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St. Cloud Federal Credit Union Closes Branches to Update a Floor Wing at Place of Hope

St. Cloud, Minnesota: St. Cloud Federal Credit Union closed its branches on Monday, October 12th for its first ever "Community Day" designed to make a difference in the community. The credit union asked its members for ideas in how they could leverage over 50 employees' volunteer time on that day. A member of the credit union, Pastor Carol Jean responded that her organization, Place of Hope, had a need. Her building which provides food and shelter for people experiencing homelessness needed a redesign.

"When we heard that Place of Hope needed to update their second floor wing for women and children, we knew it would be a great match for our Community Day," stated Jed A. Meyer, President and CEO of St. Cloud Federal Credit Union. "Our Community Day was established as part of our organization's commitment to making a meaningful difference in our community. As a not-for-profit cooperative, we feel part of our responsibility is to give back and helping a great organization like Place of Hope was a great fit" stated Meyer.

Place of Hope believes in rebuilding, repairing, and restoring lives for people experiencing homelessness by providing food and shelter. They believe that individuals have a right to food, shelter, and dignity in living as a basic human need. Painting the facilities is a demonstration of their commitment to provide a warm and inviting environment. In addition to painting all the rooms for women and children, the sea of nearly 50 employees also painted gathering spaces, bathrooms, and hallways. Staff at Place of Hope commented the credit union team was able to accomplish in one day what took them ten months to accomplish the year before. St. Cloud Federal Credit Union also donated \$500 and brought in lunch that day for the community.

Place of Hope provides 7,000 meals per month with over 100 people per night sleeping in the facilities. They continue to look for volunteers to help sustain the organization. People looking to help can contact (320) 203-7881 or visit their web site for more information at www.placeofhopeministries.org.

St. Cloud Federal Credit Union was extremely proud to kick off its first ever Community Day. They were also pleased that other credit unions across the state participated in a day of giving on October 12th. Around the state, nearly 1,000 credit union employees dedicated more than 6,200 total volunteer hours scattered kindness in their communities. Participating credit unions estimate that the collective reach through efforts on that day impacted more than 18,000 people – an active demonstration of the industry's philosophy of "People Helping People."

About St. Cloud Federal Credit Union: St. Cloud Federal Credit Union is a not-for-profit financial cooperative founded in 1930. Currently with over 15,000 members and over \$120 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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