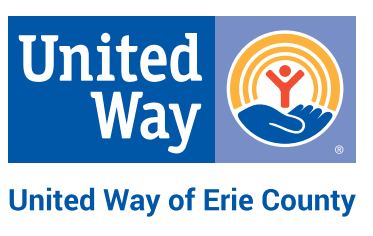


**OUR MISSION
IS TO HELP
THEM SUCCEED.**





MISSION: CRUSH POVERTY

From fundraiser to game changer... For more than 105 years, United Way of Erie County has been here in the community, when and how people need us the most.

United Way is a local social impact organization on a mission to crush poverty.

We envision a collaborative community where all students succeed and all families thrive.

That's LIVING UNITED.

2021 Annual Report Sponsor

UPMC HEALTH PLAN | UPMC | HAMOT

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INVESTING IN LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD

To best address the root causes of poverty and create positive change that lasts, United Way has evolved from an organization with an isolated impact strategy to one leveraging collective impact. There is a bright future for ALL of Erie County's children to grow up equipped with the education they need to be successful!

United Way is implementing proven and consistent evidence-based efforts to effect long-term sustainable outcomes. With an unwavering focus on student success and family stability, positive outcomes will be realized that will impact not only children and their families, but the entire Erie community.

Student success and family stability are intertwined. It is well documented that what happens in the home environment significantly impacts how children show up to school. That is why United Way's focus on student success is holistic and includes resources and supports for families. Moving forward, United Way will continue to work with everyone in the community who support the mission and can fill resource gaps that complement its approach. Poverty is a complex social issue and will take significant effort to crush, but by leveraging resources smartly and working differently, equity can be realized and the insidious cycle of poverty in Erie County will be broken.

United Way is investing in leveling the playing field for low-income students and their families who face barriers to success. Simply put, breaking the cycle of poverty means breaking down these barriers. We believe all children should have equal opportunity to receive a quality education!



CHILD POVERTY RATES

*Source: 2019 American Community Survey

45%*

City of Erie

31%*

Erie County

SIGNATURE INITIATIVES

IMAGINATION LIBRARY = providing FREE, high-quality, age- and developmentally appropriate books monthly to children from birth to their fifth birthday so children enter kindergarten with early literacy skills and are ready to learn.

RAISING READERS = making sure children are reading at grade-level so they don't fall behind and drop out of school.

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS = stripping away nonacademic barriers to learning that low-income children face, from basic needs to trauma counseling to dental/vision health supports and much more so they can focus and engage in the classroom.

ERIE FREE TAXES = helping hard-working low- to moderate-income families get free tax preparation and take advantage of the earned income tax credit to get financially stable.

211 HELPLINE = connecting individuals and families to the help they need when they need it so that the home environment is stable and supported.

OTHER STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS = responding in times of emergencies and to priority community needs.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Just because a child is born in a certain zip code should NOT mean that they have to overcome more challenges and barriers to school success. Unfortunately, that is the reality for thousands of our youth. BUT, we do NOT accept that this has to remain a reality. United Way believes that every child should have the opportunity to excel in school and soar in life. Education = equality.

Education gives children the keys to success in life and the freedom to pursue their dreams. United Way strategically deploys resources in Erie County to support academic achievement for low-income children – leading to success in school and in life. The key to breaking the cycle of poverty in our community is education.



IMAGINATION LIBRARY



Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.

– Margaret Fuller, American Author & Educator

Each year hundreds of United Way supporters help put books into thousands of little hands right here in our community through the Imagination Library.

The program provides FREE books monthly to children from the time they are born to their fifth birthday. If a child is enrolled in the program for that entire time, they will enter kindergarten with their very own library of 60 wonderful books! Not only that, but they will also have stronger beginning reading skills and concepts about print than their peers who don't have the books in their home.

Learning begins at birth, and reading is the foundation of all learning. A child's brain is 90% developed by the time they are five years old. But, unfortunately, economically disadvantaged children have few or no age-appropriate books in their home. According to the Handbook of Early Literacy Research, on average the ratio of age-appropriate books for middle income children is 13 books while there is just one book per 300 low-income children.

The Imagination Library here in Erie County is only made possible through LOCAL funding, with every book purchased thanks to local contributions to United Way of Erie County.

Thanks to the many generous donors contributing annually to United Way's Imagination Library, more than 860,000 FREE books have gone out to 25,000+ Erie County children.

[Learn more about United Way's Imagination Library for Erie County at UnitedWayErie.org/Imagination](https://UnitedWayErie.org/Imagination)

865,000	books mailed
25,217	children served



Building a stronger Erie County, one student at a time.



Logistics Plus sustainability partner *Restoring Integrity to the Oceans* (RIO) made a donation to United Way and Erie's Public Schools.

Logistics Plus assisted RIO by delivering 58 pallets of bamboo products to help students and families at community schools.

The products donated included bamboo bathroom paper, bamboo paper cups, and bamboo straws. All the products are made from 100% recycled materials.

Special thanks to the team at Diehl Elementary, a United Way **community school** for taking the lead on accepting this donation at their school building.



To directly address the root causes of generational poverty, United Way brought the **community schools** model to Erie County in 2016.

When a traditional public school is transformed into a **community school** an entire culture shift takes place and resources are brought into the school building that address the specific barriers preventing students from being successful. A community school becomes a **hub**, rich with resources for students and their families. Community schools represent a strategy, **not a program**.

There are currently **eleven** community schools serving **more than 6,500** students and their families throughout Erie County in Erie’s Public Schools, Girard School District, Iroquois School District and Union City School District.

