Guggenheim Credit Allocation Fund

Form N-CSRS

February 07, 2018

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-CSR

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Investment Company Act file number 811-22715

Guggenheim Credit Allocation Fund

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

227 West Monroe Street, Chicago, IL 60606

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Amy J. Lee

227 West Monroe Street, Chicago, IL 60606

(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: __(312) 827-0100

Date of fiscal year end: May 31

Date of reporting period: June 1, 2017 - November 30, 2017

Item 1. Reports to Stockholders.

The registrant's semi-annual report transmitted to shareholders pursuant to Rule 30e-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), is as follows:

GUGGENHEIMINVESTMENTS.COM/GGM

\dots YOUR LINK TO THE LATEST, MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT GUGGENHEIM CREDIT ALLOCATION FUND

The shareholder report you are reading right now is just the beginning of the story.

Online at guggenheiminvestments.com/ggm, you will find:

- · Daily, weekly and monthly data on share prices, distributions and more
- · Portfolio overviews and performance analyses
- · Announcements, press releases and special notices
- · Fund and adviser contact information

Guggenheim Partners Investment Management, LLC and Guggenheim Funds Investment Advisors, LLC are constantly updating and expanding shareholder information services on the Fund's website in an ongoing effort to provide you with the most current information about how your Fund's assets are managed and the results of our efforts. It is just one more small way we are working to keep you better informed about your investment in the Fund.

(Unaudited) November 30, 2017

DEAR SHAREHOLDER

We thank you for your investment in the Guggenheim Credit Allocation Fund (the "Fund"). This report covers the Fund's performance for the six-month period ended November 30, 2017.

The Fund's investment objective is to seek total return through a combination of current income and capital appreciation.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in fixed income securities, debt securities, loans and investments with economic characteristics similar to fixed-income securities, debt securities and loans (collectively, "credit securities"). The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing in a portfolio of credit securities selected from a variety of sectors and credit qualities. The Fund may invest in credit securities of any duration or maturity. Credit securities in which the Fund may invest may pay fixed or variable rates of interest. The Fund may invest without limitation in securities of non-U.S. issuers, including issuers in emerging markets.

All Fund returns cited—whether based on net asset value ("NAV") or market price—assume the reinvestment of all distributions. For the six-month period ended November 30, 2017, the Fund provided a total return based on market price of -0.98% and a total return based on NAV of 3.86%. As of November 30, 2017, the Fund's market price of \$21.87 represented a discount of 2.32% to its NAV of \$22.39.

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. All NAV returns include the deduction of management fees, operating expenses, and all other Fund expenses. The market price of the Fund's shares fluctuates from time to time, and may be higher or lower than the Fund's NAV.

From June 2017 through November 2017, the Fund paid a monthly distribution of \$0.1813. The November distribution represents an annualized distribution rate of 9.95% based on the Fund's closing market price of \$21.87 on November 30, 2017. There is no guarantee of any future distribution or that the current returns and distribution rate will be maintained. The Fund's distribution rate is not constant and the amount of distributions, when declared by the Fund's Board of Trustees, is subject to change based on the performance of the Fund. Please see Note 2(e) on page 40 for more information on distributions for the period.

Guggenheim Funds Investment Advisors, LLC (the "Adviser") serves as the investment adviser to the Fund. Guggenheim Partners Investment Management, LLC ("GPIM" or the "Sub-Adviser") serves as the Fund's investment sub-adviser and is responsible for the management of the Fund's portfolio of investments. Each of the Adviser and the Sub-Adviser is an affiliate of Guggenheim Partners, LLC ("Guggenheim"), a global diversified financial services firm. We encourage shareholders to consider the opportunity to reinvest their distributions from the Fund through the Dividend Reinvestment Plan ("DRIP"), which is described in detail on page 58 of this report. When shares trade at a discount to NAV, the DRIP takes advantage of the discount by reinvesting the monthly distribution in common shares of the Fund purchased in the market at a price less than NAV. Conversely, when the market price of the Fund's common shares is at a premium above NAV, the DRIP

