



# MISSION: CRUSH POVERTY

2020 Annual Report

CONTINUES



# MISSION:

# CRUSH POVERTY



United Way of Erie County



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 most.

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

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

***That's LIVING UNITED.***

2020 Annual Report Sponsor

**UPMC  
HEALTH  
PLAN**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 WE WERE BUILT FOR THIS	13 TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY	21 J. DAVID DEVER MEMORIAL AWARD
4 WORKING DIFFERENTLY	14 RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	22 WHERE THE MONEY GOES
6 COMMUNITY SCHOOLS	14 LEADERSHIP GIVING	23 2019 FINANCIALS
8 IMAGINATION LIBRARY	17 YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY	23 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ERIE'S FUTURE FUND	18 YLS STEERING COMMITTEE	23 STAFF
SUCCESS BY 6	19 CORPORATE DONORS	BC 2020 TOCQUEVILLE AWARD RECIPIENT
9 RAISING READERS	20 GIFTS-IN-KIND	HISTORY OF THE TOCQUEVILLE AWARD
POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT	20 THANK YOU LOYAL CONTRIBUTORS	
10 211 HELPLINE	20 COMMUNITY SERVICE FUNDS	
11 ERIE FREE TAXES	21 HONOR ROLL AWARDS	
FAMILYWIZE		

# WE WERE BUILT FOR THIS THE WORK CONTINUES...

United Way of Erie County has evolved from its roots as a fundraising organization to a critical community impact organization mobilizing local partners - including businesses, community leaders and community residents - to break the cycle of poverty and expand opportunities for people to become self-sufficient.

But, sometimes there is a disruption in evolution. Enter “pivot,” likely the word of 2020, which can be defined as the central point, pin, or shaft on which a mechanism turns. At United Way, we, like everyone else, are reacting to the current coronavirus crisis. However, we are not changing direction in any way, shape, or form. Thanks to the foresight of the Board of Directors, we were built to deal with times like these. The central point on which we turn is our mission of crushing poverty through the dual lenses of education and family stability - and we have stayed true to that mission even in the face of the current crisis.

You will read more about the work continuing in the pages that follow. Everything from United Way’s 211 Helpline vital partnership with ServErie and Erie County government to the Imagination Library celebrating the **750,000** books mailed milestone.

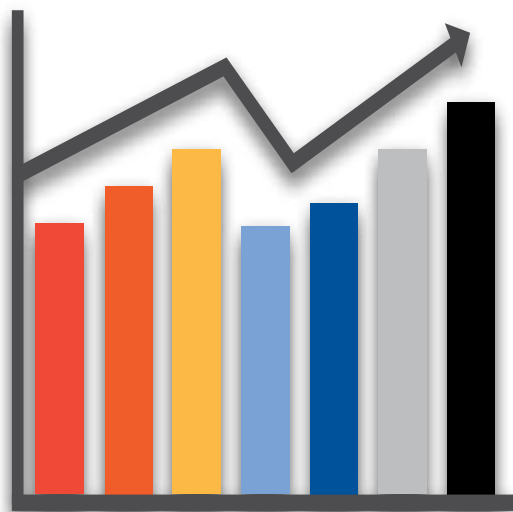
And, our Emergency Relief Fund through which we were able to make contributions that resulted in grants to **42** local organizations, including a \$10,000 grant to the Erie Family Center for their Diaper Depot program.

Pandemic or not, at United Way we know the key to breaking the cycle of poverty is still education. And, even though the doors to the schools are closed, the doors to opportunity are open for **more than 6,000** students and their families throughout Erie County, thanks to United Way’s community school infrastructure that has responded magnificently to the current situation.

But, none of this work and response would be possible without you. Simply put, the work would not and cannot continue without you.

Thank you for your investment in your community. Thank you for LIVING UNITED.

