



COMMUNITY  
FINANCIAL

## COMMUNITY CONNECTION

FALL 2020



### GROWING TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES

**Bill Lawton**  
Chief Executive Officer

Our summers may have looked a little different this year as concerts, graduations, family gatherings and vacations were cancelled or postponed. We've had to find new ways to gather with family while keeping everyone safe. Even though this has been a challenging year, here are some credit union moments we feel are worth celebrating.

Community Financial Credit Union was founded on the promise of "People Helping People." We continued our Summer of Sharing program this year and celebrated 10 years of sharing. Our members nominated so many great organizations that provide necessary and meaningful services in our communities. We made our last Summer of Sharing grant for 2020 in August, and donated a total of \$70,000 to local community organizations and non-profits over the summer. To honor our 10 years of sharing and with so much need because of the pandemic, we made an additional \$10,000 donation to support local food pantries in our communities.

I would also like to personally thank each and every one of our members that may have received and completed an e-mail for both our financial health survey and the COVID survey. We are using this information to help our members improve and maintain their financial health. I encourage you to check out our Money Matter\$ eLearning Center for information on various financial topics.

The health and well-being of our members and team members continues to be a top priority during these unprecedented times. Our branches are open to serve you and you can also utilize our drive-thrus, mobile app, eBanking or the Member Contact Center for your banking needs. We have extended the hours of our Member Contact Center, with team members available from 8 am to 8 pm in order to serve you better. Thank you for your membership and entrusting our credit union to serve your needs and keep you safe. All the good we do is possible because you and others in our communities.

*Bill Lawton*



### ADVANTAGES OF PAYING BILLS WITH A CREDIT CARD

Credit cards can offer incredible convenience. With just a quick swipe or a linked account, a payment can be instantly processed. It seems like a no-brainer to use that convenience for taking the hassle out of paying bills. Let's take a look at some of advantages of paying bills with a credit card.

The advantages of paying bills with a credit card

- **Automate monthly payments.** Setting up automatic payments for monthly bills through a credit card will help ensure payments are always on time.
- **Build credit with a consistent monthly payment.** Using a credit card for a monthly bill is a great way to improve your credit score without running the risk of overspending.
- **Earn rewards for money that needs to be spent anyway.** Using a credit card that offers rewards for a bill that needs to be paid anyway will help to pile on those rewards points.
- **Enjoy consumer protection.** Paying with plastic offers the consumer the advantages of purchase protection, zero or minimal liability in case of fraud, guaranteed returns and more.
- **Pay your bills quickly.** With a credit card, paying a bill only takes a few clicks or phone prompts.
- **Budget easily.** Paying with a credit card makes for easy tracking of monthly spending.
- **Payments post promptly.** Bill payments made via credit card will generally post within one or two business days.

Which of my bills can I pay with a credit card? Some options include phone bills, utility bills, internet/cable providers and subscription services. There may be others you can add to this list; check with your provider to see if it is an option. Before setting up these payments, make sure there are no fees to pay with a credit card and that your credit limit can handle the additional monthly bills.

If you don't have a credit card with Community Financial, visit [cfcu.org/cardoptions](https://cfcu.org/cardoptions) to find the right credit card for you.



## BOARD ELECTION NOTICE

Paul Bedich  
Nominating Committee Chairperson



## COMMITTED TO FINANCIAL EDUCATION

### Nominees for the Community Financial 2021 Board of Directors

Community Financial is a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned and governed by its members. Your Board of Directors is comprised of nine elected members who serve as trustees for our credit union, focusing on the member/owners' perspective. Each board member serves without pay and accepts the important responsibility of trusteeship for our membership. The Community Financial Nominating Committee has recommended the following nominees to be placed on the 2021 ballot for the Board of Directors to fill three 3-year terms.

- Don Bain\*
- Dan Herriman\*
- Patricia Reese\*

Any member can have their name placed on the ballot by collecting 500 member signatures by **11/9/2020**. For petition information, please call **(877) 937-2328**. If no member submits a petition to be placed on the slate, the board secretary will cast a unanimous ballot for election of the persons nominated above and the credit union will not incur election expenses.

*\*Indicates incumbent*

#### Feedback Welcomed

The Ownership Linkage Committee is a Board subcommittee formed to ensure that the Board of Directors is meeting the needs and expectations of the members/owners of Community Financial. If you would like to provide the committee with feedback, please send your email to: [ownertoowner@cfcu.org](mailto:ownertoowner@cfcu.org)

## AND THE WINNER IS...

For the 15th straight year, Community Financial Credit Union was selected as one of Metro Detroit's "101 Best & Brightest Companies to Work For." Community Financial values the talent and dedication of its team members and all of the work they do to provide outstanding service to our members. We are delighted to be recognized for our values and proud that our team members are excited to be a part of a dedicated organization.



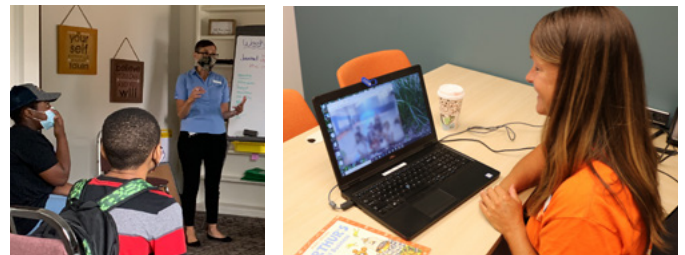
### We are here for your family

Community Financial is committed to financial wellness. It was challenging for the education partnership coordinators to end the 2019-2020 school year abruptly. They went right to work when schools were closed in March. The team developed weekly educational videos and tools geared toward all ages, to help families teach children financial topics. The videos and worksheets are available to view at [cfcu.org/youthmonth](http://cfcu.org/youthmonth).

Many of our Education Partnership Coordinators have been working with local community programs to conduct virtual presentations. Throughout the summer they have been providing virtual presentations to elementary and middle school aged students at the Plymouth and Livonia YMCA's summer camps. They have also been conducting in-person presentations with middle and high school aged students at the Wayne Youth Assistance and the Hegira Camp. Students have learned about goal setting, investing and fraud. Coordinators ended the summer with a virtual reality fair for the students.

The new school year may be starting out virtually for a number of school districts, but the team has been working hard to support teachers and ensure students continue to receive the financial education they need. The team has been making video lessons and converting documents to an electronic format. In addition, Community Financial supports the online Banzai Financial Education program for a number of area schools.

We wish all of the students their best and we look forward to working with them during the 2020-2021 school year.



Photos right to left: Kristen La Forest teaching at the Wayne Youth Coalition. Julie Blaylock conducting a virtual presentation to YMCA campers.



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[cfcu.org](http://cfcu.org)

(877) 937-2328

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