DEAR SHAREHOLDER (Unaudited) continued November 30, 2017

reinvests participants' distributions in newly-issued common shares at the greater of NAV per share or 95% of the market price per share. The DRIP provides a cost-effective means to accumulate additional shares and enjoy the benefits of compounding returns over time. Since the Fund endeavors to maintain a stable monthly distribution, the DRIP effectively provides an income averaging technique, which causes shareholders to accumulate a larger number of Fund shares when the market price is depressed than when the price is higher.

To learn more about the Fund's performance and investment strategy, we encourage you to read the Questions & Answers section of this report, which begins on page 5. You'll find information on GPIM's investment philosophy, views on the economy and market environment, and detailed information about the factors that impacted the Fund's performance.

We appreciate your investment and look forward to serving your investment needs in the future. For the most up-to-date information on your investment, please visit the Fund's website at guggenheiminvestments.com/ggm. Sincerely,

Guggenheim Funds Investment Advisors, LLC December 31, 2017

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Unaudited) November 30, 2017

Guggenheim Credit Allocation Fund (the "Fund") is managed by a team of seasoned professionals at Guggenheim Partners Investment Management, LLC ("GPIM"). This team includes B. Scott Minerd, Chairman of Guggenheim Investments and Global Chief Investment Officer; Anne B. Walsh, CFA, JD, Senior Managing Director and Assistant Chief Investment Officer; Kevin H. Gundersen, Senior Managing Director and Portfolio Manager; James W. Michal, Senior Managing Director and Portfolio Manager; Thomas J. Hauser, Senior Managing Director and Portfolio Manager; and Richard de Wet, Director and Portfolio Manager. In the following interview, the investment team discusses the market environment and the Fund's performance for the six-month period ended November 30, 2017. What is the Fund's investment objective and how is it pursued?

The Fund's investment objective is to seek total return through a combination of current income and capital appreciation.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in fixed income securities, debt securities, loans and investments with economic characteristics similar to fixed-income securities (collectively, "credit securities"). Credit securities in which the Fund may invest consist of corporate bonds, loans and loan participations, asset-backed securities (all or a portion of which may consist of collateralized loan obligations), mortgage-backed securities (both residential mortgage-backed securities and commercial mortgage-backed securities), U.S. Government and agency securities, mezzanine and preferred securities, convertible securities, commercial paper, municipal securities and sovereign government and supranational debt securities. The Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by investing in a portfolio of credit securities selected from a variety of sectors and credit qualities. The Fund may invest in credit securities that are rated below investment grade, or, if unrated, determined to be of comparable quality (also known as "high yield securities" or "junk bonds"). The Fund may invest in credit securities of any duration or maturity. Credit securities in which the Fund may invest may pay fixed or variable rates of interest. The Fund may invest without limitation in securities of non-U.S. issuers, including issuers in emerging markets.

The Fund may, but is not required to, use various derivatives transactions for hedging and risk management purposes, to facilitate portfolio management and to earn income or enhance total return. The Fund may use such transactions as a means to synthetically implement the Fund's investment strategies. In addition, as an alternative to holding investments directly, the Fund may also obtain investment exposure by investing in other investment companies. To the extent that the Fund invests in synthetic investments with economic characteristics similar to credit securities, the value of such investments will be counted as credit securities for purposes of the Fund's policy of investing at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in credit securities (the "80% Policy").

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Unaudited) continued November 30, 2017

The Fund may invest in open-end funds, closed-end funds and exchange traded funds. For purposes of the Fund's 80% Policy, the Fund will include its investments in other investment companies that have a policy of investing at least 80% of their net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in one or more types of credit securities.