## FACING POVERTY



### POVERTY RATES

	Below Poverty Level	Percent Below Poverty Level
<b>Adults Living in Poverty</b>		
City of Erie	24,614	27.1%
Erie County	40,132	15.5%
<b>Children Under 18 Living in Poverty</b>		
City of Erie	7,788	38.9%
Erie County	11,961	21.1%
<b>Children Under 5 Living in Poverty</b>		
City of Erie	1,851	38.4%
Erie County	3,033	20.8%

Source: Data.Census.



# WORKING DIFFERENTLY

## 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.



# WORKING DIFFERENTLY

## 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, engage and excel when they are dealing with an unstable home 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 impact partners leverage resources that can help build stronger children and families.

Such support helps families thrive by providing access to resources and opportunities, like free tax services, or United Way's 211 helpline.



# COVID-19 RESPONSE

During the COVID-19 pandemic, providing basic and emergency needs for individuals and families became even more urgent.

United Way stepped up to provide resources to address heightened needs throughout the community, while continuing our work to break the cycle of poverty by focusing on student success and family stability.

Strategic partnerships with ServErie and Erie County government were forged to address volunteer needs.

And, United Way's Emergency Relief Fund was activated, resulting in grants to 42 local organizations, most recently a \$10,000 grant to the Erie Family Center for their Diaper Depot program.





# COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

**COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP**  
A STUDENT SUCCESS INITIATIVE OF UNITED WAY OF ERIE COUNTY

Launched in August 2016, United Way’s Community Schools model aligns community and school resources to address the specific barriers preventing students, and their families, from being successful.

Little boys and girls cannot control their home life. Unfortunately, many face barriers that are beyond their control. The data-driven community schools model aims to level the playing field for students and families facing barriers to success. There are 10 United Way community schools serving 6,000+ children in three Erie County School Districts: Erie’s Public Schools, Girard School District and the Iroquois School District.

Community Schools rely on many partners, including school districts, social service organizations, businesses, the public sector, universities and more. United Way of Erie County serves as the backbone organization for all community schools in Erie County.

Below are cumulative outcomes for United Way’s ten community schools for the 2019-2020 school year. Although the COVID-19 Pandemic hit and the physical doors to school closed, the doors to opportunity for students and their families served by United Way community schools remained open.



## 19-20 SCHOOL YEAR BY THE NUMBERS



Est. value of in-kind donations:  
**\$289,188**



**504** programs & services offered



**2,828** volunteers

**1,816** student engagement opportunities

**13,506** volunteer hours contributed

**881** parent/family engagement events



**700** staff/teacher engagement events



Est. value of volunteer hours:  
**\$336,763**





## COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FOOD BOXES

Early on in the COVID-19 Pandemic, United Way learned the need for supplemental food was high on the list for many of our community school families. While Erie has a number of excellent sources for supplemental food, many families fall through the cracks due to issues such as transportation or lack of information.

Thanks to the relationships community school directors have built with families in their neighborhoods, they were able to identify and reach out to those who could not, for whatever reason, access food.

And thanks to the generosity of a number of organizations and donors, including Bonnell's Auto Group, Erie Insurance and many of their local agents, Erie Womens' Fund, Matt Barczyk Allstate Insurance Agency and other individual donors, United Way was able provide thousands of meals to hundreds of children and their families.

*A special thanks to Curtze Food Service for their important partnership in this effort.*

As the backbone organization, United Way maintains alignment, drives impact, ensures clear communication and assures that the work is being done with fidelity by all partners and is meeting goals and measurements.

Collaboration among multiple organizations is simple in theory, but difficult in practice. United Way is uniquely positioned at the helm of this transformational work to make sure all students in Erie County succeed.

You can find a complete list of community schools and their partners on page 19.

*Learn more and stay up to date: [UnitedWayErie.org/CommunitySchools](https://UnitedWayErie.org/CommunitySchools)*



## IMAGINATION LIBRARY



United Way's Imagination Library mails free books to children under five living in Erie County beginning at birth. The program is funded **100%** by local community support to United Way of Erie County.

