

2025



IMPACT REPORT

Blaze Credit Union's CEO/President Dan Stoltz often says that "life is about giving, not getting." This philosophy guides Blaze's Core Action to Give Back, going beyond the financial services we offer and into our community.

We are proud to present this overview of our 2025 Give Back efforts — a snapshot of the many ways our company, staff, and members have shown up for our communities during this past year. We invite you to learn even more by visiting blazecu.com/community



GIVING HIGHLIGHTS

MEMBER IMPACT GRANTS

In the spring of 2025, Blaze was presented with an incredible opportunity from the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) Des Moines to have up to \$250,000 of charitable donations to community development and affordable housing nonprofits matched at a 3:1 level. Ultimately, 33 of our nonprofit partners received grants from Blaze. Those grants were then tripled by FHLB Des Moines, resulting in one million dollars in community donations given through the Member Impact Grant program.

2025 DESJARDINS YOUTH FINANCIAL EDUCATION AWARD

Blaze Credit Union was honored with the Minnesota Credit Union Network's (MnCUN) 2025 Desjardins Youth Financial Education Award. The award recognized Blaze's impactful initiatives promoting the financial wellbeing of students in St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS). Blaze partners with SPPS to provide direct financial education to students via classroom presentations, while also operating student-run branches within four St. Paul high schools — Como, Harding, Highland Park, and Johnson. These branches provide students with financial education programs, events, and resources to empower them in managing their finances.

BUCKS FOR BABE

Since it was founded in 2022 to honor Babe, the beloved dog of KS95 Morning Show host (and Blaze member) Crisco, Bucks for Babe has raised more than \$300,000 for The Bond Between. Blaze once again matched the first \$25,000 in donations received during the 2025 fundraising campaign.

At the end of June, Minnesota was rocked by the tragic murders of Rep. Melissa Hortman and her husband Mark. Their family dog was also killed. Gilbert was a four year-old golden retriever who was trained as a service dog, but changed careers to be a family pet. The Hortmans were dedicated Helping Paws volunteers. Helping Paws trains and places assistance dogs with people who have disabilities, and veterans and first responders with PTSD. The Bucks for Babe campaign was quickly expanded to include Helping Paws, and Blaze donated an additional \$10,000.

In all, the 2025 Bucks for Babe fundraiser raised more than \$131,000 for the two animal rescues.



GIVING HIGHLIGHTS

CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Knowing cancer is something that impacts us all, Blaze's giving programs have long emphasized supporting cancer research, patient support, and awareness. In October 2025, during Blaze Cancer Awareness Month, we assisted numerous cancer-focused nonprofits through event sponsorships, awareness campaigns, support of the Tackle Cancer initiative at Minnesota high schools, and partnerships with the American Cancer Society and Regions Hospital Foundation.

BLAZE VISA® TREASURES

Each time a Blaze member used their Blaze Visa Credit card in 2025, Blaze gave back .25% of that transaction to our community causes. Since the Treasures Program began in 2019, member purchases have resulted in nearly \$5 million donated to nonprofit partners across the state, including more than \$1.6 million in 2025.

BLAZE CARES AND SHARES

Each week, a different Blaze team or branch designates a Minnesota nonprofit to receive a \$1,000 donation from Blaze through the Blaze Cares and Shares program. Over the course of every year, that results in \$52,000 total being donated to 52 different nonprofits. The Cares and Shares program ensures that every employee, regardless of their position or their tenure with the organization, has a voice in our giving programs.

FOOD AND TOY DRIVES

Our members showed just how much they care with their amazing response to our annual food and toy drives. The food drive, held in March, and the toy drive in December both resulted in overflowing donation bins and a tangible impact on the most vulnerable families in our communities.

EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERISM

Every Blaze employee is encouraged to give back to their communities through volunteerism. To support their efforts, Blaze provides all employees with eight hours of paid time off to volunteer. In 2025, Blaze staff volunteered 695 hours.

IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

\$2.78M
2025 Total Charitable Impact

\$1,999,520
DONATED

429

**MINNESOTA
NON-PROFITS**

supported via donations and grants

\$1,636,190

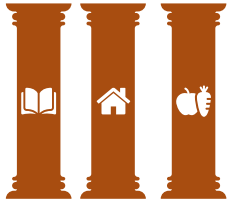
in charitable donations via the
Blaze Visa Treasures program

\$263,330

in Blaze Foundation grants

\$100,000

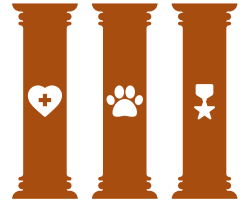
in Blaze scholarships



6 KEY GIVING PILLARS

- Education & Financial Empowerment
- Housing
- Hunger

- Cancer, Health, and Wellness
- Animals
- Veterans & Military Families



40

students awarded
Blaze scholarships

3,500

lbs of food collected
in annual food drive

\$22,581



raised by Blaze Hockey
Kids4Kids teams to
help Gillette Children's

695  **HRS**
of staff volunteer time

40,136 lbs

of member documents shredded
for free at Blaze shred days

140

**FINANCIAL
EDUCATION
PRESENTATIONS**



2,075 youth | 1,038 adults

Insured by NCUA