





2020 ANNUAL REPORT





The Year Looks Different. The Commitment Remains Unchanged.

The story of 2020 is strikingly different than other years. Nothing about it has gone according to plan. Credit unions had barely kicked off the year when everything changed - drastically. Suddenly, normal daily operations were a thing of the past. Communities shut down; many members and employees faced financial difficulties and job loss; schools closed; healthcare systems were stretched to the limit. It was all overwhelming.

And yet, credit unions were not overwhelmed. In the true tradition of the credit union spirit, they rose to the challenge, adapted quickly to change, found new ways to serve members, and rallied to help their communities. Credit unions throughout Alabama, Florida, and Georgia stepped into the role of financial first responders during this time of need and uncertainty. They deployed nonconventional operating procedures to serve their members safely while protecting their staff. They developed innovative solutions for members such as low-interest relief loans, loan deferments, and reduced fees. They adapted meetings to virtual platforms. They worked hard to provide loans to local small businesses. And they took care of staff and expressed appreciation for front-line employees. In thousands of ways over the past months, they have demonstrated the resilience that has long made credit unions so strong.

In the midst of the new normal, the Southeastern Credit Union Foundation (SECUF) has sought to come alongside credit unions to support and serve in tangible ways. It has not been business as usual but the commitment to care and to come together has remained unchanged.

Sincerely,

CEO/President, North Georgia Credit Union LSCU/SECUF Board Chair

Briank Akin

MISSION:

To support economic growth by promoting financial wellness, sparking collaborative community initiatives, and providing disaster preparedness and relief to credit unions.

VISION:

To create an environment whereby credit unions can enrich the financial lives of their members and advance the communities they serve.

Commitment to Community

The Financial Fitness Tournament

Credit unions participating in the Financial Fitness Tournament work with teams of high school students to educate them on financial topics and the teams compete across the states of Alabama, Florida, and Georgia in a head-tohead trivia-style competition. To facilitate social distancing and safety protocol, SECUF turned this year's event into an individual virtual competition. Each student competed online individually to earn an overall financial fitness score. Despite the change to the structure of the tournament, 41 students representing 13 chapters completed the competition.



from Alabama One CU in Tuscaloosa, AL



from Keys FCU in Key West, FL



SEBASTIAN B from Suncoast CU in Tampa, FL

Biz Kids Showcase

Despite quarantine, SECUF provided truly unique educational opportunities across the threestate footprint to help fill the substantial financial education gap experienced by many young people today. SECUF's Biz Kids Showcase kicked off in 2020 with workshops in Tuscaloosa, Birmingham, and Tampa hosting approximately 200 students ages 10-18. Students were introduced to entrepreneurial activities and information from the Biz Kids TV series. Half-way through the process, SECUF quickly found a creative way to adapt and reshape the event to work during the pandemic. Participants earned points for attending webinars, submitting business plans, and creating a business website. Investors determined the winner based on points accrued, business idea, and website evaluations. Jada W, sponsored by Alabama One Credit Union, was named the Biz Kids Champion for her photography business focusing on documenting the important steps in the lives of children. She received \$500 and an invitation



from the University of Alabama at Birmingham to intern with their football team as their sports photographer.

Biz Kids hosted students ages 10-18.



FICEP

FiCEP, a financial counseling certification program, is designed for credit union staff who work in financial counseling, collections, and loan departments, or any other staff members who are committed to helping members gain control of their financial future to train credit union staff to help members gain control of their financial future. Upon completion of the program, FiCEP graduates earn their Certified Credit Union Financial Counselor (CCUFC) designation. While the training for this program is always conducted on a virtual platform, the testing has traditionally been done in person. Keeping the health and safety of credit union employees a priority, CUNA

approved a virtual testing option for FiCEP students during the pandemic. This accommodation made it possible for credit union personnel to complete their training and acquire FiCEP certification while adhering to social distancing or shelter at home protocols. As a result, the Southeastern Credit Union Foundation enrolled approximately twice the number of students than the previous year and added a fall session and recertification track for 2020.



(Financial Counseling **Certification Course** offered through SECUF)

Total 2020 participants: 85

Credit Unions Care CHALLENGE

TOTAL PARTICIPATING **CREDIT UNIONS:**

TOTAL COMMUNITY IMPACT: \$1,102,200



The Southeastern Credit Union Foundation worked to help credit unions in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia mobilize in a coordinated effort to support the communities they serve. Out of a desire to maximize their impact and amplify their voice, SECUF created the Credit Unions Care Challenge. Many affiliated credit unions joined the challenge by providing a minimum of \$25 to each of their employees to do a good deed in their community by supporting a local restaurant or small business. The network of kindness spread across the three-state area as credit union employees branched out to support area businesses.

The Challenge didn't stop there. For every participating credit union, SECUF matched up to \$25 per employee in a grant that the credit union could use to make an additional impact in their community. Credit unions used the grants to donate to food banks, purchase school lunches for kids, find ways to thank first responders, and support other worthy causes.

