



Working together to create  
a world without poverty by  
providing economic opportunity.

# The Messenger

WINTER 2021 VOLUME 33 ISSUE 1

# 2021

## Achieve Financial Wellness: A New Year's Resolution HRCU will help you keep!

**Does financial wellness feel like an impossible goal?** When you hear those words, do you hear a voice in your head say something like, "That will NEVER happen for me"? We understand and have had some of the same thoughts ourselves. **But we are here to offer HOPE!** We believe that no matter where you are on the path and how many mountains you face, financial wellness is something that you can achieve.

We realize there are many obstacles along the way. We know that you need help to achieve your goal. It is our passion and our mission to walk with you as you take steps that will lead to financial wellness. The journey may be difficult, but we promise it will be worth the effort.

Please picture this in your mind for a moment: You are feeling gratitude in your heart because you have a steady job, spend less than you earn, have money in your savings, all your bills are paid, your pantry is full, you can afford to get any medical care you need, you are able to provide for your family, you have reliable transportation, you love your home, and your credit score is over 800. Would you want that image to be a reality? The first step to achieve any goal begins with a vision of what you want.

Let us encourage you to make financial wellness a 2021 New Year's Resolution! Then let us help achieve this goal. Here are some services we have to help you get started.

### **Credit Check Plus**

We will help you understand how credit score works and how you can make yours better with Credit Check Plus. This service is completely free. Go to our website to sign up for your personalized session.

### **Free Credit Score**

With Credit Score, you will have daily access to your credit score through our mobile app and online banking, along with personalized tips on how to improve or maintain an already-great score. Credit Score is built right into our easy-to-use online banking platform, so you don't need a new login. If you are not enrolled in online banking, go to [Holyrosarycu.org](http://Holyrosarycu.org) to learn more.

### **Credit Builder Loans**

If you need to build or rebuild your credit, you can borrow money and the loan proceeds will be placed in a share account as collateral for your loan. When you are finished, the amount you have pledged as collateral for the loan will be a nice nest egg you have saved. You build your credit as you build your savings. Just complete a loan application and tell us you are applying for the Credit Builder Loan.

### **Methods To Help You Save**

When you enroll in our Save the Change program, we'll round up your debit card purchases to the nearest dollar and transfer the extra change to your savings account! It's an easy way to start saving money. You can also sign up for an Automatic Savings Transfer for as much as you want and as often as you want. Go to our website and find the forms for these savings methods under our Resources tab.

### **Refinance High-Interest-Rate Loans**

Take a look at the loans you have with other financial institutions. Consider refinancing your high-interest-rate debt with a lower rate at HRCU. We offer many loan products that may provide you remarkable savings.

Contact us if we can help you on your journey to financial wellness.



## It's Tax Time

As tax season approaches, it can be overwhelming to think about how to prepare your tax return and what you should do with your refund once you receive it.

The good news is we have several resources to help you:

**Tax Preparation Assistance:** In the spring, watch for local Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) tax preparation sites nearby. The VITA program has operated for over 50 years, offering free tax help to individuals generally earning less than \$56,000, persons with disabilities and limited English-speaking taxpayers. For more information go to <https://extension.missouri.edu/counties/urban-west-region/tax-prep>.

**TurboTax® Discount For Members:** Try it for free and pay only when you're ready to file. Visit [www.lovemycreditunion.org](http://www.lovemycreditunion.org) to learn more about the Turbo tax discount.

**Making The Most Of Your Tax Refund Webinar On Saturday 1/23/21 From 10:00 - 11:00 am:** All participants will be entered into a drawing for \$50.\* The winner will be announced at the end of the session. We hope you will join us to learn how to manage your tax refund wisely. **Register to attend at [holyrosarycu.org](http://holyrosarycu.org).**

\*Must register and attend entire webinar to be entered into the drawing.

## Privacy Policy

Federal law requires us to tell you how we collect, share and protect your personal information. Our privacy policy has not changed, and you may review our policy and practices with respect to your personal information at [HolyRosaryCU.org](http://HolyRosaryCU.org), or we will mail you a free copy upon request if you call us at 816.221.2734.



