

# 1st MidAmerica Credit Union recognized with three state awards

1st MidAmerica Credit Union was recently recognized with the first place Dora Maxwell Award for social responsibility, first place for the Desjardins Award for adult financial literacy, and a second place Louise Herring Award for internal programs that benefit members. All the honors were presented by the Illinois Credit Union League at the 1st MidAmerica Credit Union board meeting.

The credit union received first place in the Desjardins Award. This award recognizes leadership in the credit union industry that provides financial literacy for all ages. 1st MidAmerica was recognized for the First Time Home Buyers Webinar series. Feedback from member surveys was used to develop content for these webinars and provided valuable information to consumers ready to buy their first home.

"I believe that education is the key to success. An educated borrower is better informed with a clearer understanding of their housing needs and household budget. At 1st MidAmerica Credit Union, we make educating the first-time home buyer our priority," said Gary Hoggatt, Jr., Vice President, Mortgage Services.

1st MidAmerica was also the second-place recipient of the Louise Herring Award for the Financial Goals Program. As part of this program, the credit union surveyed members to ask them about their financial goals for the year. A follow-up system was then set up so members looking for assistance would be contacted by a credit union representative to set appointments and offer guidance on topics such as planning for retirement, buying a first home, or consolidating debt.



Patrick Smith, EVP, Advocacy and Regulatory Affairs for the Illinois Credit Union League (ICUL); Ashley Niebur Sharp, VP, State Advocacy and Legislative Counsel for ICUL; Rose Gibson, Board Chair for 1st MidAmerica Credit Union; Kevin Shaw, AVP Regional Management for ICUL; and Alan Meyer, President and CEO of 1st MidAmerica Credit Union show off the awards recently presented to 1st MidAmerica Credit Union by the Illinois Credit Union League. (Submitted photo)

"The Financial Goals Program is a distinct example of the credit union's efforts on financial well-being for all. We are honored and excited to receive the Louise Herring Award for putting the credit union philosophy of people helping people into action," said Amber Scott, chief marketing officer.

Additionally, the credit union was awarded the first place Dora Maxwell Award for the Beet Box Partnership, which is a sponsorship of the Goshen Market Foundation in Edwardsville. The Beet Box delivers produce from the farmers' market to low-income areas throughout our region. The credit

union has been a major sponsor of the project for the past two years. 1st MidAmerica Credit Union is a not-for-profit, financial cooperative with a commitment to improving the financial well-being of its members and local communities. Additional information can be found at [www.1stMidAmerica.org](http://www.1stMidAmerica.org).

# The Gori Law Firm named 2023 Top Workplaces USA recipient

The Gori Law Firm recently announced it has earned the 2023 Top Workplaces USA designation. The annual list was published on February 1. This year marks the third consecutive year the firm has been recognized both regionally and nationally as a Top Workplace.

Selection of Top Workplaces is based solely on employee feedback. Each year, thousands of surveys are issued to employees of nominated workplaces across the country by Energage, a Philadelphia-based workplace survey and performance Certified B Corporation. More than 1,270 organizations, including the Edwardsville, Ill., based firm, were recognized as 2023 Top Workplaces USA recipients.

"We are incredibly honored and excited to once again be recognized as a Top Workplace," said Sara Salger, managing partner of The Gori Law Firm. "We strive to create an exceptional work environment for our employees and are thankful for their feedback. Without them,

this award would not be possible." One of the top filers of asbestos-related cases in the country, The Gori Law Firm has nearly 200 employees and offices in Edwardsville, Ill., as well as New York City, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Orlando, and New Orleans. Since 2008, the firm has obtained over \$3 billion in settlements for its clients. The Gori Law Firm is also a frequent participant in the community, donating over \$260,000 to local and national organizations within the last year. In 2022, the firm also launched its philanthropic initiative Gori Gives, which encourages employees to log



community service hours throughout the year. To date, employees have documented over 95 hours of community service. Employees from more than 42,000 organizations were invited to participate in survey collections for 2023. The company uses distributed surveys to measure aspects of the workplace environment, including performance, engagement, leadership, and connection. Energage has surveyed and identified top organizations nationwide for more than 15 years. Fewer than three percent of invited organizations earn Top Workplace designations.

To learn more about Top Workplaces USA, visit <https://topworkplaces.com/>. The Gori Law Firm (formerly Gori Julian & Associates, P.C.) was formed in 2008 and has since recovered more than \$3 billion in compensation for those suffering as a result of asbestos exposure. Serving clients throughout the United States, the firm has offices in Edwardsville, Ill., Granite City, Ill., Belleville, Ill., Alton, Ill., St. Louis, New York, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Washington D.C. and Orlando. Although the attorneys at The Gori Law Firm concentrate on asbestos-related injuries, they also handle catastrophic injury cases, pharmaceutical and medical device litigation and occupational disease injury matters. For more information on the areas of law practiced by the attorneys at The Gori Law Firm, or to contact an attorney at the firm, visit [www.gorilaw.com](http://www.gorilaw.com) or call toll-free at (877) 456-5419.

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