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## **Minnesota credit unions surpass \$150,000 fundraising goal**

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** – Nearly a month ahead of the projected timeline, Minnesota credit unions have surpassed their \$150,000 fundraising goal set in late January to finance the building of a home for Sgt. Marcus Kuboy, a severely injured Iraq war veteran. Working with an organization called Homes for Our Troops, credit unions in Minnesota and across the country have been hard at work raising the funds to build two specially-adapted homes in St. Paul and Denver, the sites of the 2008 Republican and Democratic National Conventions, respectively. A total of \$300,000 is needed to fund the building of both homes.

More than 40 Minnesota credit unions have participated in a wide variety of fundraisers, utilizing lobby boxes, pancake breakfasts, spaghetti dinners, and popcorn sales to attain Minnesota's lofty goal. Minnesota credit unions, their members, the Minnesota Credit Union Network (MnCUN), several state partners and organizations, and other credit unions nationwide have contributed generously to this endeavor.

"I am extremely pleased and proud of the generosity shown by our credit unions and their members, allowing us to achieve our \$150,000 goal in such a short amount of time," said Mark D. Cummins, MnCUN President & CEO. "The outpouring of support for this initiative is symbolic of the way our credit unions support the military and thank them for the defense of our country."

Sgt. Kuboy, a Minnesota native, served three years active duty for the Minnesota National Guard. He sustained serious injuries in March of 2007 when an improvised explosive device (IED) exploded under the vehicle in which he was riding.



***Minnesota credit unions celebrated reaching the \$150,000 goal set to raise funds for Homes for Our Troops. Pictured in front of Sgt. Marcus Kuboy's future home in Woodbury, Minn., are (L-R) Pat Brekken, chair of Minnesota's HFOT fundraising committee; Kristi Mukomela, chair of the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation; and Peter Skaalen, Executive Vice President, Minnesota Credit Union Network.***

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Homes for Our Troops (HFOT) is a non-profit organization that builds homes around the country for American soldiers who have returned home from war with serious injuries and disabilities. Working with local contractors, these houses are specially adapted to meet veterans' needs and are built at no cost to the soldiers or their families.

Credit unions around the country are committed to giving something back to the communities that will host the national conventions. HFOT is working closely with the Credit Union National Association (CUNA), the Republican National Convention, and the Democratic National Convention Committee. The Republican National Convention will be held Sept. 1-4 in St. Paul, and the Democratic National Convention will take place Aug. 25-28 in Denver. The deeding ceremonies for these homes will take place in conjunction with the respective conventions.

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*The **Minnesota Credit Union Network** is an organization representing the state's 161 not-for-profit cooperative credit unions serving more than 1.5 million member-owners in the state.  
For more information, visit [www.mncun.org](http://www.mncun.org).*