



ARMY OF VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES

What is Army of Volunteer Advocates?

Credit union volunteers are the voice of the movement and have a very important story to tell, as well as, unique experiences and backgrounds that they can bring to bear in advocacy. Their stories are memorable, inspire action, and have the power to influence lawmaker votes and decisions.

We understand that advocacy and political involvement can be intimidating for those new to the process. The Army of Volunteer Advocates (AVA) program has been designed to make the process easier for both the seasoned advocate and the rookie. Volunteers are welcome to jump in with both feet or dedicate a small amount of time - all commitment levels are welcome and the volunteer's choice!

What is involved with the AVA?

Army of Volunteer Advocates opportunities include: future League sponsored training, CUNA Government Affairs Conference, Jam the Unicam Conference, League Annual Meeting, visits with local, state, federal lawmakers and candidates.

- **Grassroots Action Center:** Volunteers are encouraged to respond to action alerts sent by CUNA and/or the Nebraska League.
- **Advocacy Training:** The League and CUNA are working to create advocacy training opportunities where volunteers can learn best practices in advocating for their credit union at all levels of government.
- **Local Candidate Events:** When appropriate, volunteers will receive notification of local events to connect and build relationships with lawmakers.
- **Nebraska Credit Union League Political Action Committee (NCULPAC):** Membership in NCULPAC and participation in NCULPAC events help ensure credit union friendly candidates are elected to office.
- **Advocacy Events:** CUNA Government Affairs Conference, Jam the Unicam, lawmaker and candidate visits, town hall meetings.
- **Community Groups:** Participation in local community groups and activities such as the local Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club or other community groups serves not only the individual well, but indeed the credit union movement.

How to Enroll in the Army of Volunteer Advocates: To enroll in the AVA, please complete and submit the attached volunteer survey to Brandon Luetkenhaus at brandon@nebrcul.org. If you have any questions about the AVA, please don't hesitate to contact Brandon by phone at: 402.333.9331, extension 202.



Gary Westphal
Family Focus Federal Credit Union
"As a longtime credit union member and volunteer, I've been witness to the value that members receive from the credit union. My strong belief in the mission and purpose of credit unions makes me a great advocate for my credit union and all credit unions before lawmakers and candidates running for political office."



Bob Tingelhoff
OPPD Employees Federal Credit Union
"I am a volunteer board member of my credit union. The voice of credit union volunteers is needed now more than ever. Join me in becoming the voice for your credit union, my credit union and all credit unions!"



Ed Reyes
Omaha Police Federal Credit Union
"Service is in my blood. Whether it is keeping my community safe as an Omaha Police Officer or working for the members of my Omaha Police Federal Credit Union as a volunteer board members, I know being in service is key to building a stronger community."



Jim Cada
Nebraska's Credit Union PAC Trustee
"My heavy involvement in veterans' issues as well as credit union issues makes me a great advocate for both. Lawmakers and candidates alike know that I am passionate about these issues and call on me when they need my help or counsel."



ARMY OF VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES

Help us get to know you a little bit better by completing the following questionnaire:

Name: _____
 Credit Union: _____ Years as a CU Volunteer: _____
 Home Address: _____
 E-mail Address: _____

Do you wish to be a credit union volunteer advocate?: Yes No

Do you have political advocacy experience (board member or labor unions, political action committees, volunteer on political campaign, etc.)? Yes No
 (If yes, please describe): _____

Have you ever served in local city, county or state government? Yes No
 (If yes, please describe): _____

Do you have any relationship with elected officials or staff in local city, county, or state government? Yes No
 (If yes, please describe): _____

Are you a member of a Chamber of Commerce? Yes No
 (If yes, which Chamber? Dates of membership?): _____

Are you involved in other community or business associations local service clubs, Rotary Club, Kiwanis, etc.: Yes No
 (If yes, please describe, including organization name and dates of service): _____

Are you willing to speak in a meeting setting about your credit union and issues that impact your credit union? Yes No

Are you comfortable contacting your peers to encourage involvement in advocacy activities? Yes No

Please describe any other experience you feel might be helpful in your role as advocate:

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