**SCHOOL YEAR
2020-2021
BY
THE NUMBERS**

*Learn more about
Community Schools:*
[UnitedWayErie.org/
CommunitySchools](http://UnitedWayErie.org/CommunitySchools)

16,097	Total # of times engagement/service opportunities were offered
59,940	Total # of connections with students
10,879	Total # of connections with parents/family members
13,776	Total # of connections with community members
4,384	Total # of school staff members engaged with services
597	Total # of partner contacts engaged
614	Total # of volunteers (<i>not too shabby for a pandemic!</i>)
1,509	Total # of volunteer hours
\$43,374.20	Total in-kind value of volunteer hours
52,239	Total # of donated items
\$363,035.79	Total estimated in-kind value of donated items



HERE COMES THE WALKING SCHOOL BUS!

In February 2021, United Way and Erie's Public Schools in partnership with the Blue Coats initiative launched a critical component of the Raising Readers Safe Routes to School initiative... the Walking School Bus.

What is a Walking School Bus? A walking school bus is a group of children walking to school with one or more adults. If that sounds simple, it is, and that's part of the beauty of the walking school bus. Parents often cite safety issues as one of the primary reasons they are reluctant to allow their children to walk to school. Providing adult supervision may help reduce those worries for families who live within walking distance to school. McKinley students have the opportunity to sign up to participate in the Walking School Bus which includes a structured walking route with meeting points, a timetable and a regularly rotated schedule of trained volunteers, primarily from Erie's Public Schools Blue Coats initiative.

This work is part of United Way's implementation of a \$250,000 Erie Community Foundation Shaping Tomorrow grant focused on increasing school attendance at Community Schools in the City of Erie in 2018. Strategies include the following: conducting a comprehensive education and awareness campaign; identifying, improving, and promoting the safest walking routes to each school and piloting "walking school buses" along the safe routes.

In early 2020, United Way and Erie's Public Schools partnered with the City of Erie to officially launch the Safe Routes to School initiative at McKinley, the first community school in Erie County to have Walking Routes signage installed throughout the neighborhood.

The goal of the Safe Routes initiative is to improve the safety of Erie's Public Schools students, so they can get to school regularly and on-time. Most recently, Safe Routes signage was installed in Pfeiffer-Burleigh, Edison, East and Strong Vincent catchment areas.



You can read more about United Way's Raising Readers initiative, Safe Routes and Walking School Bus on our website UnitedWayErie.org/RaisingReaders

FAMILY STABILITY

Children are affected not only by their school environment, but also by what happens out of school. Simply put, kids succeed in stable homes. Family stability directly impacts how a child learns and performs in school. Children cannot learn when they are dealing with an unstable environment. Whether at home or at school, family life affects how well children are able to learn, engage and concentrate. By supporting low-income households when times get tough, United Way and our funded impact partners leverage resources that help build stronger children and families. Such support helps families thrive by providing access to resources and opportunities like free tax service and United Way’s 211 Helpline.

ERIE FREE TAXES

Erie FREE Taxes significantly contributes to local economic development in Erie County by providing free tax preparation to low- and moderate-wage earners. Many taxpayers are eligible to apply for the Earned Income Tax Credit which puts even more cash in their pocket.

Since 2007, Erie FREE Taxes staff and volunteers have completed nearly 60,000 individual returns generating refunds, including the Earned Income Tax Credit, totaling \$108,000,000. These are dollars that stay in this community to facilitate family stability. And these are dollars spent in the community, helping to support local businesses.



2020 FILING SEASON

5,258	local federal returns filed
\$8.9	million in refunds

211 HELPLINE

United Way’s 211 Helpline is available 24/7/365 to all residents in Erie County thanks to United Way.

Individuals in need can contact a trained resource navigator and receive referrals to agencies near them by simply dialing 211. 2020 was a year like no other, and many individuals experienced extreme needs for the first time.

Many people didn’t know where to go for assistance, but they knew they could start with 211.



Pennsylvania | Northwest

JAN. - DEC. 2020

5,377	referrals to assistance
6,716	services in the 211 database

OTHER STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS

United Way also responds in times of emergencies and to priority community needs through strategic investments. These are reviewed as needed annually.

TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY

The **Tocqueville Society** recognizes individuals contributing at the highest levels of personal giving of \$10,000 or more annually. These caring philanthropists exemplify the giving spirit of America, as witnessed by the Society's namesake, Alexis de Tocqueville, during his travels in America in 1831.

Tocqueville Society members are committed to United Way's collective impact strategy which focuses their money on results oriented programs that make a real difference in the lives of people in Erie County.



Cle and Penny Austin



Andrew J. Conner



William B. Conner



Mo and Bob Dwyer



Lorianne Feltz



Chris and Mary Fette Sr.



Thomas A. Hanes and Mili Chiang-Hanes



The Kern Family



Mary Lincoln



Lisa A. and Timothy G. NeCastro



Susan and Gary Raimy

LA SOCIÉTÉ NATIONALE

\$100,000 to \$249,999

Thomas B. Hagen

ORDRE D'ÉGALITÉ

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Bruce Raimy ☞

The Raimy Family

Robin Scheppner^W ☞

ORDRE DE LIBERTÉ

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Kern Family Foundation

Mary Lincoln^W

Lisa A. and Timothy G. NeCastro^W

Mark A. Wright

Scott K. Wright and Carla W. Picardo

Pete and Dana Zaphiris^W

Anonymous*

MEMBRES DE LA SOCIÉTÉ

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Robert Frenzel(D) ☞

Cle and Penny Austin^W

The Andrew J. Conner

& William B. Conner Family

Mo and Bob Dwyer* ☞

Lorianne Feltz

Chris and Mary Fette Sr.