- **8,945** children currently enrolled
- **14,099** children graduated since July 2013
- **763,968** books mailed since July 2013
- **54%** total penetration in Erie County
- **38%** registrants living in 10 poorest zip codes

## ERIE'S FUTURE FUND



United Way Scholarships through Erie's Future Fund provide scholarships to low-income families in community school neighborhoods.

Early childhood research shows that well-focused early childhood education investments can produce high public returns, particularly for children living in families with low income levels.

- 40 scholars at 5 half days per week provided through United Way funding for 2020-2021
- By the end of the 2019 school year, an average of **92%** of 3 year-old scholars were in process or proficient in the Key Learning Areas, and an average of **96%** of 4 year-old scholars were in process or proficient in the five Key Learning Areas.

## SUCCESS BY 6



United Way's Success By 6 initiative is administered by Early Connections and aims to prepare children in Erie County for kindergarten through community outreach.

Success By 6 engages in community, family, and school outreach opportunities locally and across the region to collectively address kindergarten readiness.

The initiative consists of professionals working together to positively impact early childhood health, education and development.





# RAISING READERS



Raising Readers is the Erie community's local Campaign for Grade Level Reading.

The Raising Readers initiative is looking at three factors to help our students become proficient readers by third grade: School Readiness, School Attendance and Summer Learning.

- **29,500** kindergarten registration flyers distributed during SY 19-20
- **500** toolkits during SY 19-20
- Attendance Education Campaign launched in Fall 2019
- Safe Walking Routes to School launched at McKinley Elementary

# POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



Positive Youth Development of Erie County (PYD) is a county-wide collaborative initiative that utilizes the 40 Developmental Assets® framework created by Search Institute® to make Erie County Pennsylvania the premiere place for youth to grow up great.

PYD recognizes the need to expand beyond crisis management by promoting strategies that increase youth's connections to positive relationships and experiences.

- **9,776** students served
- PYD hosted free 40 Developmental Asset Trainings quarterly, impacting **800+** individuals
- Hosted Annual Fall and Spring Youth Summits impacting over **200** students



# 211 HELPLINE



Pennsylvania | Northwest

## BY THE NUMBERS AUG. 19 - JUL. 2020

MONTH	CALLS	CHAT	TEXT
Aug-19	324	4	46
Sep-19	310	1	38
Oct-19	277	3	23
Nov-19	238	6	23
Dec-19	186	4	17
Jan-20	187	2	12
Feb-20	224	1	10
Mar-20	445	2	31
Apr-20	364	9	26
May-20	286	3	30
Jun-20	255	4	23
Ju-20	128	6	21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,298</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>485</b>

Launched in May 2017, United Way's 211 Helpline is a key component in our strategy to help families become, and stay, stable.

When families are struggling and in crisis, they cannot focus on making sure their children are prepared for and succeeding in school.

United Way's 211 Helpline is a free, centralized and confidential service to connect individuals and families with social service assistance 24/7/365.

As a result of the lockdown during the first months of the pandemic, many local nonprofits who rely heavily on volunteers were suddenly faced with a shortage of healthy folks willing and able to leave their house to volunteer.

Thanks to a dynamic and rapid-response partnership with ServErie and Erie County, 211 was used as the central point of contact for people able to volunteer, and match them with agencies in need.

The result – more than 284 volunteers were connected to eight local nonprofits, enabling them to continue their vitally important work during COVID-19.



**FAMILY STABILITY**



# ERIE FREE TAXES

## Earn It Keep It Save It United Way Erie FREE Taxes

United Way's Erie FREE Taxes program provides free tax preparation service to eligible Erie County tax filers and ensures that every eligible filer claims the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

Since 2007, Erie FREE Taxes Program has demonstrated strength as a family and community economic development tool. Erie FREE Taxes volunteer tax preparers are responsible for returning **\$88 million** in federal refunds while saving filers an estimated **\$13 million** in commercial tax preparation fees since its inception in 2007, making the program value since inception more than **\$100 million**.

