



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Lenders One Member Reaches New Level in Charitable Giving** *Mortgage Research Center raises more than \$100,000 for local United Way*

**ST. LOUIS, Jan. 27, 2009** – No matter what the headlines might say about the mortgage industry, one member of [Lenders One Mortgage Cooperative](#), a national alliance of mortgage bankers, not only grew its business in 2008 but also increased its charitable giving for the year. Columbia, Mo.-based [Mortgage Research Center](#) (MRC), a company that specializes in government-backed financing, raised \$100,000 for its local United Way. This is in addition to the company's annual donations to a variety of military causes.

"MRC has always been a charitable company, with our primary focus on supporting multiple military organizations," said Nate Long, MRC's CEO. "This year, however, we wanted to concentrate on our immediate community and see our money at work; partnering with the Heart of Missouri United Way made perfect sense. Not once has MRC set goals or standards for corporate giving, but when there is a need, we see an opportunity to let our employees respond."

After just a few hours of announcing MRC's decision to help Heart of Missouri United Way, employees already had pledged approximately \$30,000. The total donations for the year exceeded \$47,000, of which the company matched to reach \$100,000.

"The success of this fundraising reflects the character of our employees," Long continued. "We held no special events or projects – the money came straight from their donations. It is just a great feeling when you have something to give to someone else who is in need."

While VA lending is part of MRC's business, caring for military families goes beyond just getting them in a home. In addition to the company's United Way giving, other funds were donated to the Paralyzed Veterans of America, an organization that works to maximize the quality of life of

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those with spinal cord injury or dysfunction, and to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, a nonprofit devoted to end homelessness for those who have returned from war.

MRC giving did not stop there for military related causes. The company also rewards five \$1,500 scholarships to college students every semester. Students who serve in the military or are children of those who have served are eligible to apply. The recipients are selected based on their responses to a series of essay questions. MRC had more than 1,200 applicants this past semester.

“With so much of the media focusing on the challenges and failures of the mortgage industry, it is refreshing to hear a story that is filled with success and selflessness,” said [Scott Stern](#), CEO of Lenders One. “And this is just one out of many in the industry. MRC is one of our newest members, and Lenders One is eager to assist the company in growing its presence as FHA and VA demand continues to grow.”

### **About Lenders One Mortgage Cooperative**

Lenders One is a national alliance of mortgage bankers which was established in 2000 and is based in St. Louis. With more than 125 members originating \$40 billion in mortgage loans annually, the Lenders One alliance ranks as the ninth largest mortgage originator in the U.S. Lenders One leverages its aggregate buying power and preferred-investor relationships to negotiate better lending terms and provide premium business services at reduced costs. Its mortgage productivity system additionally allows members to close more loans, satisfy continuing education requirements and market themselves more powerfully. For more information about membership, contact Tim Stern 866.728.5678 or visit [www.lendersone.com](http://www.lendersone.com).

### **About Mortgage Research Center**

Mortgage Research Center is based in Columbia, Mo., with other branches operating throughout the country. The company specializes in government financing and providing alternative solutions to subprime lending; more than 95 percent of its total volume is either FHA or VA loans. MRC is licensed in all 50 states, and is approved through the Department of Housing and Urban Development as well as the Department of Veteran Affairs for FHA and VA lending. MRC was also a 2007 Inc. 500 Award recipient for being ranked as one the fastest growing privately held companies. Visit [www.mortgageresearchcenter.com](http://www.mortgageresearchcenter.com) for more information.