Thomas A. Hanes and

Mili Chiang-Hanes

Richard A. Merwin

The John M. and

Gertrude E. Petersen Foundation

Gary and Susan Raimy ☞

Roger and Nancy Sturtevant

Barrett C. Walker Family Fund*

Anonymous^W



Robin Scheppner



Carla W. Picardo and Scott K. Wright



Mark A. Wright



Pete and Dana Zaphiris

*Received through the Erie Community Foundation ☞ Members of the Legacy Society^W Members of Women United (D) Deceased

UNITED WAY OF ERIE COUNTY WOMEN UNITED[®] FOR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



Women United is a dynamic group of women who recognize the importance of investing in our most precious human capital, the next generation. This group has two levels: Change Leaders who pledge \$5,000 or more a year for a three-year commitment and \$1,000-\$4,999 a year for a three-year commitment to United Way’s community school initiative.

Women United supports United Way’s position that every child, regardless of what zip code they live in, deserves the supports and resources needed to excel and thrive in school...and therefore in life. Community schools focus on removing the many barriers low-income children face, every day, keeping them from achieving academically. With these barriers removed, children come to school ready and eager to learn!

WOMEN UNITED CHANGE LEADERS

- Penny Austin
- Janel Bonsell*
- Beverly Gocal
- Sara Kim
- Beth Lewis
- Mary Lincoln
- Diane Morosky
- Lisa NeCastro*
- Laurie B. Root
- Robin Scheppner*
- Ann Schoeller
- Amy Valentine
- Terri Wolfe-Lubahn
- Dana Zaphiris*
- Anonymous

WOMEN UNITED MEMBERS

- Rae Jean Catrabone
- Julie Chacona
- Donna Douglass
- Kathy Irwin
- Kathryn McCormick
- Blair Mead
- Sandie Smialek

* Women United Executive Council Members

You can learn more and join Women United by visiting UnitedWayErie.org/WomenUnited

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

United Way’s Resource Development Committee (RDC) cultivates new and existing workplace campaigns, develops and deepens relationships with investors and engages community leaders in United Way of Erie County’s work. The RDC’s activities are integral to the overall financial resource development including the private sector, other organizations and individuals.

Robin Scheppner, Chair
American Tinning & Galvanizing

Janel Bonsell
Schaffner Knight Minnaugh & Company

Matthew B. Lechner
MCPc, Inc.

Kevin Otteni
Parker Lord

Christina Bernatowicz
PNC Financial Services, Inc.

Louis Colaizzo
Erie Insurance

Charlotte A. Manison
Retired

Douglas E. Smith
Erie Insurance

David J. Bertges
American Tinning & Galvanizing

Lorianne Feltz
Erie Insurance

Michael P. Martin
Printing Concepts, Inc.

Jim Teed
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield

John Bongiovanni
Lillis, McKibben, Bongiovanni & Co.

Jeffrey Hileman
Erie Insurance

LEADERSHIP GIVING

United Way’s Leadership Giving Society recognizes generous investors who have demonstrated their commitment to improving lives in our community by annually giving \$1,000 or more. Leadership gifts are an outstanding way to make an investment in our community. They help United Way continue our work to crush poverty in Erie County.

PLATINUM CIRCLE

\$5,000 to \$9,999

- David J. Bertges
- Janel and Buddy Bonsell ^w
- Louis Colaizzo
- Gene and Anne Connell and Family*
- Roland Donajkowski
- John P. and Heidi Fette
- William and Patricia Jackson [✎]
- Amy Cuzzola-Kern and B. Scott Kern
- Nancy and Bruce Kern Sr.
- Bonnie and C. Bruce Kern II
- Sara and Jeffrey Kim ^w
- Beth Lewis ^w
- Robert and Christina Marsh
- Michael P. Martin
- Bob and Joan Martter
- The McBrier Family
- Robert W. and Mercedes McNutt
- Diane and Greg Morosky ^w
- Jim and Sue Ohm [✎]
- Gregg and Jennifer Pfeffer
- Jeffrey and Rhonda Plyler
- Laurie B. Root ^{✎ w}
- Joe and Rhonda Schember

- Ann Schoeller ^w
- William M. and Frances Schuster Fund*
- Mark and Prudence Shaw
- Sarah Shine**
- Douglas E. and Jennifer Smith
- Thomas and Carol Tupitza
- Amy Valentine ^w
- Terri Wolfe-Lubahn and John Lubahn ^w
- Anonymous (3)

GOLD CIRCLE

\$2,500 to \$4,999

- John and Mary Gail Baldwin
- Jacqueline and Michael Barber
- Christina and Brian Bernatowicz
- The Bloomstine Family
- John and Julia Bongiovanni
- Dr. Richard C. Boyle
- Charles H. & Barbara E. Bracken Fund*
- Brereton Family Fund*
- Patrick J. Burns
- Dr. and Mrs. Mark S. Buseck
- Dr. Jestin and Jessica Carlson**

