

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UMCU Team Members Raise \$9,000 in Donations for the American Heart Association

Ann Arbor, MI (July 12, 2021) – The University of Michigan Credit Union, UMCU, recently donated \$9,000 to the American Heart Association, AHA, with all of the funds raised through team member contributions.

UMCU was a proud participant in the American Heart Association’s 2021 Virtual Heart Walk. On May 22, 2021, team members walked to bring awareness to AHA’s mission and raise funds to fight heart disease and stroke. The team’s collective efforts from the Heart Walk raised \$2,000.

Leading up to the Heart Walk, UMCU participated in AHA’s Move More Challenge, which encouraged team members to increase their daily activity. UMCU placed first amongst all companies that participated in the Move More Challenge. This challenge was supported internally with weekly contests and prizes offered by UMCU’s Giveback Committee and award-winning wellness program.

UMCU’s commitment to the American Heart Association was demonstrated in the nearly \$7,000 raised from team member’s “Jeans Day” donations. “Jeans Day” is a UMCU charitable initiative that allows team members that make a monthly salary contribution to wear jeans during the workweek. During the second quarter, all of the proceeds from the team members’ participation in “Jeans Day” were donated to the American Heart Association.

“UMCU makes it a priority to encourage giving back to the community that gives us so much in return. We offer a paid day off for our team members to donate their time to the community, wellness programs to focus on creating healthy habits, and opportunities to get involved and make a difference with organizations like the American Heart Association. Together, our team raised an incredible amount of money and brought awareness to a great cause while showcasing what UMCU teamwork looks like,” stated Candy Keene, UMCU Vice President of Talent Development and Human Resources.

Sarah Spitzley, American Heart Association’s Heart Challenge Director, added, “Donations like UMCU’s help the AHA fund research on causes, prevention, and treatment of heart disease and stroke, public health education to help reduce the risk for cardiovascular disease, as well as community outreach initiatives like CPR trainings. The support from UMCU is leading to a happier and healthier Washtenaw County!”

American Heart Association Check Presentation Photo:



UMCU Representatives presenting a check to the American Heart Association.

L-R: Sarah Spitzley, Raquel Sulaiman, Meghan Cary, Candy Keene.

June 25, 2021. Photo Credit: Evan Joling

About the University of Michigan Credit Union

The University of Michigan Credit Union is a member-owned, not-for-profit cooperative. Its purpose is to amaze UMCU members, the community, and its team by working together for shared success.

UMCU is the only credit union headquartered in Ann Arbor, Michigan. When established in 1954, there were 12 members and \$9 in assets. Today, UMCU has more than 100,000 members and more than \$1 billion in assets, and it continues to grow. With seven branches in Ann Arbor, one in Ypsilanti, a branch in Dearborn, and three branches in Flint, UMCU serves the financial needs of the University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College, and their surrounding communities.

For more information, visit UMCU.org or follow UMCU on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

About the American Heart Association

The six cardiologists who founded the American Heart Association in 1924 would be amazed.

From humble beginnings, the AHA has grown into the nation's oldest and largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. A shared focus on cardiovascular health unites our more than 40 million volunteers and supporters as well as our more than 2,800 employees. [Learn more about our impact over time.](#)

Heart disease is the No. 1 killer worldwide, and stroke ranks second globally. Even when those conditions don't result in death, they cause disability and diminish quality of life. We want to see a world free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke.

Our size and scope let us have real impact. The AHA has invested more than \$4.6 billion in research, making us the largest not-for-profit funding source for cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease research next to the federal government. [Learn more about our life-changing funded research breakthroughs.](#) Visit <https://www.heart.org/en>.

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