Credit unions worldwide pivoted in 2020 unlike any other year. The Worldwide Foundation followed suit to support their institutional and member needs.

As the COVID-19 pandemic presented unprecedented stress on member livelihoods, community stability and credit union operations, our supporter community stepped forward in a historic way in helping to stabilize while continuing to advance the global credit union movement in the face of a historic, global crisis. We did not sit back and wait for the pandemic to affect our credit union peers...we leaned into the challenge of helping credit unions in need, even if our reach was from afar and via virtual means.

In the early months of the pandemic, it was clear that a lack of digitization of credit unions was no longer a convenience issue, but simply a safety issue for members and staff alike seeking to access and deliver financial services. Our credit union development work and engagement via the Priority fund zeroed in on our work to accelerate credit union digitization.

The first line of defense against COVID-19 were PPE supplies and safety measures. Our disaster relief initiative, Project Storm Break, responded to the call from nearly thirty credit union systems to send masks and other critical resources to simply protect and keep open credit unions so that they could continue to serve members.

Our Global Women’s Leadership Network (GWLN) initiative leveraged our new, virtual reality by both expanding member engagement and its footprint of Sister Societies worldwide. Virtual channels presented a unique opportunity to connect credit union women across time zones and address ongoing gender inequality issues for women in credit unions and member communities. What resulted was a deeper more cross-engaged network between credit union men and women both, seeing GWLN as a global forum for advancing credit union women.

Credit union young professionals continued to seek out each other to share success stories of their own advancement and engagement within their credit union communities. Our World Council Young Credit Union Professionals program saw an opportunity to position itself as a global hub for this YP dialogue. Networking, learning and aiming to build a global YP network that is 10,000 YPs strong, building a pipeline for future credit union leadership.

All four foundation initiatives pivoted to respond to immediate challenges our global credit union peers faced. Our supporter community responded with a historic level of generosity, giving $1,810,585 of their resources to aid each of these four initiatives in their work to advance the credit union movement worldwide.

The work of the Worldwide Foundation is only possible through donations from our supporters. Thank you for all you do to support the credit union movement.

William Cheney
Chairman

Brian Branch
President and CEO

Michael Reuter
Executive Director
Unprecedented global credit union challenges in 2020 saw the Worldwide Foundation pivot the impact of our four initiatives through virtual means. Though not in person or in the field, our Global Good work progressed still by engaging our donors, responding to critical need and empowering our global colleagues moving forward.
Members of St. John’s Co-operative Credit Union Ltd in Antigua and Barbuda of the Caribbean region stand socially distanced, wearing masks, and waiting patiently to access financial services during the COVID-19 pandemic.
Our Credit Union Development work compliments ongoing credit union digitization work of the World Council, supporting project acquisition and expansion, resulting in the financial inclusion of millions worldwide.

**ACTIVITY 1:**
**Economic Inclusion Project in Peru & Ecuador**

Restoring the livelihoods of 100,000 Venezuelan migrants is a key objective of World Council’s new Economic Inclusion Project (EIP), financed by USAID. A key strategy of the project is the ongoing training, placement, and reactivation of entrepreneurs.

This strategy, called The School of Dreamers will create a roadmap for displaced Venezuelan professionals like 35-year-old Gabriela Serrano (pictured left), who always dreamed of growing and scaling her women’s accessories business.

Because of EIP, thousands of men and women like Gabriela have a sustainable plan to rebuild their lives and livelihoods in a new country.

**ACTIVITY 2:**
**Gender Lens Investment in Senegal:**

Nearly 51% of all credit union members in Senegal are women, and yet the existing credit union loan products and credit access Senegal’s credit union system provides does not meet the current and future needs of women in Senegalese society.

A new Gender Lens Investment (GLI) methodology, developed by World Council and funded by USAID, will develop, deploy, and scale a GLI kit, designed to increase access to credit across the entire Senegal credit union system.
Foundation staff preparing to re-distribute 40,000 PPE masks generously donated by the National Credit Union Confederation of Korea at World Council headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin. Wave one of PPE mask distribution saw more than 30 credit union systems receive PPE mask supplies via Project Storm Break.
Project Storm Break pivoted to respond immediately to providing safety supplies to protect staff and member alike amid the COVID-19 pandemic. A mix of grants and in-kind donations to our global partners helped protect the most vulnerable credit union systems.