The Fund uses financial leverage (borrowing and reverse repurchase agreements) to finance the purchase of additional securities. Although financial leverage may create an opportunity for increased return for shareholders, it also results in additional risks and can magnify the effect of any losses. There is no assurance that the strategy will be successful. If income and gains on securities purchased with the financial leverage proceeds are greater than the cost of the financial leverage, common shareholders' return will be greater than if financial leverage had not been used. Conversely, if the income or gains from the securities purchased with the proceeds of financial leverage are less than the cost of financial leverage, common shareholders' return will be less than if financial leverage had not been used. What were the significant events affecting the economy and market environment over the past six months? At period end, the economy was enjoying the lowest unemployment rate since December 2000, the highest small business optimism since 1983, strong corporate earnings growth, and the prospect of a new tax regime that could stimulate growth and business investment. Regulatory relief for banks was also in the offing, alleviating undue burdens on mid-sized lenders. All this positive news prompted the U.S. Federal Reserve (the "Fed") to gradually raise rates toward neutral in 2017, but an overheating labor market could force the Fed to take the punchbowl away in 2018. The fourth quarter of 2017 saw the commencement of the Fed's balance sheet roll-off in October and another rate hike in December, taking the fed funds target to a range of 1.25% to 1.50%. Soft inflation surprised many market participants in 2017, but due to base effects and a tight labor market, core inflation may start to rise. With the unemployment rate approaching 3.5%, Fed hikes may occur at a faster pace in 2018 than policymakers or financial markets currently expect.

While the 2018 economic outlook is positive, the Fed is moving to increasingly tight policy, and investors need to remain vigilant for late-cycle trends in the business cycle. In the meantime, the reduction in the corporate tax rate to 21% should be good for earnings, and the immediate expensing of capital expenditures could cause a surge in capital spending. However, higher levered segments of the fixed-income market may face negative effects from new rules governing tax deductibility of interest expense above certain limits. Investors must ensure that they are being adequately compensated for taking on credit risk in this environment.

How did the Fund perform for the six months ended November 30, 2017?

All Fund returns cited—whether based on net asset value ("NAV") or market price—assume the reinvestment of all distributions. For the six-month period ended November 30, 2017, the Fund provided a total return based on market price of -0.98% and a total return based on NAV of 3.86%. As of November 30, 2017, the Fund's market price of \$21.87 represented a discount of 2.32% to its NAV of \$22.39. As of May 31, 2017, the Fund's market price of \$23.18 represented a premium of 2.48% to its NAV of \$22.62.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Unaudited) continued November 30, 2017

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. All NAV returns include the deduction of management fees, operating expenses, and all other Fund expenses. The market price of the Fund's shares fluctuates from time to time, and may be higher or lower than the Fund's NAV.

What were the distributions over the period?

From June 2017 through November 2017, the Fund paid a monthly distribution of \$0.1813. The November distribution represents an annualized distribution rate of 9.95% based on the Fund's closing market price of \$21.87 on November 30, 2017. There is no guarantee of any future distribution or that the current returns and distribution rate will be maintained. The Fund's distribution rate is not constant and the amount of distributions, when declared by the Fund's Board of Trustees, is subject to change based on the performance of the Fund. Please see Note 2(e) on page 40 for more information on distributions for the period.

Why did the Fund accrue excise tax during the period?

As a registered investment company, the Fund is subject to a 4% excise tax that is imposed if the Fund does not distribute by the end of any calendar year at least the sum of (i) 98% of its ordinary income (not taking into account any capital gain or loss) for the calendar year and (ii) 98.2% of its capital gain in excess of its capital loss (adjusted for certain ordinary losses) for a one-year period generally ending on October 31 of the calendar year (unless an election is made to use the fund's fiscal year). The Fund generally intends to distribute income and capital gains in the manner necessary to minimize (but not necessarily eliminate) the imposition of such excise tax. While the Fund's income and capital gains can vary significantly from year to year, the Fund seeks to maintain more stable monthly distributions over time. The Fund may retain income or capital gains and pay excise tax when it is determined that doing so is in the best interest of shareholders. Management, in consultation with the Board of Trustees, evaluates the costs of the excise tax relative to the benefits of retaining income and capital gains, including that such undistributed amounts (net of the excise tax paid) remain available for investment by the Fund and are available to supplement future distributions, which may facilitate the payment of more stable monthly distributions year over year.

