



COOPERATIVA
LATINO
CREDIT UNION

Banking on Community: Insights from LCCU

Latino Community Credit Union
Durham, NC

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LUTHER HODGES
SCHOLARS

Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise

**Developing future
business leaders
equipped to help
solve some of
today's toughest
economic and
social challenges**

Internship Site Overview

What Drives LCCU

- Founded in 2000 as a grassroots effort to provide Latino immigrants a safe place to save, access credit, and build wealth after a wave of robberies and muggings.
- Mission: Ethical Financial Products & Education to Empower Communities
- Vision: Economic Opportunity for All

LCCU's Initiatives and Programs

- Alternative Credit Program
- Youth Savings Initiative
- Inclusive Identification Program
- Emergency Fund Program
- Financial Education Workshop Series
- Scholarship Program

LCCU's Impact and Reach

- 210,000 members served
 - 65% previously unbanked
 - 67% low-income
- \$2B in quality loans
- \$1M in scholarships awarded



Internship Roles and Responsibilities

Our Role as Interns

- Impact Analyst Intern
- Develop a comprehensive impact report highlighting LCCU's work in advancing financial inclusion for their 25th year anniversary.
- Deliverables:
 - Resource Library
 - Updated Annual Impact Metrics
 - Final impact Report

Research Initiatives We Took Part In

- Explored the connection between access to the financial mainstream and educational outcomes, homeownership, family stability, and personal well-being
- Analyzed internal data (lending, membership demographics, financial metrics, etc.) to understand and inform impact strategy

Opportunities Offered to Us

- Data analytics and visualization
- Impact Strategy
- Networking with professionals across divisions like finance and IT
- Exposure to credit union philosophy and internal operations



Key Findings and Takeaways



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Our Work

- Analyzed large datasets using internal financial data and National Credit Union Administration data
- Researched, wrote, and designed a 20+ page impact report for LCCU's 25th anniversary
- Collected relevant studies and publications to build a comprehensive resource library for institutional use.

Major Findings, Recommendations, and Solutions Discovered

- 27K credit-builder loans + 35K loans without credit history shows that **nontraditional underwriting works!**
- 11K+ families became homeowners, with only **5 foreclosures in 25 years**

What We Learned Overall

- Community-based finance builds trust and long-term stability
- Credit unions can reduce barriers for underbanked populations
- Data-driven storytelling strengthens advocacy and impact visibility

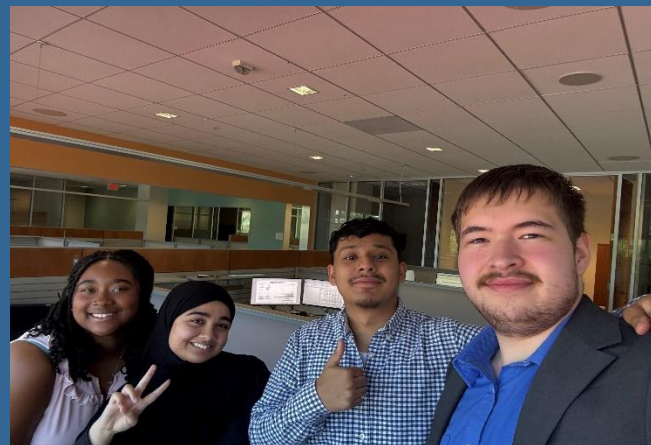
Experience Highlights



We enjoyed meeting all the interns and learning about their work!



We had the opportunity to visit a branch opening in Fayetteville!



We had a great time working as a team in the office!

We got to see our final intern project go live!



Thank You!

And a special thanks to Gabriel Treves-Kagan, Alison Yonas, and Vicky Garcia for being amazing supervisors and an invaluable source of guidance. We appreciate you!