- Gail J. Cook
- Jim and Judy Dible
- Clinton and Sarah Ewing**
- Ruben and Becky Fechner
- David and Nancy Glod
- Greg and Liz Gutting
- T. Andrew Hanes
- Patrick D. Hesidence
- James and Susan Holtgreffe
- Robert C. Ingram III
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- Patricia and Robert Lacy
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- Blair and Jamie Mead ^w
- Frank Mezler and Colleen Moore-Mezler
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- Attorney David M. Mosier
- Douglas and Deborah Murphy

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- Michael and Rochelle Sheridan
- Chris and Mary Ellen Sorce
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- John Stockard**
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- Patti Williams and David Uhlig
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- Jeffrey McKeon and Dr. Nancy E. Weissbach
- Gwendolyn White
- Douglas M. Yarbenet
- Michael Zaksheske
- Anonymous

*Received through the Erie Community Foundation **Also members of the Young Leaders Society – Premier Circle [✎] Members of the Legacy Society ^w Women United Members

SILVER CIRCLE**\$1,500 to \$2,499**

Rebecca and Evan Adair
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Barbara Beatty
Randi and Douglas Bert
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Kathryn and David M. Tullio
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Shane T. Wohlrahe
Dr. Katy Wolfrom
Don and Gayle Wright
Richard and Diane Yeager
Christine Yuhas
Zurn Family Fund*
Anonymous (2)

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Robert Bennett
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Merry Betcher
Del Birch
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Boo and Aimee Hagerty
Thomas and Elizabeth Hamilton
Charles I. Hassett
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Thomas Hermanowski**
Tom and Linda Holman
Carolyn and George Huzinec
Mike Jaruszewicz**
Charles and Lisa Jenkins
Marko Jovanovich
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Kathleen and Vic Kostef
Mark and Sharon Kresse
Anita and Jeffery Kuchcinski**
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Timothy J. and Holli Lewis
Gregory and Debra Loop
Scott and Kandace Lyons
Zachary Lyons**
Malloy Family Charitable Giving Fund
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Kathryn McCormick^w
Michael A. and Susan McCormick
Jennifer McDade
Deb and Des McDonald
Richard McGowan
Attorney Jim and Barbara McNamara
Gianinna Mercado

Erik Miller**
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Anita D. Mountain
Mark and Leah Murphy
Shane S. Murray
Donald and Michelle Newell
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Erin and Joe Siegrist
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Father Steven Pimen and Jayne Simon
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Kathi and Kenneth D. Slaney
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Theresa Stachera
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Karen and Matt Zonno
Anonymous (8)

*Received through the Erie Community Foundation **Also members of the Young Leaders Society – Premier Circle ✚ Members of the Legacy Society^w Women United Members

YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY

The Young Leaders Society consists of members age 45 and under who annually invest \$500 or more in United Way, as well as individuals under the age of 30 who give between \$250 and \$499. This dynamic group of United Way supporters is invited to participate in various events and activities that allow them to connect with other emerging and established leaders in our community. The Young Leaders Society's purpose is to foster philanthropy, leadership and community involvement among Erie County's next generation of civic and business leaders.

Ten percent of undesignated YLS gifts go directly to support the YLS Adopt-A-Student Program at McKinley Elementary School, a United Way Community School. Through this program, YLS members provide school supplies, mentoring and other activities throughout the school year to help the fifth graders stay engaged in school and hopeful about their future.



YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY – PREMIER MEMBERS (\$750 and up)

Jon P. and Christen Bloom**
 Dr. Jestin and Jessica Carlson**
 Chantelle and Seth Carter**
 Neal and Daria Devlin**
 Daniel and Meghan Dillon**
 Daniel and Christine Drabic**
 Cassie and Chris Dundon
 Clinton and Sarah Ewing**
 Christopher and Jennifer Fox**
 Joseph M. and Emily Gennuso**
 Kelly Gifford**
 Jamie and Marlea Gore**
 Miranda and Michael Grom**
 Thomas Hermanowski**
 Mike Jaruszewicz**
 Stephanie A. King**
 Anita and Jeffery Kuchcinski**
 Dorothy A. Leemhuis
 Zachary Lyons**
 Kevin P. McCann**
 Gabriel and Amy Miehl
 Erik Miller**

Stacey and Erick Nicklas
 Kevin and Nicole Otteni**
 Kara KomisarSKI and Lucjan Pelka**
 Sarah and Mark Pirrello
 Patrick M. Rennie
 Katie and Mike Ruffa**
 Jennifer L. Schade**
 Nicholas M. Schneider
 Jay and Brittany Shaffer**
 Sarah Shine**
 John and Jennifer Simon** ✨
 Jedediah and Meredith Smith**
 Matthew Staib**
 John Stockard**
 John and Tara Stonestreet**
 Brittany and Paul Taylor**
 Michael J. Tellers
 Ryan D. Tennant**
 Kim Thomas
 Mike and LeeAnn Thomas**
 Amy Sharman and Michael R. Zona
 Anonymous (2)

YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY

Breanna and Rob Adams
 Catherine and Brian Amick
 James Aspen
 Jeff Audet
 Lauren and Kris Bauer
 Ronald J. Beer
 Josh and Kristy Berg
 Barbara Beuscher
 Hannah Bowersox
 Brandy M. Brine
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 Tobias and Amy Buerk
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 Timothy Burbules
 Joelyn J. Bush
 Luis Castro
 Kyle Chylinski
 Corey Cook
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 Elliott J. Ehrenreich, Esq.
 Bonnie Fitzpatrick-Kaliszewski
 Matt Ganzer

