The Metro East Chapter Charity Committee is proud to announce the third charity we will focus on for the 2009 fundraising year. During the months of July and August, we will collect donations for Project Education for Homeless Students and Youth.

According to the National Coalition for the Homeless, 1.35 million U.S. children are homeless on any given night and families are now the fastest growing segment of the homeless population, accounting for almost 39 percent of the nation’s homeless.

Who is a “Homeless” Student? The term “homeless child and youth” means those who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. This includes those living in shelters, motels, cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing or sharing the housing of others due to a loss of housing, such as a natural disaster resulting in the temporary or permanent loss of their home. (i.e. fire, hurricane, tornado, etc.)

Although this program provides various aspects of assistance, we will be concentrating on school supplies, personal hygiene items and cash donations. Cash donations will be converted into gift cards and distributed by the school district to the children and families in need. These donations will be distributed to schools within the Macomb County District which currently has 614 homeless or displaced students, including students who were displaced due to Hurricane Katrina.

Additional information about the program can be found at www.misd.net. Click on “special populations” and then “homeless.”

By unifying our charitable efforts we reach out to all credit unions in the Metro East Chapter to assist in providing the needed items to help these children have some of the basic essentials we sometimes take for granted.

We are committed to outreaches of all kinds and have been very successful in supporting many worthy causes since the onset of the committee in February 2007.

For additional information or questions, please contact:

Crystal Gracz  
Central Macomb Community Credit Union  
Chairperson  586-751-4100, ext. 116  
Charity Lead  cgracz@cmccu.com

Any member of our committee can also be contacted for any questions on how to get involved. Contact information can be found at the website link shown below.

Visit Metro East Chapter Charity website at http://metroeast.mcul.org/171.php for a list committee member contacts and 2009 charities.