



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 15, 2016

Contact: Alison Jakubcin  
Marketing Clerk  
989-354-1531  
ajakubcin@aaacu.com

**Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union COO Graduates from First Annual Building Solutions as a Co-OP Boot Camp**

*Alpena, Michigan, November 15, 2016-* Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union (AAACU) Chief Operations Officer (COO) Angie Szatkowski recently graduated from CU\*Answers' first annual Building Solutions as a Co-OP Boot Camp.

AAACU's Szatkowski was one of nine enrollees from various credit unions across Michigan to graduate from the boot camp. Over the course of a year the group met for 8 days working with CU\*Answers to better understand how the cooperatively owned Credit Union Service Organization (CUSO) designs and builds products and solutions, along with the processes of its approach. The attendees also worked with CUSO data architects on the concepts that turn ideas into working technical solutions.

For their final assignment, the group created a spec for a new project crowdsourcing tool that allows credit unions within CU\*Answers network to vote on what projects the CUSO should work on next as well as created a guide to complete a custom programming project with CU\*Answers.

*AAACU serves members primarily in Alpena, Alcona, Montmorency, and Iosco counties with 8 locations: a main office located in Alpena, with branch offices in Ossineke, Lincoln, a Tiger Branch in Alcona Community Schools, Atlanta, Oscoda, Tawas, and an additional branch in Alpena. As of October 31, 2016, AAACU provides service to 27,999 members with total assets equal to \$324,974,382.*