COUNTING PENNIES FOR A CAUSE

AROOSTOOK COUNTY – A year of waiting on spare change was well worth the wait for three county organizations. NorState Federal Credit Union donates fees collected from the use of their coin counters in Madawaska, Presque Isle and Fort Kent locations to local county organizations that benefits the communities, people and members they serve.

On January 31st, NorState's Executive Marketing Director, Denise Duperre, contacted the St. John Valley Associates, Northern Aroostook Alternatives and Central Aroostook Associations to inform them that they were going to receive \$2000 each to benefit their activity efforts for the adult clients with special needs that they serve.

"Adult services such as these, offer an array of activities both in their facilities and in our communities, states Duperre. Activities and environments are designed to foster the development of skills and appropriate behavior, greater independence, community inclusion, relationship building, self-advocacy and informed choices.

These services also allow their clients to contribute to their community through volunteer work, adds Duperre. We know that volunteerism builds strong community connections, so we take every opportunity to foster these acts, because the credit union believes that volunteers are the heart of every community."

"The caring and giving spirit of our communities and for those willing to give up a few pennies on the dollar, for the credit union's coin counter service, is a great way to express thanks and gratitude for all of the services that these three organizations offer the people of northern Maine.

Susan G. Whitehead, President and CEO of NorState Federal Credit Union with offices in Madawaska, Van Buren, Fort Kent, Ashland, Eagle Lake and Presque Isle, joined in the ceremony presenting representatives of the Northern Aroostook Alternatives in Van Buren, Central Aroostook Association of Presque Isle and the St. John Valley Associates with \$2000 each.

"It is wonderful that we are able to donate our coin counter service fees to recognize local charities in this very special way. NorState truly believes in the credit union cooperative philosophy of People Helping People," said Whitehead.

"With the help of all members and non-members who came in to use the coin counter machines at NorState FCU during 2019, who are access a fee of 2% of coins sorted for members and 6% for non-members, the credit union and users of the coin sorter machines were able to raise \$6,000.00 in spare change for three organizations that serve adults with special needs."

Duperre adds, "NorState and its members are known for their strong belief in volunteering and giving back in multiple ways, from paying it forward to random acts of kindness to working diligently on the Maine Ending Hunger Campaign as well. NorState cares.

We care about family, community, neighbors, businesses and most of all people.

We are in the service industry really, and service to others is always top of mind."

To find out more about NorState initiatives in your community, follow their Facebook page, and become a member of a growing organization that puts people first.

A not-for-profit financial institution owned by its members, NorState Federal Credit Union.

Additional Information

NorState announces that the recipients of their coin sorter fund raising efforts for 2020 will be Activity Departments of multiple nursing and assisted living facilities in central and northern Aroostook county. Members and non-members of NorState can use their coin machines located in Madawaska, Fort Kent and Presque Isle for a small users fee which will in turn be donated to these facilities at year end. For more information about NorState FCU, visit them on the web at norstatefcu.org

