided a practical community service.

A highlight was CEO Doug True's personal involvement, as he provided multiple headquarters tours for members. His accessibility gave members an inside look at the credit union, encouraged conversation, and reinforced a sense of transparency, connection, and ownership.

2026 Louise Herring Philosophy in Action Member Service Award Winner

ASSET CATEGORY: \$250 million - 1 billion

1st Place: Hoosier Hills CU

Smart Spending Accounts – Teen Incentives

Hoosier Hills Credit Union's Smart Spending Account helps teens build healthy financial habits while recognizing that success takes many forms. Rather than rewarding academic achievement alone, HHCU designed the program to recognize responsibility, work ethic, and community involvement.

Teen Members can earn a \$25 annual reward by completing four hours of volunteer service or maintaining employment. This approach acknowledges that young people contribute to their families and communities in many ways and that not every teen has equal access to extracurricular activities, volunteer opportunities, or other traditional measures of achievement. This is especially true

in Lawrence County, where HHCU is headquartered. Median household income falls below the state average, while poverty rates, childhood poverty rates, and participation in assistance programs exceed state benchmarks.

By providing two pathways to earn the reward, HHCU created a more inclusive incentive that recognizes teens who are working, serving their communities, and preparing for their futures. At the same time, the program encourages positive financial behaviors and strengthens young Members' connection to their credit union and community.

2nd Place: Financial Center First CU FORUM Community Day

Financial Center recognized that exceptional member service begins with exceptional internal operations. As the credit union experienced rapid growth and increasingly complex strategic initiatives, leadership saw a need to simplify processes, eliminate inefficiencies, and give employees greater ability to improve how work gets done.

Established in 2022 as a one-person initiative, Financial Center's dedicated Process Improvement function has grown into a cross-functional team incorporating both Process Improvement and Project Management. Guided by Lean Six Sigma principles and a people-first approach, the team partners with employees throughout the organization to redesign workflows, improve consistency, remove barriers, and successfully implement strategic initiatives.

Through Kaizen workshops, executive checkpoint meetings, employee training, and enterprise-wide project support, the team has helped shift Financial Center from reactive problem-solving to a culture of continuous improvement. Employees are encouraged to identify challenges, share ideas, and participate directly in creating better solutions.

The result is more than improved efficiency. By strengthening the employee experience and operational foundation, Financial Center is better equipped to deliver faster, simpler, and more personalized service to members.

2026 Desjardins Adult Financial Literacy Award Winners

ASSET CATEGORY: \$250 million - 1 billion

1st Place: Financial Center First CU

Game On: A New Way to Experience Financial Education on TV

Financial Center reimagined adult financial education in 2025 with an innovative approach built on a simple belief: education should meet people where they are.

The centerpiece was a complete transformation of its monthly financial education segments on FOX59's Indy Now, with next-day rebroadcasts on CBS4 and long-term on-demand access. Instead of traditional sit-down interviews, Financial Center created interactive, game-based experiences that made complex

Statewide Award Winners

financial topics engaging, memorable, and accessible to members and non-members across Central Indiana.

Each segment used creative demonstrations and seasonal activities to address practical topics including budgeting, saving, credit, fraud prevention, homeownership, auto buying, charitable giving, and financial wellness. Examples included a rock-and-sand demonstration about prioritizing expenses, a basketball-themed savings game, oversized “Go Fish” cards to identify scams, a Scrabble-style activity illustrating the impact of interest rates, and a “Price Is Right” game highlighting affordable ways to support food pantries.

The television program complemented Financial Center’s workshops, coaching, employer education, community events, digital resources, and branch-based learning.

2nd Place: INOVA FCU

Financial Freedom Adult Program

INOVA Federal believes financial well-being is a fundamental right, not a privilege. Through its free Financial Freedom sessions, the credit union brings the philosophy of “people helping people” to life by providing practical education and personalized guidance to individuals and families working toward greater financial stability.

INOVA meets people where they are, including underserved communities where barriers to traditional financial services can make achieving economic stability especially challenging. Through partnerships with organizations such as Hannah’s House, Elkhart County Drug Court, Goshen College, and the Tolson Center for Community Excellence, INOVA provides accessible education and resources—including Spanish-language support—to help individuals build healthier financial futures.