What influenced the Fund's performance?

During the period, the Fund saw positive performance primarily attributable to the tightening of credit spreads, particularly among the portfolio's investments in high yield corporate bonds and senior bank loans, which together comprise most of the Fund. The mix between bonds and loans varies according to the relative valuation of the two asset classes and availability of attractively priced assets. The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield Index returned 2.28% for the six-month period, while the Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Index returned 1.78%. In the high yield market, the biggest gains in the period came from BB bonds (+2.79%) which outperformed B bonds (+1.65%) and CCC bonds (+2.27). In the bank loan market, B loans (+2.08%) outperformed BB loans (+1.79%) and CCC loans (+0.56%).

Fund performance for the period was primarily a result of a stable and consistent credit selection process, as Guggenheim's bottom-up, fundamental approach seeks the construction of portfolios that produce solid yield while at the same being defensively positioned. The Fund's investments in the communications sector contributed to outperformance, driven by strong security selection, as the Fund

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Unaudited) continued November 30, 2017

avoided overleveraged issuers that detracted from the Index's performance. Exposure to bank loans also positively contributed to performance.

How is the Fund positioned for the coming months?

The Fund is well positioned across its three primary asset class exposures, with the heaviest allocation to high yield bonds, followed by bank loans and asset-backed securities ("ABS"). Spreads on high-yield corporate bonds and bank loans were driven towards cycle lows during the period. We remain vigilant to ensure that we are being adequately compensated for the level of risk taken. The Fund continues to avoid highly levered industries and companies with heavy capital expenditure needs that can impair cash flow generation.

GPIM is conscious that the securities in the Fund will need to survive another downturn. At current levels, we do not think there is compensation for that risk. However, we also believe this environment can persist for the foreseeable future. We continue to focus on more defensive credits with consistent cash flow and sustainable debt profiles. Among the high yield allocation, the Fund's exposure to B credits is its largest, and the Fund has incrementally added to exposure, versus CCC credits. The Fund maintains a sizeable exposure to BB credits as well. Our research indicates that BB rated bonds have performed well versus other fixed income securities when the Federal Reserve tightens monetary policy. At the end of the period, the Fund was positioned up in quality and exposure to CCC-rated credit was moderated.

Any other comments about the Fund?

GPIM expects the economy to remain on solid footing driven by growing consumer sentiment coupled with improving corporate fundamentals and low default rates. However, it appears the majority of this has already been priced into spreads, and we remain focused on credit selection. With a sizeable portion of the Fund exposed to floating rate assets in the form of bank loans and ABS, the prospect of higher interest rates makes this basket of assets more attractive. Both stand to benefit from higher interest rates, as their coupons reset at a higher rate. The combination of rising LIBOR rates and spread tightening could cause loan coupons to approach those of high yield bonds, as they have converged in each of the past three tightening cycles.

What is the Fund's duration?

The portfolio has consistently maintained a defensive stance to interest rate volatility with an underweight to duration relative to the benchmark. A sizable allocation to bank loans that are senior in the capital structure relative to most high yield bonds reduced volatility in returns. We believe credit selection will be increasingly important into 2018 and expect the Fund to perform well in this type of environment.

The effective duration for the Fund as of November 30, 2017, was below three years. GPIM's view is that we are unlikely to see rates move in a sudden and aggressive upward trajectory, as the Fed is providing ample guidance about the future path of interest rates. The Fund may invest in credit securities of any

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Unaudited) continued November 30, 2017

duration or maturity and is not required to maintain any particular maturity or duration for its portfolio as a whole. It typically maintains a leverage-adjusted average portfolio duration of one to four years. However, average portfolio duration is adjusted based on market conditions. Duration is a measure of a bond's price sensitivity to changes in interest rates, expressed in years. Duration is a weighted average of the times that interest payments and the final return of principal are received. The weights are the amounts of the payments discounted by the yield to maturity of the bond.

