

# Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## COUNTING THOSE PENNIES FOR A CAUSE

**AROOSTOOK COUNTY** – A year of waiting on spare change was well worth the wait for one county organization. NorState Federal Credit Union donates 100% of the fees collected from the use of their coin sorters in Madawaska, Presque Isle and Fort Kent locations to the United Veterans of Maine’s Farm of Hope.

In January of 2018, Executive Marketing Director, Denise Duperre, contacted the Dahlgren Skidgel Farm of Hope in Caribou and told their executive directors that NorState’s 2018 income fee from the coin sorter machines would benefit organization coffers.

With the help of NorState members and non-members who came in to use the coin sorter machines at NorState FCU, and an access fee of 2% of coins sorted for members and 5% for non-members, the credit union and users of the coin sorter machines were able to raise over \$6,500 in spare change for the facility.

The Farm of Hope is a veteran educational and training facility designed to address challenges facing veterans in need. Providing an environment that veterans can be familiar with, those who come to the farm are provided a structured program where the veteran has time lines, responsibilities and is required to perform some work. The reason for the structured program is to give the veteran a sense of familiarity and the capability to transition into society and become self-sufficient and lead a productive and meaningful life.

Susan G. Whitehead, President and CEO of NorState Federal Credit Union had this to say about the Farm of Hope. “The farm’s objective is to provide safe housing and proper nutrition to those veterans who have served our country and help them find self-worth and recovery as well as find their way back into society.

“People who use our coin sorters in Madawaska, Fort Kent or Presque Isle are giving back to the communities they live in and to local, charitable organizations that assist or support local efforts,” added Whitehead.

Denise Duperre, Executive Marketing Director for the credit union added, “credit unions are known for their strong belief in volunteering and giving back in multiple ways. The UVM Farm of Hope will be receiving \$6,561 and some change, and those monies are thanks to the support we receive from members and non-members who use our services and care about their neighbors.”

