

**Media Contact:**  
**Molly Salvi, Organizational Communications Manager**  
877.243.2528 ext. 1462 | [MSalvi@CommunityChoiceCU.com](mailto:MSalvi@CommunityChoiceCU.com)  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Farmington Hills, Mich., Nov. 20, 2020** – Community Choice team members brightened the Thanksgiving holiday for 48 families in the metro Detroit area by donating food items and by making a monetary donation to cover the cost of 48 turkeys and all the trimmings.

The donation was made to Dream Centers of Michigan, which delivered the food boxes to families on Nov. 21.



*Pictured are, from left, Ellie Schupra director of Dream Center of Michigan, Dave Carlson, campus pastor at Woodside Bible Church, and Jeremy Cybulski, community engagement manager at Community Choice.*

What started as one Community Choice team member's desire to help turned into a credit union-wide Give Big charity event. The lending team alone collected enough food items for 18 boxes. The rest came from support teams, member centers, and other teams at the credit union.

Along with the Thanksgiving boxes, which contained around \$55 worth of food items, the credit union donated \$720 to purchase the turkeys.

Giving Big is one of the cornerstones of the credit union's vision statement. Partnering with Dream Center was a perfect fit for Community Choice.

"This season has been difficult. ... The needs are great and cannot be met by a single entity alone. Community partnerships

offer collective impact that is essential to the growth and development of a community and people in crisis," said Ellie Schupra, director of Dream Center of Michigan. "The Dream Center relies on community partners like Community Choice Credit Union to fuel our mission of helping people thrive, reach their potential, and move toward self-sustainability."

Dave Carlson, the campus pastor at Woodside Bible Church in Dearborn, which is a 501 C3 affiliate of Dream Center, also stressed the importance of community partnerships, especially during COVID and around the holidays.

"Throughout the pandemic, one of the biggest needs we have encountered is food security, as access to food through schools has dried up, particularly for families who lack transportation. There are families in Dearborn and Pontiac that would not have a Thanksgiving meal if it were not for Community Choice and the generosity of their team members. It is hard to put into words the dignity and joy that is given when an empty table is filled for a holiday. Partners like Community Choice have given that to families in Dearborn and Pontiac, and that gift is priceless."

**About Community Choice Credit Union:**

Community Choice Credit Union believes in helping its neighbors across the state of Michigan achieve the life they desire. Since 1935, the credit union has offered a variety of products and services that benefit both consumers and business owners. The credit union is committed to helping the community and upholds a Give Big philosophy. Since 2008, team members have volunteered more than 25,909 volunteer hours in communities across the state. Its foundation, The Community Choice Foundation, awarded more than \$1.2 million in scholarships to graduating high school seniors who attended a Michigan college or university during its first 10 years. In 2020, the Scholarship Program expanded to include financial support for continuing education and skilled trade programs. To learn more, visit [www.CommunityChoice.com](http://www.CommunityChoice.com)