2019 Filing Season Key Statistics:

- **5,409** 2019 federal returns processed
- **1,654** EITC claims/returned processed
- **\$10,607,009** federal refund dollars earned
- **\$3,822,540** total EITC refund dollars earned
- **\$2,039,193** estimated tax filer savings



# FAMILYWIZE



United Way is pleased to have been offering the FamilyWize Prescription Drug Discount card to Erie County residents since September 2013.

The card can be used by the whole family and is for uninsured, underinsured or for prescriptions not covered by insurance, Medicare or other benefit plans. The FamilyWize Prescription Discount card could lower the cost of medicine by an average of 35%. Since first introduced, more than **14,223** Erie County residents have saved more than **\$1,696,871** dollars on their prescription medicines.

Most recent data shows residents have saved an average of \$155 over this time, with the average savings per claim of \$30.65. United Way provides these cards free-of-charge to everyone in our community.

There are no age restrictions, no income restrictions, no limit on how many times you can use it and no waiting to get a card.





**ALL THIS  
THANKS TO YOU!**



**MISSION MADE POSSIBLE  
THROUGH OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS**

# 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 during 1831.

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



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



Lisa A. and Timothy G. NeCastro



Susan and Gary Raimy



Robin Scheppner



Carla W. Picardo and Scott K. Wright

## LA SOCIÉTÉ NATIONALE

\$100,000 to \$249,999

Thomas B. Hagen

## ORDRE D'ÉGALITÉ

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Bruce Raimy ☞

The Raimy Family

## ORDRE DE LIBERTÉ

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Kern Family Foundation

Lisa A. and Timothy G. NeCastro

Robin Scheppner ☞

Scott K. Wright and Carla W. Picardo

Anonymous

## MEMBRES DE LA SOCIÉTÉ

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Samuel P. "Pat" Black III\*

The Andrew J. Conner & William B. Conner Family

Mo and Bob Dwyer\* ☞

Lorianne Feltz

Chris and Mary Fette Sr.

Robert Frenzel ☞

Thomas A. Hanes and

Mili Chiang-Hanes

Mary Lincoln

Richard A. Merwin

The John M. and Gertrude E. Petersen Foundation

Gary and Susan Raimy ☞

Roger and Nancy

Sturtevant\*

Mark A. Wright

Anonymous



Mark A. Wright

\*Received through the Erie Community Foundation ☞ Members of the *Legacy Society*

# 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.

**Lorianne Feltz, Chair**  
Erie Insurance

**Louis Colaizzo**  
Erie Insurance

**Robin Scheppner**  
American Tinning & Galvanizing

**Christina Bernatowicz**  
PNC Financial Services, Inc.

**Michael P. Martin**  
Printing Concepts, Inc.

**Douglas E. Smith**  
Erie Insurance

**David J. Bertges**  
American Tinning & Galvanizing

**Kevin Otteni**  
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**Jim Teed**  
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield

**John Bongiovanni**  
Lillis, McKibben, Bongiovanni & Co.

**Katie Ruffa**  
Northwest Bank

**Christopher M. Zehner**  
HBKS Wealth Advisors

**Janel Bonsell**  
Schaffner Knight Minnaugh &  
Company

# 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

Cle and Penny Austin  
David J. Bertges  
Louis Colaizzo  
Gene and Anne Connell and Family\*  
John P. and Heidi Fette  
David and Nancy Glod  
William and Patricia Jackson ☞  
Amy Cuzzola-Kern and B. Scott Kern  
Nancy and Bruce Kern Sr.  
Bonnie and C. Bruce Kern II  
Robert and Christina Marsh

Michael P. Martin  
Bob and Joan Martter  
Robert W. and Mercedes McNutt  
Jim and Sue Ohrn ☞  
Gregg and Jennifer Pfeffer\*\*  
Jeffrey and Rhonda Plyler  
Debra Porreco  
William M. and Frances Schuster  
Fund\*  
Mark and Prudence Shaw  
Thomas and Carol Tupitza  
Barrett C. Walker Family Fund\* ☞  
Anonymous