Andrew Gausman
 Keyshawna Gore
 Hayden Grack
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 Justin R. Handley
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 Emily M. Horanic
 David and Kathryn Jackson
 Katie J. and Matt Jones
 Kimberly Kaercher
 Megan Kaiser
 Kimu Kim
 Andrea Konkol
 Christopher J. Kozik
 Grant Latsko
 Nicole and Daniel Lehr
 Juli-Ann Luther
 Jacob Marsh
 Mikelia Meucci
 Thomas L. Moore
 Mark Murray
 Jon T. O'Camb
 Ryan and Adrienne Paris
 Matthew A. Patterson

** Also members of the Leadership Giving Society ✨ Legacy Society Member

Bailey and Ray Pituch
 Daniel R. Potalivo
 Shanna Potter
 Michael W. Pruzinsky
 Matt Reese
 Brenda K. Rzepka
 Paul and Jamie Sallie
 John T. Schley
 James Schreiner
 Timothy M. Shine
 Craig and Sarah Shinko
 Joe W. Shreve
 Jeffrey M. Simmons
 Patrick Simpson
 Rebecca Snyder
 Timothy J. Sul
 Emily Toothman
 Natalie Vitale
 David and Emily Wachter
 Jason E. Weber
 Veronica and James Will
 Jeffrey Wolff
 Allison and Brian Young
 Anonymous (6)

YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY – JUNIOR MEMBERS

Lindsay Bach-Moore
 Emma Boyd
 Brittany Fisher
 Amanda M. Forne
 Katrina J. Hecker
 De'Asia Knowles
 Zachary E. Prather
 Brittany R. Rusnak
 James T. Shultz
 Jennifer Marie Sobierajski
 Megan Spizarny
 Erin Stafford
 Anonymous (4)

Young Leaders Society Sponsor:



** Also members of the Leadership Giving Society ☞ Legacy Society Member

YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY STEERING COMMITTEE

The **Young Leaders Society** (YLS) Steering Committee works with staff and key volunteers to increase contributions to United Way of Erie County and enrich the understanding of the organization’s mission among individuals age forty-five and younger. Thanks to these dedicated committee members, more YLS members have had the opportunity to connect to their communities and each other through professional development, educational opportunities, volunteerism, and networking events centered around a common goal of improving the Erie community.

Katie Ruffa, Chair
 Northwest Bank

Lindsay Bach-Moore
 Moore Research Services, Inc.

Seth Carter
 LECOM Institute for Successful Aging
 LECOM Health – Medical Associates of Erie

Cassie Dundon
 Achievement Center of LECOM Health

Katie J. Jones
 ERIEBANK

Anita Kuchcinski
 Northwest Bank

Jon O’Camb
 Erie Insurance

Craig Shinko
 Wegmans - West Erie



You can learn more and become a Young Leaders Society member by visiting UnitedWayErie.org/YLS

COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATE PARTNERS

The following companies have supported United Way through corporate partnerships in the community schools model. A United Way community school **Corporate Partner** commits to financial support for a minimum of a three-year cycle. The company also designates employee champions to serve as liaisons between the corporate partner and the community school, including engaging with the Community School Director to identify and oversee other employees as volunteers.

Diehl Elementary, A Community School

Accudyn Products, Inc.
American Tinning & Galvanizing
Custom Engineering
Lincoln Recycling
McInnes Rolled Rings
Reddog Industries, Inc.
Smith Provision Company, Inc.
Team Hardinger Transportation Company

East Middle, A Community School

Hamot Health Foundation

Edison Elementary, A Community School

Wabtec Corporation

Elk Valley Elementary, A Community School

Bonnell's Auto Group
Matrix Tool, Inc.
Reed Manufacturing Company

Harding Elementary, A Community School

Eriez Magnetics

Iroquois Elementary, A Community School

Reed Manufacturing Company
TechnipFMC
Widget Financial

McKinley Elementary, A Community School

Great Lakes Insurance Associates
Hand & Arthritis Rehabilitation Center
Women United for Community Schools

Perry Elementary, A Community School

Eriez Magnetics

Pfeiffer-Burleigh Elementary, A Community School

Erie Insurance

Strong Vincent Middle, A Community School

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield

Union City Elementary, A Community School

Anonymous
Women United for Community Schools

CORPORATE DONORS

Corporate donors continue to provide financial support that is essential to help United Way **crush poverty in Erie County**. The following businesses contributed \$1,000 or more during the 2020-2021 Campaign.

AAA East Central
Accudyn Products, Inc.
Ajax Ceco Erie Press Systems
American Hollow Boring
American Tinning & Galvanizing
Andover Bank
E. E. Austin & Son, Inc.
Berry Global
Bonnell's Auto Group
Citizens Bank
Contine Corporation
Corry Community Foundation
Cummins Inc.
Curtze Food Service
Custom Engineering
Edinboro University
Erie Beer Company
The Erie Community Foundation
Erie Custom Computer Applications, Inc.
Erie Insurance
Erie Yacht Club Foundation

Eriez Magnetics
Finish Thompson Incorporated
First National Bank of Pennsylvania
Gannon University
General Partitions Manufacturing
Giant Eagle, Inc.
Great Lakes Insurance Associates
Great Lakes Metal Finishing
Hamot Health Foundation
Hand & Arthritis Rehabilitation Center
Hanes Erie, Inc.
Heatron Inc.
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield
Icing on the Lake
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local No. 459
KeyBank
Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett
Lamjen, Inc.
Lincoln Recycling
Marquette Savings Bank
Matrix Tool, Inc.

