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## Two Illinois Credit Unions Nationally Honored for Making a Difference

**Naperville, Illinois (November 18, 2022)** – Great Lakes Credit Union and GCS Credit Union recently received national honors for their hard work and dedication to the credit union “people helping people” philosophy with their membership and communities they serve. Both Illinois credit unions were eligible for the recognition after receiving this same honor at the state level.

Each year, the Credit Union National Association (CUNA) recognizes credit unions from around the country with awards for improving financial literacy (Desjardins), increasing social responsibility by supporting their local communities (Dora Maxwell), and demonstrating the credit union philosophy of “people helping people” through their actions (Louise Herring.)

The Illinois Credit Union League (ICUL) is excited to congratulate the Illinois winners of these prestigious awards. “Great Lakes and GCS should be proud of their amazing achievements. It’s a great honor to be recognized at both the state and national levels for the positive impact these credit unions have on their members and community.” said Tom Kane, ICUL President/CEO.

Great Lakes Credit Union placed first for the Louise Herring Award in the \$1 Billion + in assets category. This award, named after one of the original signers of the 1934 constitution that created CUNA, recognizes credit unions for extraordinary efforts incorporating the credit union philosophy into daily operations. Louise Herring started numerous credit unions and believed strongly in applying the credit union philosophy as an operating principle.

GCS Credit Union placed third for the Desjardins Youth Award in the \$250 Million to \$1 Billion in assets category. The Desjardins Adult and Youth Financial Education Award programs recognize leadership within the credit union movement on behalf of financial literacy for members and nonmembers of all ages. The award, named after credit union pioneer Alphonse Desjardins, emphasizes the movement’s longtime commitment to financial education.

Congratulations to both award winners on this great honor. Their accomplishments will be highlighted during a virtual ceremony for winners on January 24, 2023, as well as an in-person photo op at the 2023 CUNA Governmental Affairs Conference in Washington, D.C..

### About the Illinois Credit Union League

The Illinois Credit Union League is the primary trade association for more than 200 state and federal credit unions in Illinois. It focuses on providing legislative and regulatory advocacy, compliance assistance and information, and a wide range of educational and training services to those credit unions, who in turn serve approximately 3.4 million members. More information can be found at [www.icul.com](http://www.icul.com).

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