## GOLD CIRCLE \$2,500 to \$4,999

John and Mary Gail Baldwin  
Jacqueline and Michael Barber  
Christina and Brian Bernatowicz  
The Bloomstine Family  
Peg and Tom Bly  
John and Julia Bongiovanni  
Janel and Buddy Bonsell  
Dr. Richard C. Boyle  
Patrick J. Burns  
Dr. and Mrs. Mark S. Buseck  
Dr. Jestin and Jessica Carlson\*\*  
Marc and Nancy Cipriani  
Gail J. Cook

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THROUGH OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

\*Received through the Erie Community Foundation

\*\*Also members of the Young Leaders Society – Premier Circle

☞ Members of the *Legacy Society*



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Clinton and Sarah Ewing\*\*

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Janice Underhill

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Gwendolyn White

Douglas M. Yarbenet

Michael Zaksheske

Christopher and Norma Zimmer

Anonymous (2)

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

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Barbara Beatty

Randi and Douglas Bert

Michael and Mary Bova

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Jedediah and Meredith Smith\*\*

James F. and Bridget Stevenson

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Kathryn and David M. Tullio

Judith E. Wingerter

Shane T. Wohlrabe

Drs. Katy and Sean Wolfrom

Don and Gayle Wright

Richard and Diane Yeager

Christine Yuhas

Zurn Family Fund\*

Anonymous

\*Received through the Erie Community Foundation \*\*Also members of the Young Leaders Society – Premier Circle ☞ Members of the Legacy Society (D) Deceased

## BRONZE CIRCLE

\$1,000 to \$1,499

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 James and Richele Bann  
 Catherine Hakel and  
 Matthew Barczyk\*\*  
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 Denise M. Benim  
 Robert Bennett  
 Richard K. Bentley  
 Del Birch  
 Jon P. and Christen Bloom\*\*  
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 Jim and Rossana Currie  
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 Jamie and Marlea Gore  
 Roy and Mary Lee Gourley  
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 Melissa and Joseph Grucza  
 Timothy and Lois Guzek  
 Ronald Habursky  
 Dennis and Christine Hadlock  
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 Erin and Joe Siegrist\*\*  
 Father Steven Pimen and  
 Jayne Simon  
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 Kathi and Kenneth D. Slaney  
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 Chris and Mary Ellen Sorce  
 Gregory J. Sorce

Theresa Stachera  
 John and Tara Stonestreet\*\*  
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 James and Christine Toohey  
 Dionne Wallace Oakley and  
 Gerald Oakley  
 Leon and Laura Wallerstein Fund\*  
 Larry Weigand  
 Charles E. and Debra Weindorf  
 Brad and Lisa Weisenbach  
 Elizabeth A. Wetzel  
 Dr. Jack E. Yakish  
 David J. and Linda Zimmer  
 Gregory P. Zimmerman  
 Karen and Matt Zonno  
 Anonymous (8)

**MISSION MADE POSSIBLE**

THROUGH OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

\*Received through the Erie Community Foundation

\*\*Also members of the Young Leaders Society – Premier Circle

☞ Members of the *Legacy Society*

(D) Deceased

# 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)

Catherine Hakel and Matthew Barczyk\*\*  
 Jon P. and Christen Bloom\*\*  
 Dr. Jestin and Jessica Carlson\*\*  
 Sydney M. Cassidy\*\*  
 Christopher J. Clark\*\*  
 Neal and Daria Devlin\*\*  
 Daniel and Meghan Dillon\*\*  
 Daniel and Christine Drabic  
 Clinton and Sarah Ewing\*\*  
 Joseph M. and Emily Gennuso\*\*  
 Jessica Hartley\*\*  
 Thomas Hermanowski\*\*  
 Mike Jaruszewicz\*\*  
 Anita and Jeffery Kuchcinski\*\*  
 Dorothy A. Leemhuis  
 Zachary Lyons\*\*  
 Fabian M. Martinez  
 Kevin P. McCann\*\*  
 Patrick L. McManus\*\*  
 Stacey and Erick Nicklas