**ACTIVITY 1: PPE Supply Grants**

In the initial months of the pandemic, Project Storm Break put out a call to send PPE supply relief grants to international credit union systems in need. $21,000 in grants were distributed across sixteen Caribbean nations. Masks, sanitizer, and plexiglass barriers were put in place to allow credit unions to operate in the face of threats COVID-19 presented.

**ACTIVITY 2: Protecting Ukraine**

Project Storm Break played a role in helping to protect frontline employees and members of 23 Ukrainian credit unions through a Project Storm Break grant in May. Given that all member interactions are face-to-face with their credit unions, equipping Ukraine’s credit unions with PPE masks, sanitizer and plexiglass was critical to mitigating current and future health risks to staff and members.
GWLN in one word: In the spring of 2020, six GWLN Sister Societies from three regions joined forces virtually to show the community the meaning of GWLN, in one word.
Global Women’s Leadership Network (GWLN) is a key resource for information, networking and support, committed to narrowing inequality gaps by providing women with opportunities to make measurable differences in their own lives, in the lives of credit union members, and in their communities.

**ACTIVITY 1:**
GWLN: Virtually, Stronger Together!

2020 marked a year for women, globally! GWLN engaged virtually with hundreds of women and men around the world: Australia, Asia, Africa, Europe, South America, and in almost all regions of North America.

With everyone facing similar risks through the pandemic, GWLN activated its members, growing Sister Societies and volunteers and the network began to reach out. Virtually, GWLN became stronger together.

What was once a localized, in-person network, exploded into successful pivot of all programming, international virtual workshops, mental health conversations, new work/life balances and working from home resource sharing with women participating from six continents. The augmented, global connectivity and access to each other across borders fortified the network as we listened to stories of hope, inspiration and encouragement.

**ACTIVITY 2:**
Credit Union women find “The Power of I am” - Executive Readiness Summit

 Held through a virtual platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic with more than 130 credit union women from five continents, the Executive Readiness Summit attracted a truly international audience for the first time.

The Summit is GWLN’s dynamic, experiential and inspirational workshop designed for credit union women in mid to high-tiered positions.

Industry experts, thought leaders, GWLN members and Sister Society leaders engaged to learn about leadership skills, personal and financial wellness, values in the workplace as drivers for success, executive presence and building personal resilience.

**Pay To NOT Play**
GWLN raised **200% of its goal** with the first ever virtual fundraiser “Pay to NOT Play” golf festival. An interactive 19th Hole virtual bidding event brought together hundreds of colleagues and industry partners from more than a dozen countries worldwide.

Participants heard **true stories from women impacted by GWLN**, engaged in outbidding their colleagues and enjoyed a fun, inspirational session.
Vita Hernandez (USA), Vinicius Mattia (Brazil), and Łukasz Nowak (Poland) were the 2020 WYCUP Scholarship recipients. They were selected among 22 inspiring nominees from around the world to attend the 2021 World Credit Union Conference. Since 2001, the WYCUP scholarship program has awarded 99 scholarships.
As WYCUP’s visibility increased, so has recognition of the value of young professional engagement to credit unions worldwide. WYCUP surpassed its 2020 fundraising target by more than 200%, raising $114,663 at year-end, a record for the program.

Throughout the year, WYCUP scholarship recipients were spotlighted at more than a dozen virtual sessions where they presented for league and association partners around the world.

ACTIVITY 1: Applying impactful models to shared challenges

In January, before the pandemic changed everything, young professionals connected face-to-face through WYCUP’s immersion learning program in Brazil. A deep dive into Sicredi’s Youth Committee model inspired a white paper that WYCUP spotlighted across its global network. Pilot programs based upon this youth empowerment initiative are now underway in Colombia and the USA.

ACTIVITY 2: Raising our virtual voice

WYCUP connected with nearly 1,000 young professionals from 35 countries during the Virtual Forum and Celebration last year. Finding opportunity in disruption, WYCUP created a virtual space for young professionals with a desire for global perspectives on their professional journeys. The potential for greater inclusion is clear.

Our World Council’s Young Credit Union Professionals program (WYCUP) thrived in the virtual environment during 2020. New tools were leveraged to bring together an exponentially larger audience of young professionals and make WYCUP more accessible and inclusive.
SHARE. SOLVE. START.
Global Bridges builds a bridge, connecting credit unions peers together, inviting sharing of knowledge, solving of challenges, and starting sustainable, cooperative friendships that bring value and last a lifetime.

HOW DOES GLOBAL BRIDGES WORK?

ADOPTION
An individual or institution signs on to take a GLOBAL BRIDGES JOURNEY over a defined time period.

