

PRESS RELEASE

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Directions Credit Union partnering with Extreme Makeover: Home Edition Toledo

Sylvania, Ohio - Directions Credit Union is proud to be a lead sponsor for the Toledo edition of Extreme Makeover: Home Edition (EMHE), which airs Sunday Evenings on ABC Television. A new home will be constructed for a very deserving family in the Greater Toledo area, beginning September 7th through 14th. EMHE's talented team of designers will work with a team of volunteers to create a home that meets the specific needs of the chosen family. Five families living in the Greater Toledo area are in the running for this honor and the chosen family will be announced the morning of Sunday, September 7th.

The Toledo build will be the 125th for EMHE. It will be the first build in Toledo, and the fourth in the state of Ohio, with previous homes constructed in Columbus, Cincinnati, and Youngstown. The Buckeye Real Estate Group, as builder and lead contractor of the project, will join more than 3000 skilled workers and volunteers to help make this home happen. Locally, the Toledo event has been themed "Hearts and Hands for Heroes" which compliments EMHE's efforts this season in honoring families that define the word "hero".

"We were thrilled when Buckeye Real Estate Group approached us with this opportunity, said Barry Shaner, CEO/President Directions Credit Union. Our goal at Directions is to provide our members and the community with the financial guidance and assistance to help them reach their dreams and goals in life. This is a great way for us to make a difference in this deserving family's life by helping them get a fresh start in their new home. "

In addition to being a major sponsor of the event, Directions will provide hats for those volunteers working on the job site during the week of the build. The hats will also be sold at the job site and other events, with all proceeds being given to the family. Direction's branch location will serve as a collection site for community donations. In addition, the credit union will be selling "Hearts and Hands for Heroes" paper hands from September 8th - 13th, with all proceeds to be given to the family.

"We were looking to partner with a local financial institution who cares about the community", commented Tim Schlachter, President of The Buckeye Real Estate Group. "With an organization philosophy built on "People Helping People", Directions Credit Union was a great fit! We couldn't be happier with their support."

To learn more about EMHE's Toledo visit, or to volunteer time, or to provide in-kind products or services, log onto the builder's website, www.BuildwithBuckeye.com. To find a Directions Credit Union location nearest you, log onto www.directionscu.org.

Directions Credit Union was founded in 1953 as St. Clements Credit Union. Over the years the credit union has grown to become the 4th largest credit union in the State of Ohio. Directions Credit Union has current assets of \$500 million and nearly 85,000 members. There are nine branch locations in the Toledo Area and 11 branch locations in Central Ohio. Directions offers a full array of financial services including savings, checking, investments, auto loans and leasing, mortgage and home equity loans, credit cards, and personal loans. These offerings generally feature better rates and lower fees than traditional banks. Membership is available to persons who live, work, worship, attend school or volunteer in Wood, Fulton, Lucas, Huron, Ashland, Richland, Wayne, and Tuscarawas Counties. To learn more about Directions Credit Union visit www.directionscu.org.

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