Kevin and Nicole Otteni\*\*  
 Ryan and Adrienne Paris\*\*  
 Gregg and Jennifer Pfeiffer\*\*  
 Sarah and Mark Pirrello  
 Jason M. Porreco\*\*  
 Patrick M. Rennie  
 Katie and Mike Ruffa\*\*  
 Jennifer L. Schade\*\*  
 Scott C. and Jeanette Schnars\*\*  
 Nicholas M. Schneider  
 Jay and Brittany Shaffer\*\*  
 Sarah Shine\*\*  
 Erin and Joe Siegrist\*\*  
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 Brittany and Paul Taylor\*\*  
 Ryan D. Tennant\*\*  
 Mike and LeeAnn Thomas\*\*  
 Eric and Janet Weislogel  
 Christopher M. Zehner  
 Amy Sharman and Michael R. Zona  
 Anonymous (2)

## YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY

Catherine and Brian Amick  
 Jeff Audet  
 Chad Ball  
 Bryan and Gretchen Baumann  
 Ronald J. Beer  
 Hannah Bowersox  
 Matt and Sue Bresee  
 Brandy M. Brine  
 Grant Brown  
 Joelyn J. Bush  
 Elizabeth Byers  
 Ashley Renee Caldwell  
 Jaime M. Carmosino  
 Chantelle and Seth Carter  
 Luis Castro  
 Kyle Chylinski  
 Michael D. and Marlene Clement  
 Cody and Carolyn Cook  
 Scott and Amy Cronk  
 Genna and Jordan Druzak  
 Cassie and Chris Dundon  
 Elliott J. Ehrenreich, Esq.  
 Bonnie Fitzpatrick-Kaliszewski

Rob and Rebecca Frank  
 Anna M. Gehringer  
 Keyshawna Gore  
 Hayden Grack  
 David J. Hallowell II  
 Sean and Corissa Halupczynski  
 Justin R. Handley  
 Sara and Dylan Hascher  
 Emily M. Horanic  
 Justin and Amy Izbicki  
 David and Kathryn Jackson  
 Katie J. and Matt Jones  
 Kimberly Kaercher  
 Megan Kaiser  
 Kimu Kim  
 Ryan D. and Katie King  
 Stephanie A. King  
 Andrea Konkol  
 Christopher J. Kozik  
 Nicole and Daniel Lehr  
 Leah and Ashley Manino  
 Jacob Marsh  
 John Mizanin  
 Lori and Gregg Mraz

\*\* Also members of the Leadership Giving Society

旻 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.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Katie Ruffa</b> , Chair<br>Northwest Bank                    | <b>Katie J. Jones</b><br>ERIEBANK                    |
| <b>Lindsay Bach-Moore</b><br>Moore Research Services, Inc.      | <b>Anita Kuchsinski</b><br>Northwest Bank            |
| <b>Seth Carter</b><br>Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine | <b>Craig Shinko</b><br>Wegmans                       |
| <b>Cassie Dundon</b><br>Achievement Center                      | <b>Erin Siegrist</b><br>Erie Insurance               |
|   | <b>Christopher M. Zehner</b><br>HBKS Wealth Advisors |



## YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY – JUNIOR MEMBERS

- |                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Breanna L. Adams          | Bailey Pituch                   |
| Christopher P. Allegretti | Zachary E. Prather              |
| Lindsay Bach-Moore        | Andrew J. Scheloske             |
| Emma Boyd                 | Corey and Elizabeth Spangenberg |
| Kenneth A. Burns          | Megan Spizarny                  |
| Amanda M. Forne           | Erin Stafford                   |
| Katrina J. Hecker         | Hannah and Tim Stancliff        |
| Viktor V. Karnaukh        | Anonymous (5)                   |
| Brian J. Ober             |                                 |