ORIENTATION
Six HYBRID LEARNING modules, delivering and orienting you on the structure, HISTORY AND CURRENT CHALLENGES of the global credit union movement.

THE HIGHWAY
Annual, milestone, hybrid events that offer IMPACT UPDATES, NETWORKING AND EXPOSURE to the global credit union community.

SIDE ROADS
GO DEEP IN DISCOVERING more about a specific industry THEME AND CHALLENGE via engagement with a specific Worldwide Foundation initiative.

FIELD ENGAGEMENT
See international credit union work firsthand by visiting or hosting an international delegation to SHARE KNOWLEDGE, SOLVE CHALLENGES AND START COOPERATIVE FRIENDSHIPS.

RENEWAL OR CONCLUSION
Renew your journey by FOCUSING ATTENTION on another credit union system worldwide and DELIVER VALUE to a new group of staff and colleagues.

VyStar Credit Union exists to Do Good, and because of our partnership with the Worldwide Foundation through Global Bridges, we are better positioned to embrace that responsibility beyond the communities we serve.

Brian Wolfburg
President & CEO
2020 FINANCIALS

TOTAL 2020 REVENUE: ........................................$2,105,984
   Supporter Contributions: ................................$948,248
   Grant Revenue: .............................................$274,810
   Program Revenue: .........................................$882,926

TOTAL EXPENSES: $1,674,404
   Supporter Expenses: ......................................$445,733
   Program Expenses: .......................................$568,255
   Grant Expenses: ...........................................$241,754
   Management Expenses (Corporate Support): ......$560,438

TOTAL REVENUE: .........................................$2,105,984
TOTAL EXPENSES: .......................................$1,674,404
NET INCOME: .............................................$431,580
Every dollar that supports global credit union growth is essential in meeting our purpose: transforming a billion lives worldwide through credit unions.

We want to acknowledge all our 2020 supporters and global champions, those that are giving of their time, talent, and treasure to answer the call in aiding the Worldwide Foundation in its work of improving financial inclusion and expanding credit unions on a global scale.

Visit our Champion’s Page at DoGlobalGood.org to see a complete listing of our supporters.

$25K & Above Donor

Arizona Federal Credit Union

State Employees’ Credit Union

BCU (Baxter Credit Union)

BECU Credit Union

Bellico Credit Union

Civic Federal Credit Union

Coastal Credit Union

Collins Community Credit Union

Connexus Association

Cornerstone League

CU Direct

Defense Credit Union Council

Ent Credit Union

Illinois Credit Union League/LSC

Indiana Credit Union League

Inova Federal Credit Union

JSC Federal Credit Union

Local Government Federal Credit Union

Mitchell, Stankovic & Associates

Mountain America Federal Credit Union

Mountain West Credit Union Foundation

NextMark Credit Union

OneAZ Credit Union

Patelco Credit Union

Redwood Credit Union

Ser Technology Corporation

Service Credit Union (NH)

Servus Credit Union

Sicredi Participações

Suncoast Credit Union

Teachers Mutual Bank

Texas Trust Credit Union

Truliant Federal Credit Union

United Nations Federal Credit Union

Unitus Community Credit Union

USF Federal Credit Union

WESCOM Credit Union

Westerra Credit Union
THANK YOU FOR ALL THE GLOBAL GOOD YOU DO!

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Cheney | Chair
SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union

Carla Cicero | Vice Chair
Numerica Credit Union

Susan Mitchell | Secretary
Mitchell, Stankovic & Associates

Dallas Bergl | Treasurer
Inova Federal Credit Union

Crystal Long | Director
GECU Credit Union

Dwayne Naylor | Director
Civic Federal Credit Union

Renée Sattiewhite | Director
African-American Credit Union Coalition

Steven Stapp | Director
Unitus Community Credit Union

Joe Thomas | Director
NextMark Credit Union

Brian Branch | President and CEO
World Council of Credit Unions

Manfred Alfonso Dasenbrock | Director
Sicredi Confederation

Brian Caldarelli | Director
PSCU

WORLDWIDE FOUNDATION STAFF

Mike Reuter,
Executive Director
+1 608-395-2047

Leni Giakoumopoulou,
GWLN Program Director
+1 608-395-2031

Thomas Belekevich,
WYCUP Program Director
+1 608-395-2065

Lisa Person,
Foundation Associate
+1 608-395-2064

*The Worldwide Foundation for Credit Unions is a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization and is the engagement and fundraising arm of the World Council of Credit Unions.