Participants receive guidance in creating spending plans, reducing debt, improving credit, building emergency savings, developing responsible banking relationships, and preparing for homeownership. Personalized coaching helps participants replace financial stress with greater confidence, knowledge, and control.

At its core, the initiative is about more than financial education. INOVA is helping people avoid predatory financial products, access affordable services, build assets, and develop the skills needed to create lasting financial security.

2026 Desjardins Youth Financial Literacy Award Winners

ASSET CATEGORY: \$50-250 million

1st Place: Members Source CU

Youth Financial Resilience Initiative

Members Source Credit Union’s youth financial education initiative helps students build the knowledge and habits needed for lifelong financial wellness. The program

combines classroom instruction, hands-on activities, savings incentives, and family engagement to make financial education practical and engaging.

During Credit Union Youth Month, staff provided interactive lessons for 3rd–5th grade students at Beiriger Elementary School focused on saving, budgeting, and responsible financial decision-making. Students participated in a classroom savings challenge, received a youth savings match of up to \$20, and took part in a “learn-to-save” activity that turned a symbolic dollar into a \$5 deposit. A special 4.67% youth CD promotion reinforced the importance of long-term saving.

The initiative extended beyond the classroom through STEAM Night and Literacy Night family events, outreach at Munster Middle School and Region ATA Summer Camp, and sponsorship of the Dave Ramsey Financial Literacy Program at Highland High School.

By partnering with schools and community organizations and creating opportunities for students and families to practice healthy financial behaviors, Members Source addressed a critical need for accessible financial education. The initiative demonstrates Concern for Community by investing early in the financial capability of young people and helping equip the next generation with the confidence and skills to make sound financial decisions.

ASSET CATEGORY: \$250 million -1 billion

1st Place: Financial Center First CU

A More Connected Approach to Youth Financial Education

Financial Center's youth financial education strategy is built on a simple belief: financial confidence should start long before adulthood. In 2025, the credit union expanded education across every stage of youth development—from elementary students learning to save, to teens opening first accounts, to college students navigating financial independence.

Financial Center supported 16 schools with Banzai interactive financial education curriculum, providing teachers and students with lessons in budgeting, saving, digital citizenship, and financial decision-making at no cost. High school partnerships focused on first accounts, Digital Banking, debit cards, and career readiness, while community partnerships extended education to multicultural and underserved populations.

A major area of growth was Ball State University, where Financial Center reached more than 5,000 students through 74 campus events, orientation programs, classroom sessions, financial counseling, student-athlete education, and podcasts integrated into Finance 101 coursework. A full-time employee provided ongoing financial support on campus, complemented by an ITM in the Student Center.

Through partnerships with TeenWorks, the Mexican Consulate, Latino Health Organization, Guardian Scholars, and Youth Health Summit programs, Financial Center made education more accessible and culturally relevant.

Statewide Award Winners

2nd Place: INOVA FCU

Youth Financial Freedom Empowerment

INOVA Federal believes financial education is essential to helping young people build a foundation for lifelong financial freedom. Recognizing that many students enter adulthood without a strong understanding of budgeting, credit, saving, investing, and responsible money management, INOVA brings practical financial education directly into schools and community organizations.

Through a free, comprehensive 10-week financial education curriculum, INOVA's Manager of Community Relations and Business Development provides instruction throughout the academic year and summer. Partnerships have included Elkhart High School, Bashor Children's Home, Horizon Education Alliance, Tolson Center for Community Excellence, Mary Beck Elementary, and Monger Elementary, among others.

The program goes beyond teaching financial concepts by helping students develop practical skills and healthy habits they can immediately apply. Lessons address budgeting, saving, credit, interest, investing, debt, and financial decision-making—equipping young people to avoid costly mistakes and make informed choices as they transition into adulthood.

By providing the program at no cost to schools or participants, INOVA removes barriers to access and ensures financial education reaches young people throughout its communities.

Rich Nye

Rich Nye joins us from WTHR-TV Channel 13 here in Indianapolis. Those of you who are local may have seen him covering local news or sports, where his reporting has earned seven regional EMMY Awards, and other awards from the Indiana Broadcasters Association and the Indiana Society of Professional Journalists. Currently, he works as a pit reporter for the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Radio Network for Indy Car and NASCAR races and for the IHSAA Champions Network for basketball and football state championships. He also teaches Sports Media Production at the University of Indianapolis.



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