

A NOTE FROM LINDA

As fast as it came, 2021 has zoomed (no pun intended) by and we are turning the corner into 2022. Many of us used Zoom throughout the year, and along with that came a lot of Zoom fatigue, but also endless opportunities to stay connected with friends, family, and remote co-workers. Being a glass-half-full person, I'm grateful for the opportunity to be able to connect with people I would not have otherwise been able to connect with.

Looking back at 2021, it has been quite a year for Upward CU. We surpassed the \$100 million dollar mark in assets AND we began our 65th Anniversary on July 30th. So, lots to celebrate in the coming year. **Mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 16th, 5:00 pm PST for our Virtual Annual Meeting.**

The milestone of a \$100 million asset mark is a result of the trust our members have in us, as well as the effect of reduced spending and travel due to the pandemic. While we are confident that consumer spending and travel will resume to their pre-pandemic level, we want our members and community to know we are here to help with their loan needs as it is a major part of business and income.

While the year is not over, here's some high level 2021 reflections:

As part of the **65th Anniversary** celebration, we have had monthly activities to complete for chances to win some great prizes, ranging from tickets to the movies to a bundle of **Upward Credit Union swag**. Be on the lookout to see what our marketing peeps have in-store monthly with bigger prizes too.

With the pandemic still here, and really who knows for how long, we kept our doors open to serve our members securely and safely. I can't say enough how wonderful our members are with keeping protocol and are beyond respectful.

Our community is important to us and at different times of the year, and we did what we could to acknowledge our **healthcare heroes** and thank them for their unwavering dedication to all of us.

Our volunteer Board of Directors is incredibly progressive and adopted a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) resolution. This is not just a piece of paper, it's a commitment to our community that all are welcome and celebrated here at Upward.

We all are still working through this ever-changing economy. Many are still feeling the effects of 2020 and 2021, and everyone has a different situation and story. Our main goal will always be to serve our members and community as their primary financial institution and figure out WHAT CAN WE DO to help. Thank you all for your continued support and have a wonderful and safe Holiday Season. As always...**Keep Soaring Upward** and share the gift of membership and keep us growing!

Happy Holidays to you and all your family and friends, warm holiday wishes, and a prosperous new year from all of us at Upward Credit Union.