Merrill Lynch
Moore Research Services, Inc.
Morris Coupling Company
National Fuel Gas
Northwest Bank
Northwestern Manufacturing
Parker Lord
Penelec, A FirstEnergy Company
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College
Penn-Union Corp.
PHB, Inc. Corp. HQ
The Plastek Group
PNC Financial Services, Inc.
Printing Concepts, Inc.
Red Letter Hospitality
Reddog Industries, Inc.
Reed Manufacturing Company
Rogers Brothers Corporation
Schaffner Knight Minnaugh & Company
Schwan's - Better Baked, LLC
Scott Enterprises
Smith Provision Company, Inc.

Summit Township Industrial & Economic Development Authority
Team Hardinger Transportation Company
TechnipFMC
UPMC Hamot
UPMC Health Plan
Van Air, Inc.
Venango Machine Company
Wabtec Corporation
Wegmans - Peach Street Store
Wegmans - West Erie Store
Widget Financial
WJET/FOX/YourErie.com
Zurn Industries
Anonymous

COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOOSTERS



What is a Booster?

Community School Boosters are enthusiastic supporters of ALL children excelling in school, achieving academic success and being excited to learn! They believe that ALL children deserve the opportunity to thrive and pursue their dreams through education. United Way Community School Boosters are changing the future for thousands of children in the Erie community...now and for generations to come.

Boosters give an annual gift of \$125 or more in addition to their annual support of United Way.

Projects made possible because of Community School Boosters support this year include teacher appreciation gifts, parent engagement incentives, summer safety events, summer learning STEM kits, summer engagement activities for at-home learning, and behavior incentives.



Special thanks to Hamot Health Foundation for their United Way Board of Corporators challenge match!

Learn more and join as a Booster at UnitedWayErie.org/CS-Boosters

THANK YOU LOYAL CONTRIBUTORS

Loyal Contributors are individuals who have given to any United Way for 10 years or more, regardless of their giving level. These 10 years do not need to be consecutive. Our Loyal Contributor program is designed to help us show our appreciation for supporters who have given to any United Way for 10 years or more. As a United Way Loyal Contributor, please accept our heartfelt thank-you for all you have done for so many people and for our community. Your consistent support has truly changed lives.

The **Loyal Contributor** program has grown so much that we can't fit all the names in this report!

For a complete listing of our Loyal Contributors please visit: UnitedWayErie.org/Loyal.

Have you been giving to United Way for 10 years or more but do not see your name listed on our website? Please contact us and let us know who you are! Visit UnitedWayErie.org/Loyal or call (814) 456-2937 ext. 221

Thank you to our sponsors!

UPMC HEALTH PLAN

UPMC | HAMOT

GIFTS-IN-KIND (OF \$1,000 OR MORE)

A gift-in-kind is a non-cash contribution used by United Way and Community Schools to carry out our mission. Sincere thanks to those listed below for goods, services, or expertise during the 2020-2021 Campaign.

4002 and YOU
 Brookside Fire Department
 Cathedral of St. Paul/St. Mark's
 Chick-fil-A
 Country Fair, Inc.
 East Lake Road Alliance Church
 Erie Lakewood United Methodist
 Erie News Now
 Erie Playhouse
 Erie Times-News
 Erie United Methodist Alliance
 Family Worship Center
 Farms To Families
 First Presbyterian Church
 of the Covenant

Girard Alliance Church
 Girard Presbyterian Church
 Grace Church
 Grise Audio Visual Center
 Hamot Health Foundation
 Happi 92.7
 Immanuel Baptist Church
 Kingsley United Methodist
 Knights of Columbus
 Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett
 Lake City Police Department
 Lake City Methodist Church
 Lamar Advertising

Logistics Plus
 Love Inc.
 McCarty Printing
 Messiah Lutheran Church
 Miss Julie's Daycare
 Moore Research Services, Inc
 North American Partners in
 Anesthesia (NAPA)
 Operation Warm
 Printing Concepts, Inc.
 Quality of Life Learning Center
 Red Letter Hospitality
 Romolos

Rotary Club of Erie
 St. John's Lutheran Church
 St. Luke's Parish
 St. Paul's Lutheran Church –
 Patchwork of Love
 Scott Enterprises
 Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel
 Sisters of Saint Joseph
 Neighborhood Network
 UPMC Health Plan
 Wegmans
 WJET/FOX/YourErie.com

The following organizations made gifts-in-kind to support United Way Erie FREE Taxes.



ERIE FREE TAXES VITA SITES

4 NINE Center
 American Legion LeBaron Post 237
 Booker T. Washington Center
 Corry Federal Credit Union
 Corry Industrial Center
 East Middle School
 Erie Federal Credit Union
 Gannon University
 Girard High School
 John E. Horan Garden Apartments

John F. Kennedy Center
 Martin Luther King Center
 Multicultural Community Resource
 Center
 Widget Financial

ERIE FREE TAXES PARTNERS

Corry Community Foundation

The Erie Community Foundation
 North East Community Foundation
 Union City Community Foundation
 Internal Revenue Service

ERIE FREE TAXES SITE COORDINATORS

Malinda Carpenter
 Renee Castrigano

Clark Fike
 Greg Frodelius
 Tina Gilmore
 Stacey Heiser
 Terry Holmes
 Susan Holtgreffe
 Fatima Jenkins
 Cheryl Kindle
 Scott Lewandowski
 Della Presley
 Jeffrey Rozier
 Kelly Soety
 Tamara Stoddard
 Kassandra Thomas
 Millie Wolf

HONOR ROLL AWARDS

United Way’s Honor Roll Award recognizes organizations that have demonstrated five or more consecutive years of campaign growth. The growth can stem from a combination of employee contributions and corporate donations.