Discuss the impact of leverage for the period.

The Fund utilizes leverage as part of its investment strategy, to finance the purchase of additional securities that provide increased income and potentially greater appreciation potential to common shareholders than could be achieved from a portfolio that is not leveraged.

With the low cost of borrowing and stability in the fundamentals of American companies, the amount of leverage used by the Fund is highly accretive to income generation.

The Fund currently employs leverage through borrowing and reverse repurchase agreements, under which the Fund temporarily transfers possession of portfolio securities and receives cash that can be used for additional investments. As of November 30, 2017, the amount of leverage was approximately 28% of total managed assets (including the proceeds of leverage). While leverage increases the income of the Fund in yield terms, it also amplifies the effects of changing market prices in the portfolio and can cause the Fund's NAV to change to a greater degree than the market as a whole. This can create volatility in Fund pricing but should not affect the Fund's ability to pay dividends under normal circumstances.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Unaudited) continued November 30, 2017

Index Definitions

Indices are unmanaged and reflect no expenses. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index is a broad-based flagship benchmark that measures the investment grade, U.S. dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market, including U.S. Treasuries, government-related and corporate securities, mortgage-backed securities or "MBS" (agency fixed-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage, or "ARM", pass-throughs), asset-backed securities ("ABS"), and commercial mortgage-backed securities ("CMBS") (agency and non-agency).

The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield Index measures the U.S. dollar-denominated, high yield, fixed-rate corporate bond market. Securities are classified as high yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch, and S&P is Ba1/BB +/BB + or below.

The Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Index is an index designed to mirror the investable universe of the \$US-denominated leveraged loan market.

The Standard & Poor's 500 Index is a capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks. The index is designed to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.

Risks and Other Considerations

Investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal and fluctuation of value.

The views expressed in this report reflect those of the portfolio managers only through the report period as stated on the cover. These views are expressed for informational purposes only and are subject to change at any time, based on market and other conditions, and may not come to pass. These views may differ from views of other investment professionals at Guggenheim and should not be construed as research, investment advice or a recommendation of any kind regarding the fund or any issuer or security, do not constitute a solicitation to buy or sell any security and should not be considered specific legal, investment or tax advice. The information provided does not take into account the specific objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any specific investor.

The views expressed in this report may also include forward looking statements that involve risk and uncertainty, and there is no guarantee that any predictions will come to pass. Actual results or events may differ materially from those projected, estimated, assumed or anticipated in any such forward looking statements. Important factors that could result in such differences, in addition to the other factors noted with such forward-looking statements, include general economic conditions such as inflation, recession and interest rates.

There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objectives or that any investment strategies or techniques discussed herein will be effective. The value of the Fund will fluctuate with the value of the underlying securities. Historically, closed-end funds often trade at a discount to their net asset value.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Unaudited) continued November 30, 2017

Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results and current performance may be lower or higher than the figures shown.

Please see guggenheiminvestments.com/ggm for a detailed discussion of the Fund's risks and considerations. This material is not intended as a recommendation or as investment advice of any kind, including in connection with rollovers, transfers, and distributions. Such material is not provided in a fiduciary capacity, may not be relied upon for or in connection with the making of investment decisions, and does not constitute a solicitation of an offer to buy or sell securities. All content has been provided for informational or educational purposes only and is not intended to be and should not be construed as legal or tax advice and/or a legal opinion. Always consult a financial, tax and/or legal professional regarding your specific situation.