## Get Ready For Video Banking!

Holy Rosary Credit Union is offering Video Banking soon! Video Banking is nearly the same as going into a branch but can be done from the convenience of your own home or anywhere you are via a video connection with your smart phone, computer or other device. We are even providing in-branch Video Banking Center at many of our branches.

### Ways to access Video Banking:

- Visit our first in-branch Video Banking Center at the Main Office instead of waiting in line.
- Search for Holy Rosary Credit Union Video Banking app from your smart device app store, download the app, and create an account.
- Visit [holyrosarycu.org](http://holyrosarycu.org) and click on the Video Banking icon.



You can easily connect face-to-face with a HRCU representative to conduct all your banking needs. Apply for loans, new accounts, sign forms and do many of the other things you would in a branch. Plus, it is the safest way to bank during COVID-19, while still receiving personalized service.



## Dream Of A Brighter Financial Future

**Believe it can happen and take the first step!**  
**HRCU has lots of FREE Tools to help you on your path to Financial Wellness.**

Visit our Wellness Web page today under the Resources/Financial Education/Wellness tab. Who knows how far you can travel to reach your goal of Financial Wellness in 2021. Listed below are key topics that you will find on this page. The tools provided can help you acquire mastery of the area and start you on a path to financial fitness.



### Get out of debt.

There are different strategies for reducing debt. One easy tool is to refinance high-interest rate debt with a lower interest rate loan. Let us help find a strategy for you.



### Build credit.

Learn how to better understand your credit report, dispute inaccurate information, and manage your credit score.



### Set a budget.

We can help you to set a budget and create a spending plan to work toward your goals.



### Become a homeowner.

Our trained staff provides counseling to first-time homebuyers. It's never too early to think about your goal of buying a home.



### Develop an automatic savings plan.

Start small. Find a set amount you can spare every week or month, say \$10, \$25, or even \$50 dollars, depending on your goals, and set up an automatic scheduled transfer from your HRCU checking account to your savings account.

## Banking Fees Notification

Holy Rosary is announcing some changes to the fee schedule effective February 15, 2021. A complete fee schedule is included with the newsletter. Changes can be identified by italicized print. If you have any questions, please contact us.



FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE IS *owning it!*

The down payment on a home can be a big barrier to home ownership—Home\$tart can help provide \$7,500 towards your down payment.

### Can Home\$tart Provide A Down Payment For You?

If a down payment is preventing you from owning a home, we may be able to help! Because HRCU is a member of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, we can offer a \$7,500 down payment grant to those that meet the income limits and credit requirements, are a first-time home owner, have a sales contract, complete an accepted homebuyer education class and close their mortgage loan with us.\*

Visit [HolyRosaryCU.org](http://HolyRosaryCU.org) to sign up for your free, personal Solid Foundations session—we will help you develop a plan to reach your homeownership goals!

\*Offer availability dependent on grant funds availability. Grant may be used towards a down payment and/or closing costs. First-time home buyer is an individual or an individual and her/his spouse who have not owned a home during the prior 3-year period unless they are a displaced homemaker or a single parent. The purchase of the home with down payment assistance requires that the grant recipient live in the home for five years. If the grant recipient lives in the house less than five years, the purchaser will be obligated to return a portion of the grant based on the length of time the grant recipient owned the home.

### Your Home Can Help You!

**Needing emergency cash due to the COVID-19 pandemic?** Believe it or not, the home you own could help you. Apply at [HolyRosaryCU.org](http://HolyRosaryCU.org) for a line of credit up to 100% of the equity you have in your home.\*

A home equity line of credit loan — also known as a HELOC — is a revolving line of credit, much like a credit card. You can borrow up to your line of credit, any time you need it, by writing a check connected to the account. Because a HELOC is a line of credit, you make payments only on the amount you actually borrow, not the full amount available.

**If you already have a HELOC with another financial institution, consider refinancing with us.** You could reduce your interest rate and monthly payments so that the repayment period becomes more affordable. Your home's value also may have increased since you took out your HELOC. If this is the case, **a HELOC refinance can allow you to get more money from your home equity!**



\*Subject to credit approval.

## HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

### New Year's Day

Friday & Saturday, January 1 & 2

### Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, January 18

### Presidents' Day

Monday, February 15

For your convenience, our mobile and online banking, bill pay, ATMs and open Shared Branch locations are available for your use on holidays. If you aren't yet enrolled, please contact us to see how to take advantage of these valuable services.

## Locations

### Main Office

533 Campbell Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106

### Raytown Branch

7043 Blue Ridge Boulevard  
Raytown, MO 64133

### St. Joseph Branch

401 Illinois Avenue, Suite B (in back)  
St. Joseph, MO 64504

### Independence

### Community Services League

404 N. Noland Road  
Independence, MO 64056

### Community Services League

16995 E. Dover Lane  
Independence, MO 64056

Local Phone: 816.221.2734

Local Fax: 816.221.4264

HRCU Toll Free: 844.456.3211

Voice Response PAT: 855.327.8910

Online Banking: [HolyRosaryCU.org](http://HolyRosaryCU.org)

Lost/Stolen Debit Cards: 800.500.1044

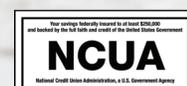
Lost/Stolen Visa® Credit Cards: 856.604.0381

For the hours of operation for each branch, please call or visit our website.

[HolyRosaryCU.org](http://HolyRosaryCU.org)



[facebook.com/holyrosarycu](https://facebook.com/holyrosarycu)



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Save the Date



All members are invited to attend our annual meeting on April 28, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. Stay tuned for more details!

## Call For Volunteers

We are looking for dedicated volunteers from within our membership to help serve in a variety of volunteer capacities. Volunteers are the heart of the credit union and provide the credit union with leadership while gaining opportunities for personal satisfaction, growth, education and experience.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer and want to learn more, please download the Volunteer Information and Application packet on our website.

Applications must be submitted to the Nominating Committee by March 15, 2021. Applications can be mailed, handed to a staff member, or faxed to 816.221.4264.

## Supervisory Notification

Please review your account and direct your questions to the Supervisory Committee at:

P.O. Box 34467  
Kansas City, MO 64116-0867

Any tax forms generated by account activity will be mailed to you in January 2021 under separate cover.

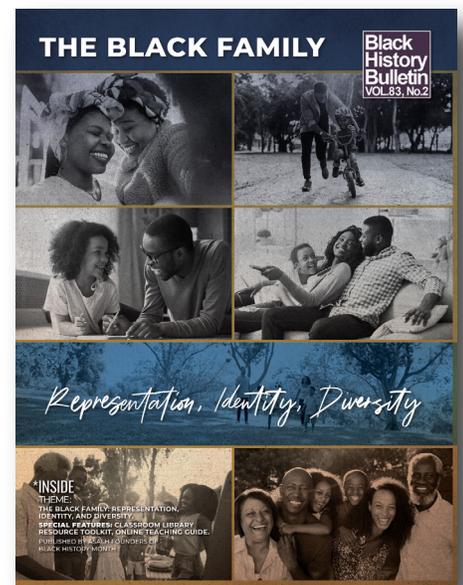
## Black History Month - February

### THE BLACK FAMILY: Representation, Identity, and Diversity

Join us this February as we take part in honoring Black History Month.

This year's theme focuses on The Black Family: *Representation, Identity, and Diversity*. The family offers a rich tapestry of images for exploring the African American past and present.

Watch for more details about a drawing to be offered to our members in February as part of our special Black History Month activities!



## Happy Lunar New Year - Chúc Mừng Năm Mới

### February 12

On Friday, February 12, we'll have sweets and treats at the Campbell St. office to celebrate the coming Year of the Ox. Join us in welcoming the Lunar New Year!

## Saint Joseph Branch Extends Its Hours

Thanks to our members' loyalty, we continue to grow! Our St. Joseph Branch is proud to announce new full-time hours. We hope you will stop by and see us for your banking needs.

Monday: 9 am - 5 pm  
Tuesday: 9 am - 5 pm  
Wednesday: 10 am - 5 pm  
Thursday: 9 am - 5 pm  
Friday: 9 am - 6 pm  
Saturday: 9 am - 1 pm



401 Illinois Ave. (Suite B), St. Joseph, MO 64504, 816.221.2734