IN RECOGNITION OF:

26 consecutive years of campaign growth: 1996-2021

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ERIE

19 consecutive years of campaign growth: 2003-2021

TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT SUPPLY COMPANY

18 consecutive years of campaign growth: 2004-2021

AMERICAN TINNING & GALVANIZING

16 consecutive years of campaign growth: 2006-2021

CUSTOM ENGINEERING

15 consecutive years of campaign growth: 2007-2021

FINISH THOMPSON INCORPORATED

11 consecutive years of campaign growth: 2011-2021

MERRILL LYNCH



Housing Authority of the City of Erie earns Honor Roll Distinction for 26 consecutive years of campaign growth.

Nine consecutive years of campaign growth: 2013-2021

THE KEYSTONE FOUNDRY DIVISION OF UNITED BRASS WORKS

Eight consecutive years of campaign growth: 2014-2021

HBKS WEALTH ADVISORS

MOORE RESEARCH SERVICES, INC.

Seven consecutive years of campaign growth: 2015-2021

GIRARD HIGH SCHOOL



J. DAVID DEVER MEMORIAL AWARD

The 2020 John David Dever Memorial Award for outstanding community service in Erie County was presented to Mel Witherspoon, Erie City Councilman. This award is given to those who exemplify leadership, dedication and commitment to improving people’s lives.

Left to Right: Jack Lee, President Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council and Mel Witherspoon, Erie City Councilman.



UNITED WAY'S BIG MOVE!

In July 2020, United Way announced plans to move the organization's headquarters to the former Wayne School building on East Avenue.

Fast forward to early August of 2021, and the BIG move was complete!

United Way's decision to relocate aligns seamlessly with our collective impact strategy and laser focus on education as the organization is now co-located with Erie Center for Arts and Technology along with our valued impact partners and neighbors at East Middle School, a United Way community school. Additional tenants in the Wayne Building include UPMC Jameson School of Nursing, Primary Health Network, Darling's Pharmacy, ShanPull Sports and the Blue Coats initiative of Erie's Public Schools.

This came at no net cost to United Way thanks to the sale of our previous building on West 6th Street and a generous gift from an anonymous donor.

United Way's NEW address is:

650 East Avenue, Suite 200
Erie, PA 16503



STAFF

Please contact us at (814) 456-2937. Direct extensions are listed below.

United Way Headquarters Staff

Joelyn J. Bush

*Director of Marketing and Communications
Ext. 224*

Julie Chacona

*Director of Major Gifts
Ext. 256*

Damali Donovan

*Community Impact Coordinator
Ext. 255*

Erica Jackson

*Community Impact Manager, Grants
Administration
Ext. 235*

William Jackson

*President Emeritus
Ext. 238*

Michael Jaruszewicz

*Vice President, Community Impact
Ext. 227*

Stephanie King

*Director of Education
Ext. 231*

Lori Krause

*Senior Director of Community Impact
Ext. 225*

Marybelle Martin

*Program Director, Erie Free Taxes
Ext. 226*

Sara Naughton

*Community Impact Manager, Data and
Evaluation
Ext. 232*

Ron Oliver

*Vice President, Labor Division & AFL-CIO
Community Services Liaison
Ext. 248*

Joanna Peters

*Administrative Assistant
Ext. 233*

Laurie B. Root

*President
Ext. 223*

Natalie Rugare

*Marketing and Communications
Coordinator
Ext. 258*

Gina M. Schaefer

*Resource Development and Office
Manager
Ext. 221*

Ashley Wilczynski

*Administrative Support and
Database Associate
Ext. 243*

Christine Yuhas

*Controller
Ext. 234*

Community School Directors

Katrina Byrd

*Community School Director
Strong Vincent Middle School*

Karen Donnelly

*Community School Director
Diehl Elementary School*

Meghan Easter

*Community School Director
Pfeiffer-Burleigh Elementary School*

Amy Grande

*Community School Director
McKinley Elementary School*

Kerrie Grande

*Community School Director
Iroquois Elementary School*

Tami Krzeszewski-Conway

*Community School Director
Edison Elementary School*

Rachel Pierce

*Community School Director
East Middle School*

Bailey Pituch

*Community School Director
Union City Elementary School*

Shanna Potter

*Community School Director
Harding Elementary School*

Tammy Rader

*Community School Director
Elk Valley Elementary School*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James B. Ohrn

*Board Chair
Custom Engineering*

Lorianne Feltz

*Vice Chair
Erie Insurance*

Marcus Atkinson

*M. Atkinson & Associates Consulting, and The
Publix Voice Media LLC*

Christina Bernatowicz

PNC Financial Services, Inc.

Janel Bonsell

*Secretary/Treasurer
Schaffner Knight Minnaugh & Company*

Seth H. Carter, DO, MSMEd

*LECOM Institute for Successful Aging
LECOM Health – Medical Associates of Erie*

Terry L. Cascioli

Decision Associates

Christopher Clark, DO, MHA

Saint Vincent Hospital

Gail J. Cook

Widget Financial

James W. Grunke

Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership

Boo Hagerty

*Marketing and Communications Committee
Chair
Hamot Health Foundation*

Alan R. Hamilton

Wabtec Corporation

Debbie Iavarone

Retired

Jack Lee

Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council

Colleen Moore-Mezler

*Executive Compensation and Review
Committee Chair
Moore Research Services, Inc.*

Tesha Nesbit

*Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair
North American Partners in Anesthesia*

James C. Nuber Jr.