FUND SUMMARY (Unaudited) November 30, 2017

Fund Statistics

 Share Price
 \$21.87

 Net Asset Value
 \$22.39

 Discount to NAV
 (2.32%)

 Net Assets (\$000)
 \$164,880

AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2017

Six			Since
Month	One	Three	Inception
(non-annualized)	Year	Year	(06/26/13)

Guggenheim Credit Allocation Fund

NAV 3.86% 12.34% 8.56% 7.96% Market (0.98%) 14.33% 9.07% 6.46%

Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results and current performance may be lower or higher than the figures shown. All NAV returns include the deduction of management fees, operating expenses and all other Fund expenses. The deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or the redemption of Fund shares is not reflected in the total returns. For the most recent month-end performance figures, please visit guggenheiminvestments.com/ggm. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate with changes in market conditions and other factors so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost.

Since inception returns assume a purchase of the Fund at the initial share price of \$25.00 per share for share price returns or initial net asset value (NAV) of \$23.82 per share for NAV returns. Returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

Portfolio Breakdown	% of Net Assets
Common Stocks	1.1%
Corporate Bonds	82.4%
Senior Floating Rate Interests	43.9%
Asset Backed Securities	7.5%
Exchange-Traded Funds	3.1%
Preferred Stocks	2.5%
Senior Fixed Rate Interests	0.6%
Other	0.3%
Total Investments	141.4%
Other Assets & Liabilities, net	(41.4%)
Net Assets	100.0%

FUND SUMMARY (Unaudited) continued November 30, 2017

FUND SUMMARY (Unaudited) continued November 30, 2017

	(% of
Ten Largest Holdings	Total Net Assets)
McGraw-Hill Global Education Holdings LLC / McGraw-Hill Global	
Education Finance, 7.88%	2.6%
American Midstream Partners Limited Partnership / American Midstream	
Finance Corp., 8.50%	2.5%
MDC Partners, Inc., 6.50%	2.5%
Terraform Global Operating LLC, 9.75%	2.4%
Reddy Ice Holdings, Inc., 10.85%	2.3%
EIG Investors Corp., 10.88%	2.2%
Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Corp., 8.00%	2.2%
Cengage Learning, Inc., 9.50%	2.1%
SFR Group S.A., 7.38%	2.0%
SPDR Bloomberg Barclays High Yield Bond ETF	1.9%
Top Ten Total	22.7%
NOTE TO A STATE OF THE STATE OF	

"Ten Largest Holdings" excludes any temporary cash or derivative investments.

Portfolio Composition by Quality Rating*

% of Total
Investments
1.3%
3.5%
27.9%
38.4%
15.2%
0.3%
9.2%
3.4%
0.8%
100.0%

Source: BlackRock Solutions. Credit quality ratings are measured on a scale that generally ranges from AAA (highest) to D (lowest). All securities except for "NR", or not rated, have been rated by Moody's, Standard & Poor's *("S&P"), or Fitch, which are all a Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization ("NRSRO"). For purposes of this presentation, when ratings are available from more than one agency, the highest rating is used. Guggenheim Investments has converted Moody's and Fitch ratings to the equivalent S&P rating. Security ratings are determined at the time of purchase and may change thereafter.

^{**}NR securities do not necessarily indicate low credit quality.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited) November 30, 2017

	Shares	Value
COMMON STOCKS [†] – 1.1% Energy – 0.8%		
SandRidge Energy, Inc.*	58,927	\$1,096,632
Approach Resources, Inc.*	95,220	238,050
Titan Energy LLC*	27,133	40,700
Total Energy		1,375,382
Technology – 0.3% Aspect Software Parent, Inc.*,†††,1,2 Qlik Technologies, Inc. Class A*,†††,1 Qlik Technologies, Inc. Class B*,†††,1 Qlik Technologies, Inc.*,††† Total Technology	57,610 56 13,812 3,600	371,582 62,162 7,237 - 440,981
Consumer, Non-cyclical – 0.0% Targus Group International Equity, Inc*,†††,1,2	33,098	62,433

Financial – 0.0%