

OMB No. 3133-0188

To: Pamela Williams, NCUA

From: Elaine Golden & Brenton Peck, Financial Health Network

Re: Questionnaire for Interviewees

Date: March 22, 2022

## 1. Team introductions

## **Project Introduction**

The NCUA's Office of Credit Union Resources and Expansion (CURE), which administers the agency's Minority Depository Institution (MDI) Preservation Program, supports the growth of all credit unions, with a particular focus on low-income-designated credit unions and minority institutions.

Financial Health Network has been contracted by the NCUA to conduct in-depth analysis of MDIs, in addition to seeking input from industry experts. Specifically, we seek your guidance in:

- Outlining systemic and practical barriers facing MDIs;
- Discussing products and services that are (or should be) provided by MDIs to improve their financial performance; and
- Defining ways MDIs can collaborate amongst each other.

Your input to this important work will be compiled alongside others', in a final assessment report presented to the NCUA later this year.

## 2. Any questions before we begin?

	<ul> <li>What are some of the barriers to member and asset growth MDIs are facing? Are these specific to MDIs or credit unions in general? What are the opportunities for growth?</li> </ul>
Outlining systemic and practical barriers facing MDIs	<ul> <li>From your perspective, how are MDIs (and, if relevant, your MDI specifically) coping with the changing competitive landscape in the communities they serve?</li> <li>What are some of the main challenges MDIs face while working in historically underserved communities?</li> <li>Do MDIs tend to have high market share in the communities served? If not the MDI, what institution?</li> </ul>





Discussing products and services	<ul> <li>What are some of the highly sought products and services provided by MDIs?</li> <li>How have products and services offered at MDIs (and, if relevant, your MDI specifically) adapted to the changing landscape?</li> <li>Do you have any examples of innovative credit unions that adapted their offerings in a way that improved their financial performance?</li> <li>What are the products and services offered today at MDIs that derive the most value to the credit union?</li> <li>How do community members – generally speaking – learn about the offerings provided at MDIs? How could this be improved?</li> <li>Who at MDIs (and, if relevant, your MDI specifically) keeps a pulse on the needs of the community? How often is the community engaged in discussions with the MDI? (i.e., roundtables, surveys, etc.)</li> <li>What resources are MDIs (and, if relevant, your MDI specifically) utilizing to identify and define their market niche? (national or local)</li> </ul>
Defining ways MDIs can collaborate	<ul> <li>What institutions do MDIs (and, if relevant, your MDI specifically) consider their main competitors?</li> <li>What are some of the main costs incurred at MDIs that hinder their ability to grow?</li> <li>How does the community and its members view the importance of MDIs?</li> <li>How can MDIs work together to gain economies of scale? (shared support)</li> <li>What can the NCUA be doing to help improve the performance of MDIs?</li> </ul>
Additional Questions to Explore if Time Permitting / Applicable to the Credit Union	<ul> <li>Could you share more about how you, the team, and external stakeholders prioritize strategic decisions at your credit union?</li> <li>What has made your credit union's model successful?</li> <li>What is the level of engagement of your credit union's volunteers, including the board and the supervisory committee?</li> </ul>



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- 3. If MDIs had unlimited time and resources, what would they do to improve their financial performance?
- 4. Do you have any final thoughts we did not get to regarding this project?

Thank you!