

MINNESOTA  
CREDIT UNION

FOUNDATION

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to achieve*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Minnesota CU4Kids donates \$190,000+ to children's hospital

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** – Despite the turbulent economy, the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation's Credit Unions for Kids (MnCU4Kids) committee raised more than \$190,000 for Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare in 2009. During a visit to the hospital yesterday, representatives from the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation presented a check totaling the funds raised by credit unions around the state.

As a sub-committee of the Foundation, MnCU4Kids works with credit unions throughout the state to raise money for Gillette, Minnesota's Children's Miracle Network-affiliated hospital. Throughout 2009, the volunteer committee coordinated a variety of large- and small-scale fundraisers that engaged credit unions and members in all corners of Minnesota. Fundraisers included a golf tournament, Bowl-O-Rama, Chain of Hearts, and an inflatable obstacle course challenge. Individual credit unions also coordinated their own fundraisers that consisted of cook-outs, candy bar and popcorn sales, and casual days.



“The generosity of credit unions and members throughout the state enabled the committee to surpass its fundraising goal by more than \$40,000,” said Kristi Mukomela, Chair of the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation. “The success of the committee’s fundraising efforts demonstrates the amazing feats that can be accomplished through the cooperative efforts of the credit union movement.”

**On Jan. 21, representatives from the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation presented a check for more than \$190,000 to Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare. Picture (L-R): Mark D. Cummins, President of the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation; Kristi Mukomela, Chair of the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation; Logan Swedberg, patient at Gillette Children's Hospital; and Katie Grindeland & Jeff Schwalen, MnCU4Kids co-chairs.**

MnCU4Kids also received support from several local and national companies that work with credit unions, most notably CO-OP Financial Services. CO-OP Financial Services matched funds raised at the committee's Annual Meeting event, along with contributions given at fundraisers coordinated by several credit unions throughout the state. Its support of MnCU4Kids in 2009 was part of the organization's broader efforts, donating \$1 million dollars nationwide to Children's Miracle Network hospitals through its Miracle Match program.

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“This year the committee was overwhelmed by the support we received from vendors, credit unions and members,” said Katie Grindeland, co-chair of MnCU4Kids. “Even though the country was facing a recession, supporters realized the hospital’s need for donations and wholeheartedly joined us in our cause to raise money for the children at Gillette.”

All money raised through the MnCU4Kids program supports Gillette Children’s Specialty Healthcare, helping kids with disabilities and chronic conditions. Gillette is based in St. Paul, with clinics located around the state. Credit Unions for Kids is a national program, which is endorsed by nearly all 50 state credit union leagues.

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*The **Minnesota Credit Union Foundation** is a non-profit organization founded in 1969 to serve as a charitable arm of the Minnesota credit union movement. For more information, visit [www.mncufoundation.org](http://www.mncufoundation.org).*

***Credit Unions for Kids** is a collaboration of credit unions, chapters, leagues and business partners engaged in fundraising activities to benefit Children’s Miracle Network affiliate hospitals. For more information, visit [www.mncu4kids.org](http://www.mncu4kids.org).*