The SECUF began this initiative to answer the challenge put forth by Tallahassee-based First Commerce Credit Union in its ambitious #LocalStrong campaign. The credit union utilized this campaign to distribute more than \$4,000 among more than 150 team members to spend with local businesses. SECUF was inspired to carry on First Commerce's vision and show that its credit unions are #CUStrong by expanding it to all three of its states. In all, 88 credit unions, as well as the League of Southeastern Credit Unions, participated in the Credit Unions Care Challenge, making a total impact of \$1,102,200.

CREDIT UNIONS CARE CHALLENGE DONORS

Thank You

to Our Industry Partners for Helping Support the SECUF's Credit Unions Care Challenge!

PREMIER DONOR (\$100,000)



SUPPORTER (\$24,999-\$10,000)



FRIENDS (\$9.999-\$100)

Catalyst Corporate FCU Corporate One FCU CU Engage Evans Simpson and Associates, Inc. **Excess Share Insurance** Sorenson Van Leuven Symitar, a Jack Henry & Associates Company



















Professional Development Scholarships

Over \$18,000 in professional development scholarships and grants were awarded in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia in 2020 to help credit union staff and volunteers attend virtual trainings and conferences during the pandemic. Scholarships were awarded to those individuals who best exemplify the credit union philosophy, and whose attendance at approved programs would be beneficial in the perpetuation of credit union goals and ideas on an asneeded basis.



Commitment to Come Together

Disaster Preparedness and Relief

Disaster Relief Grants



Total Amount Granted:

\$52,125

Impacted Individuals Who Received Relief Grants:

Disaster Preparedness Webinars

In times of natural disasters, concern for credit unions, credit union employees and the community are a top priority for the League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates and the Southeastern Credit Union Foundation. The Foundation provided \$52,125 in grants to 49 credit union employees affected by natural disasters in 2020. The Southeastern Credit Union Foundation collaborated with Cornerstone Credit Union Foundation, the National Credit Union Foundation, and experts in the field to bring disaster preparedness webinars to credit unions. Built around credit union operations and planning for disasters, the webinars also addressed personal preparations for credit union staff. The Foundation assisted credit unions in 2020 with two general disaster preparedness webinars.

Credit Union Employee Financial Wellness

The Southeastern Credit Union Foundation launched a new program in 2020 to address the financial wellness needs of credit union employees. In partnership with Enrich, this customized online platform provides meaningful resources to assist credit union employees in improving their financial capabilities, wherever they may be on their financial journey. The online tool provided by the SECUF, and sponsored in part by CUNA Mutual Group, has been made available for all employees of LSCU member credit unions at no additional cost.

FEATURES OF THE PROGRAM:

- Personalized content tailored to the individual using the platform
- Games, calculators, and worksheets
- Community discussion boards
- Recommended articles and videos
- One-on-one counseling through chat, email or phone



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Bobbi Grady Foundation Development Coordinator

2020 PROUD SUPPORTERS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN CREDIT UNION FOUNDATION

Thank you to all who gave any amount to help the Foundation meet extraordinary needs in 2020.

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Wen Hemingway

*Based on contributions from 1/1/20 to 12/31/20. We extend our sincerest apologies to any donor who may have been incorrectly reflected or unintentionally omitted. Please let us know of any discrepancies at 866-231-0545, ext. 2128.

2020 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Revenue

Total Revenue	\$1.002.089
Interest & Other Investment Earnings	\$419,128
Disaster Relief	\$53,100
Signature Events	\$32,956
Financial Education	\$62,300
Credit Unions Care Challenge	\$122,380
Contributions	\$312,225

Expenses

Total Program Expenses	\$579,061
Management & General	\$74,143
Fundraising	\$21,376
Total Expenses	\$674,580

Revenue

Interest & Other Investment Earnings

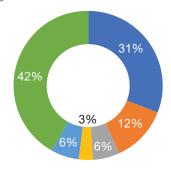
Contributions

Credit Unions Care Challenge

Financial Education

Disaster Relief

Signature Events

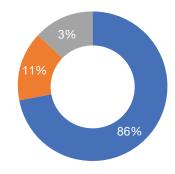


Expenses

Total Program Expense

Management & General Expense

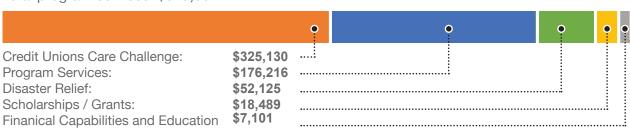
Fundraising Expenses



In 2020, **86**% of The Southeastern Credit Union Foundation's total operating expenses were used to 1) enable credit union to reach and provide guidance to adult and youth on financial education, 2) equip credit unions to serve low-income segments, 3) award professional development scholarships to credit union staff and volunteers, 4) provide disaster preparedness and relief for credit unions and credit union employees affected by a natural disaster, and 5) support credit unions and their communities through the Credit Unions Care Challenge during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Program Services

Total program services: \$579,061





Thank You FOR ADVANCING THE CREDIT UNION MOVEMENT!

Connect with us:

ALABAMA OFFICE: 22 Inverness Center Pkwy, Suite 200 Birmingham, AL 35242 **FLORIDA OFFICE:** 3692 Coolidge Court, Tallahassee, FL 32311 **GEORGIA OFFICE:** 2810 Premiere Pkwy, Suite 150, Duluth, GA 30097

www.lscu.coop/foundation 866.231.0545



