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***St. Cloud Federal Credit Union becomes Minnesota Credit Union Network's (MNCUN) 2018
Simon Hellermann Philanthropy Award Winner***

St. Cloud Federal Credit Union, in Partnership with Sartell High School, Honored for KIVA Contributions

St. Cloud, Minnesota: On April 6, 2018, St. Cloud Federal Credit Union was honored at the Minnesota Credit Union Network's Annual Conference for their continued work to provide financial education and micro-lending opportunities worldwide. Together with Sartell High School, the credit union received *The Simon Hellermann Philanthropy Award*, which recognizes demonstrated excellence in credit union philanthropy and contributions to the credit union movement in Minnesota. This award was established in 1999 as a tribute to Minnesota credit union philanthropist Simon Hellermann, recognizing an outstanding contribution to a humanitarian cause and promoting credit union philanthropy, service, and loyalty.

St. Cloud Federal Credit Union and Sartell High School partnered with the Kiva Program, a worldwide organization that provides loans to people in poverty. The program offers financial education curriculum to all ninth grade history students at Sartell High School. The high school students then research and recommend lending through KIVA, presenting their findings along with a potential loan recipient to a panel from the credit union. The panel then determines which recipient and project they will fund. In turn, the students partner directly with KIVA to fund these projects in order to better lives and communities around the world.

St. Cloud Federal Credit Union has been able to fund over eighty loans in thirty different developing countries. Dave Driste and Roy Snyder, educators at Sartell High School, have been vital in helping this program succeed. Mr. Driste and Mr. Snyder work with the students to grow their financial education knowledge, helping the students gather research and present findings, empowering the students to build connections worldwide.

"It has been a privilege to partner with the St. Cloud Federal Credit Union and Jed Meyer with the Kiva project. This project gives the students the power to actually make a difference in our world today and at the same time learn life-long lessons!" stated Mr. Driste.

President and CEO of St. Cloud Federal Credit Union, Jed A. Meyer states, "We could not be more proud to accept this award, it has been inspiring to watch the Sartell High School students present their projects with such passion and awareness to issues going on worldwide. We hope to encourage other organizations to participate in this program."

About St. Cloud Federal Credit Union: St. Cloud Federal Credit Union is a not-for-profit financial cooperative founded in 1930. Currently with over 19,000 members and over \$160 million in assets, the credit union is proud to serve members in Central Minnesota with branches in St. Cloud and Sartell. The organization prides itself on making a meaningful difference for members and their local communities.

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