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**FREEDOM 1ST CREDIT UNION (DAYTON, OHIO) ENDS 2020 WITH FIVE CONSECUTIVE YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP GROWTH**

DAYTON, OH – Freedom 1st Credit Union, a $50 million credit union with branches in Dayton and Eaton, announced that it ended 2020 with its fifth consecutive year of membership growth. The 7,000+ member financial institution has seen organic membership growth for over 20 straight quarters, meaning it has grown without the aid of mergers and acquisitions. The credit union ended 2020 with 12-month membership growth of 4.88%, compared to similarly-sized credit unions nationally at -0.82% and Ohio credit unions at 0.52%. In the last five years, the credit union has grown its membership by 21%, or 1,272 members.

“Our commitment to helping our communities succeed financially really shines through when people are in the toughest of times, like the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Freedom 1st CEO Deb DeVous. “While membership growth has always been important to our team, growing in 2020 was more critical than ever because it meant we were providing folks with the assistance they desperately needed.”

DeVous added that she views the credit union’s growth trajectory as a sign of the strength and support of the credit union movement within the Eaton and Dayton areas. In the last year, Freedom 1st was granted a field of membership expansion to serve anyone who lives, works, worships, or attends school in Montgomery, Preble, Greene, Miami, and Darke County. The credit union also recently broke ground on a new branch in Brookville, which is anticipated to open in the summer of this year.

To learn more about Freedom 1st Credit Union, please visit [www.freedom1stcu.com](http://www.freedom1stcu.com).

**About Freedom 1st:**Founded in 1961, Freedom 1st Credit Union serves over 7,000 members across Montgomery, Preble, Miami, and Darke Counties in Ohio. Its mission is to make its members feel like they are part of a family that offers personalized services at the best possible value, while maintaining sound financial stability. The credit union offers certificates, checking accounts, credit cards, personal loans, home equity loans, auto loans, and a wide array of other financial services. Freedom 1st is federally insured by the NCUA and is an Equal Housing Lender. To learn more about the credit union, visit freedom1stcu.com or Facebook @freedom1stcu.

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