*International Brotherhood of Electrical
Workers, Local 56*

Brian Polito

Erie's Public Schools

Nicole Reitzell

*Project Blueprint Graduate
Erie Downtown Development Corporation*

Laurie B. Root

*President
United Way of Erie County*

Katie Ruffa

*Young Leaders Society Steering Committee Chair
Northwest Bank*

Robin Scheppner

*Resource Development Committee Chair
American Tinning & Galvanizing*

Lisa Slomski

First National Bank

Dr. Keith Taylor

*Governance Committee Chair
Gannon University*

Jim Teed

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield

Thomas Tupitza

*Planned Giving Committee Chair
Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett*

Gwendolyn White

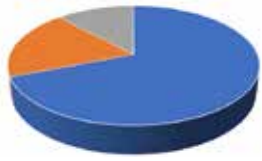
*Community Impact Committee Chair
Erie Insurance*

Matt Zonno

Northwest Bank



2020 FINANCIALS



*Revenue - \$4.5M

69%

Campaign Revenue
3,094,884

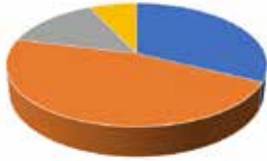
*Without donor restrictions

19%

Grants and
Sponsorships
864,254

12%

Other Revenue
558,223



Community Investments and Expenditures - \$4.1M

32%

Funds Awarded
1,300,888

46%

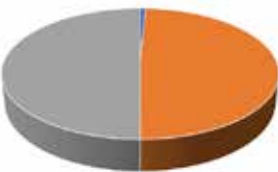
Program Services
1,890,597

14%

Fund Development
581,685

7%

Administration
304,159



Balance Sheet

\$372,697

Liabilities

\$24,696,444

Net Assets

\$25,069,141

Total Assets

UNITED WAY AUDIT COMMITTEE

Janel Bonsell
Schaffner Knight Minnaugh
& Company

Gail Cook
Widget Financial

Vinnie Halupczynski
McGill, Power, Bell & Associates
LLP

Jim Ohrn
Custom Engineering

United Way of Erie County is audited by the firm of **Root, Spitznas & Smiley, Inc. Certified Public Accountants**. Want more information? The most recent complete audited financial report for United Way of Erie County is available at UnitedWayErie.org/about/accountability

UNITED WAY FUNDED IMPACT PARTNERS

- Achievement Center
- Blue Coats Initiative of Erie's Public Schools
- Booker T. Washington Center
- Diehl Elementary School
- Early Connections
- East Middle School
- Edison Elementary School
- Elk Valley Elementary School
- Erie Family Center
- Erie Playhouse
- Family Services of NWPA
- Gannon University
- Greater Erie Community Action Committee
- Hamot Health Foundation
- Harding Elementary School
- Iroquois Elementary School
- McKinley Elementary School
- Mercyhurst University
- Multicultural Community Resource Center
- National Night Out Event Organizers
- Perry Elementary School
- Pfeiffer-Burleigh Elementary School
- Strong Vincent Middle School
- UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor
- Union City Elementary School

United Way's funding impact partner will be added to throughout the year as other partnerships are confirmed. This list is reflective of partnerships in place as of July 15, 2021.

HISTORY OF THE TOCQUEVILLE AWARD

United Way's highest honor

Every year since 1983, United Way of Erie County has presented the Tocqueville Award to an individual or individuals committed to improving the lives of people in our community. For their personal leadership and commitment to service, the following individuals received the award.

May each of our Tocqueville Award recipients' generous spirit be an example and catalyst to others throughout Erie County.

PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

- Robin Scheppler 2020
- Gwendolyn White 2019
- James E. Martin 2018
- James Ohr 2017
- Robert G. Dwyer 2016
- Al and Peggy Richardson 2015
- F. Brady Louis 2014
- Jim Dible 2013
- John E. Horan 2012
- Rev. Steven Pimen Simon 2011
- Walter and Joan Harf 2010
- Thomas B. Hagen 2009
- Marlene Mosco 2008
- Margaret Ann Hardner, SSJ 2007
- Samuel P. "Pat" Black III 2006
- Dr. Richard and Willie Rahner 2005
- Mary Lou Kownacki, OSB 2004
- Judge George Levin 2003
- Vincent L. Jenco, D.O. 2002
- Samuel P. Black Jr. 2001
- R. Benjamin Wiley 2000
- Ralph T. Wright 1999
- Laura W. Wallerstein 1998
- Dr. Gertrude A. Barber 1997
- F. William Hirt 1995
- Edward P. Junker III 1994
- A. James Freeman 1993
- Mary Beth Kennedy 1992
- Robert F. and Betty M. Merwin 1991
- Susan Hirt Hagen 1990
- Carl J. Schlemmer 1989
- Ray L. McGarvey 1988
- M. Lawrence Antoun, SSJ 1987
- William J. Hill Jr. 1986
- Albert F. Duval 1985
- Charles H. Bracken 1984
- Edward C. Doll 1983



ALL THIS THANKS TO YOU!



The 2020 Tocqueville Award and 2021 Tocqueville Award Reception is made possible by generous support from Northwest Bank and the William M. and Frances Schuster Fund at The Erie Community Foundation.



Thank you to Printing Concepts for their generous support in producing this publication.



United Way of Erie County

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