



So, this merger.

## What's in it for our home communities?

Both SPIRE and Greater Minnesota have long histories of being strong community supporters, and that support ranges from taking part in community parades and festivals all the way to raising thousands for charity.

### **SPIRE and Greater Minnesota:**

- **Have both been active partners to the Children's Miracle Network.** In fact, Greater Minnesota was the second-highest per-member contributor in 2009, raising some \$22,000. Similarly, SPIRE raised over \$20,000 via three Harmon Killebrew autograph appearances from 2007 - 2009.
- **Are both winners of the 2013 Dora Maxwell Social Responsibility Community Service Award.** Greater Minnesota won its asset class for its efforts in bringing the MN Twins Play Ball! clinic to Ogilvie. The clinic focused on developing basic baseball and softball skills for both boys and girls. SPIRE was honored for its Season of Giving charitable partnership with the Minnesota Timberwolves. The Season of Giving features a month of events to benefit underprivileged youth, including a toy drive, a holiday shopping spree for children waiting to be adopted, and grant making.
- **Both have roots in cooperatives, and are active supporters of them.** SPIRE's partnership with four local food cooperatives has resulted in large contributions to educational foundations. In addition, Greater Minnesota has had a relationship with Gillette Children's Specialty Hospitals in Minnesota going back to 1998. Over the past 16 years, GMCU has donated in excess of \$135,000 to Gillette. Since 2008, Greater Minnesota has also been very involved with financial literacy, winning a total of seven Minnesota state awards, and four national awards for its financial literacy outreach work. Commitment to the community runs deep through GMCU and SPIRE.
- SPIRE offers FREE document shredding two times a year to our members and our community.

**With this kind of momentum, only bigger, better and "greater" things can come from a SPIRE and Greater Minnesota partnership!**

**We're looking forward to making an impact in all of our home communities! Please give us a call at 800.808.2830, send us an email at [info@gmcu.com](mailto:info@gmcu.com), or stop by any location if you have any questions.**



**Greater  
Minnesota  
Credit Union**



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## What's in it for me as a Greater Minnesota employee?

As a Greater Minnesota employee, you likely have a lot of questions about the proposed partnership with SPIRE Credit Union. That's understandable. But here's a look at the ways a partnership will benefit you and your family:

- **More wallet-friendly health insurance, beginning in 2015.** SPIRE's health insurance is highly competitive, and, because we are self-insured, we've been able to keep annual premium increases well below the industry average.
- **A higher 401(k) match.** SPIRE matches up to 3% of employees' 401(k) contributions, up from GMCU's 2%. At the end of the year, we also offer employees a 3% discretionary contribution.
- **A retention bonus.** Because SPIRE wants to hang on to the Greater Minnesota talent, all GM employees will receive retention bonuses through their first year with SPIRE. For quarters 1 and 2, it will be 1% of your salary, and for quarters 3 and 4, it will be 2%.
- **Quarterly bonuses.** All SPIRE employees can earn bonuses if organization-wide goals are achieved. (In Q2, it's based on checking accounts, loans and payment protection penetration.) The total potential bonus is \$500/quarter, or \$2,000/year.
- **PTO Sell Back.** As a SPIRE employee, you are eligible to "sell" any accrued PTO for your full hourly rate, up to 80 hours per year. That results in about 4% of your salary.
- **Maintained seniority.** You won't lose any accrued PTO, and you'll continue to earn at SPIRE based on your longevity at Greater Minnesota. What's more, you'll have more opportunities to advance as part of the larger organization.
- **SPIRE pays for short-term disability.**

To sum it up, as an employee of SPIRE, you could earn substantially more, with new opportunities.

Here's a look at how the math might work for an employee earning \$35,000 per year:

- 6% Retention Bonus = \$2,100
- 4% PTO Sell Back Opportunity = \$1,400
- \$2,000 Quarterly Bonus (4 quarters at \$500 per) = \$2,000
- Additional 401(k) = \$350 match + \$1,050 discretionary = \$1,400

For a grand total increase of \$6,900, or 19.7%!

... and, did we mention we're on the same core system, Episys, as well as PSCU (Visa)? That means you won't have to learn a whole new system.

We're sure looking forward to working together, and we hope you are, too. **You are the most important piece of a successful partnership!**





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## What's in it for me as a Greater Minnesota member?

As a Greater Minnesota member, you likely have a lot of questions about the proposed partnership with SPIRE Credit Union. We understand that. But here's a look at the ways a partnership with SPIRE could benefit you:

- **Seriously great rates.** SPIRE's loan rates are consistently among the very lowest in the state. In addition, SPIRE's dividend rates for certificates and other products are the same or higher than Greater Minnesota's.

Here's a very quick comparison of a few key products:

Product	GMCU	SPIRE
Money Market Checking – up to \$2,500	.01 APY*	.10 APY
Money Market Checking – \$100,000+	.05 APY	.25 APY
Certificates – 36-month	.45 APY	.65 APY
Certificates – 48-month	.50 APY	.90 APY
Home Equity Loans (as low as)	5.54% APR**	2.99% APR

- **Same places.** SPIRE plans to keep all six of Greater Minnesota's branches open to serve you.
- **Same faces.** SPIRE is committed to retaining Greater Minnesota staff – so committed in fact, that we're offering them a retention bonus. The same people who help you today, will be there to help you tomorrow.
- **Shared Branching.** SPIRE belongs to the CU Service Center shared branching network, which gives members free, convenient access to over **5,000 credit unions** all over the United States. Members can take care of basic transactions such as deposits, withdrawals, transfers and more – just as if they were at a SPIRE/Greater Minnesota branch.
- **Leading technology.** SPIRE offers a new, intuitive internet banking system, along with a simple-to-use mobile app and Mobile Deposit Capture, which allows members to deposit a check via cell phone photo.
- **An easy transition.** Because SPIRE and Greater Minnesota share the same core processing system, you won't be inconvenienced by a data conversion.
- **FREE Checking** - allows member to go \$9.99 negative without incurring overdraft fee!

Please give us a call at 800.808.2830, send us an email at [info@gmcu.com](mailto:info@gmcu.com), or stop by any location if you have any questions.

**We are committed to serving you and giving back to our communities!**



\* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) will fluctuate with the market and other economic conditions. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Dividend rates may change after account is opened. Fees may reduce earnings.

\*\* Must be new money at SPIRE and used for refinance or cash-out only. Property must be the primary residence and located in MN or WI. Property insurance is required. Payment estimates do not include taxes or insurance; actual payments may be higher. SPIRE does not escrow for taxes or insurance. Residential properties only. Commercial, agriculture and large acreage properties excluded from offer. Interest rate is subject to change at any time. Rates and terms are subject to qualification. Rates disclosed are based on the loans having automatic payments. Other rates and terms available. Borrower must meet membership requirements to qualify for offer. Other exclusions may apply. See your tax advisor for details regarding interest deductibility.