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Community Choice Sends 150 Care Packages to Sailors Aboard the USS Alexandria

Farmington Hills, Mich., Jan. 17, 2022 – Sailors aboard the USS Alexandria, a Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine, will get a little taste of home when it pulls into port next. Waiting at the dock will be boxes shipped from Community Choice Credit Union’s Roseville Member Center.

Over the holidays, team members from Community Choice began collecting non-perishable items for care packages at the request of personal advisor Dawna Hermes, whose son, Jared, serves aboard.

That request became a credit union-wide “Give Big” opportunity, where team members earn volunteer hours for shopping and purchasing items. A story in Roseville’s hometown newspaper invited the public to drop off items as well. The result was 150 boxes filled and now awaiting shipping to the Alexandria’s next port.



Sailors will receive non-perishable food items, coffee, hand-held games, puzzles, and candy, along with a heartfelt “thank you” from the people back home.

Hermes said care packages are part of everyday life for many who serve on long deployments, and she hopes her son and his fellow soldiers enjoy the well-wishes, and goodies, from home.

“My husband is military, and my other grown son also served in the Marine Corps,” she said. “They have all been deployed on the water and have expressed how much it meant to be thought of when they were away. My son has been in the Navy for 10 years; this is his second submarine tour and the longest. I just really wanted him, and those who serve with him, to know that we’re thinking of them. They have missed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and will soon miss Valentine’s Day and St. Patrick’s Day. They have all missed so much.”

Hermes and Roseville Member Center Manager Nicole Zimmerman both said the way team members and the community came together was inspiring. Both thank everyone who donated or volunteered to pack the boxes. “It leaves me choked up just thinking about it,” Hermes said. “When packing the boxes last night, my heart was so full of thankfulness for my teammates and the community.”

“Roseville is just a wonderful community,” she said. “We’re so proud to be a part of it and overwhelmed by everyone’s generosity.”

About Community Choice Credit Union: The Michigan-based credit union believes in helping its neighbors across the state achieve the life they desire. Established in 1935, Community Choice has 22 locations across the state, serves more than 115,000 members, and has grown its assets to \$1.6 billion. The credit union is committed to helping the community and upholds a Give Big philosophy. Since 2008, team members have given more than 32,969 volunteer hours in communities across the state. Additionally, The Community Choice Foundation, has awarded \$1.3 million in scholarships to Michigan’s students graduating from high school, pursuing continuing education programs, and the skilled trades. To learn more, visit CommunityChoice.com.