

Guatemalan Delegates Visit Leagues

By Tina Ramos-Ingold, Public Affairs and Community Outreach Specialist

Representatives from the Federación Nacional de Cooperativas de Ahorro y Crédito, Guatemala's national credit union trade association, and Guatemalan credit unions learned about U.S. credit union operations and shared branching during a June visit to the California and Nevada Credit Union Leagues and Financial Service Centers Cooperative offices in Ontario, CA.

The Leagues have partnered with FENACOAC as part of the World Council of Credit Union's International Partnerships Program since 2009.

The delegation came to learn about the U.S. credit union system, operations at the Leagues, business services, and shared branching. They were joined by WOCCU Senior Manager of International Partnerships and

Training Victor Miguel Corro and International Partnerships Officer Joshua Fetting.

After Leagues President and CEO Diana Dykstra welcomed the group, Director of CU Development Tena Lozano provided an overview of the U.S. credit union system and Leagues operations.

San Francisco FCU CEO and FSCC Board Chairman Steven Stapp offered an overview of shared branching and his credit union's experience with it, as well as his insights as a League member and the benefits it brings to his credit union.



L-R: WOCCU Senior Manager of International Partnerships and Training Victor Miguel Corro; FENACOAC Research-Development and Technology Manager Deeynar Estuardo Leon; Leagues Director of Credit Union Development Tena Lozano; Leagues President and CEO Diana Dykstra; FENACOAC Treasury-Comptroller Coordinator Magda Escalante de Barrios; WOCCU International Partnerships Officer Joshua Fetting; San Francisco FCU CEO and FSCC Board Chairman Steven Stapp; Parroquial Guadalupana CU CEO Jose Vinicio Garcia; and UPA CU CEO Felipe de Jesus Godoy Diaz

Leagues SVP of CU Growth and Development Lucy Ito provided some information on CURoots Cooperative, while SVP of Business Services Sylvia Fath presented information on the Leagues' business partners. The following day, the group visited FSCC. ☀

CU Development

CNYIN Schools of the Year

By Tena Lozano, Director of CU Development

The California and Nevada Youth Involvement Network—in partnership with the Richard Myles Johnson Foundation—has named Melinda Heights Elementary School in Rancho Santa Margarita, CA and Ward Elementary School in Downey, CA as the 2011 recipients of its School of the Year award. The winners were chosen from among schools nominated by CNYIN members.

Each school received \$500. The award was developed to honor a California or Nevada school that has excelled in its financial literacy efforts.

Melinda Heights Elementary School

was nominated by SchoolsFirst FCU for its achievement in promoting money management, budgeting, and decision-making. Additionally, fourth-grade teacher Debby James uses creative means to teach her students real-world lessons of paying rent and utilities, writing and balancing a checkbook, and making deposits at a financial institution.

Ward Elementary was nominated by Downey FCU for providing many financial literacy opportunities for its students several times a year, through credit union-sponsored assemblies, field trips, classroom presentations, and money management classes. Over



L-R: Downey Unified School District Assistant Superintendent Jerilyn King-Brown; Downey FCU Community Education and Development Representative Kari Johnson; Downey FCU CEO Barbara Lamberth; Ward Elementary School Principal Jennifer Robbins; and CNYIN Board Member Dhara Sanchez, flanked by students from Ward Elementary's enrichment class.

the past three years, the school has also incorporated financial education into its enrichment curriculum. ☀