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Jamie Neumaier             | Joe W. Shreve                                   |
| Jon T. O’Camb              | Jeffrey M. Simmons                              |
| Craig and Brandy Palmer    | Patrick Simpson                                 |
| Matthew A. Patterson       | Rebecca Snyder                                  |
| Phil and Jennifer Pinzok   | Timothy J. Sul                                  |
| Joshua M. Porreco          | Michael J. Tellers                              |
| Michael W. Pruzinsky       | Brian and Amy Tiede                             |
| Carrie and Todd Raleigh    | Jennifer R. Tolbert                             |
| Jana Ranus                 | Emily Toothman                                  |
| Matt Reese                 | Natalie Vitale                                  |
| Brenda K. Rzepka           | William J. Vitron, Jr. and<br>Lyndsey C. Vitron |
| Paul and Jamie Sallie      | Jason E. Weber                                  |
| Timothy M. Shine           | Brian and Allison Young                         |
| Craig and Sarah Shinko     | Anonymous (8)                                   |
| Melissa and Michael Shirey |   |

Young Leaders Society Sponsor:



**MISSION MADE POSSIBLE**

THROUGH OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

# 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

Anonymous

## 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

Parker Lord

## 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

# 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 2019-2020 Campaign.

Accudyn Products, Inc.	Erie Otters Hockey Club	Lincoln Recycling	Schaffner Knight Minnaugh & Company
American Hollow Boring	Erie Press Systems	Marquette Savings Bank	Scott Enterprises
American Tinning & Galvanizing	Erie Times-News	Matrix Tool, Inc.	Smith Provision Company, Inc.
American Trim, LLC	Erie Women's Fund of The Erie Community Foundation	Merrill Lynch	Team Hardinger Transportation Company
Andover Bank	Eriez Magnetics	Moore Research Services, Inc.	TechnipFMC
E. E. Austin & Son, Inc.	Finish Thompson Incorporated	Morris Coupling Company	United Parcel Service
Bianchi Honda	First National Bank of Pennsylvania	National Fuel Gas	UPMC Hamot
Bonnell's Auto Group	Gannon University	Norfolk Southern Foundation	UPMC Health Plan
Builders' Hardware & Specialty Co, Inc.	General Partitions Manufacturing	Northwest Bank	Urick Ductile Solutions
Citizens Bank	Giant Eagle, Inc.	Northwestern Manufacturing	Van Air, Inc.
Contine Corporation	Graco High Pressure Equipment	Parker LORD	Venango Machine Company
Cummins Inc.	Great Lakes Metal Finishing	Penelec, A FirstEnergy Company	Wabtec Corporation
Curtze Food Service	Hagan Business Machines	Penn State Erie, The Behrend College	Wegmans - Peach Street Store
Custom Engineering	Hamot Health Foundation	Penn-Union Corp.	Wegmans - West Erie Store
Edinboro University	Hanes Erie, Inc.	PHB, Inc. Corp. HQ	Widget Financial
Erie BayHawks	Heatron Inc.	The Plastek Group	WJET/FOX/YourErie.com
Erie Beer Company	Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield	PNC Financial Services, Inc.	Zurn Industries
The Erie Community Foundation	Icing on the Lake	Printing Concepts, Inc.	Anonymous
Erie Custom Computer Applications, Inc.	KeyBank	PSB Industries	
Erie Federal Credit Union	Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett	Red Letter Hospitality	
Erie Insurance	Lamjen, Inc.	Reddog Industries, Inc.	
	Liberty Mutual Insurance	Reed Manufacturing Company	
		Rogers Brothers Corporation	

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

A gift-in-kind is a non-cash contribution used by United Way to carry out its mission. Sincere thanks to those listed below for goods, services, or expertise during the 2019-2020 Campaign.

Accudyn Products, Inc.  
Country Fair, Inc.  
Erie BayHawks  
Erie News Now  
Erie Otters Hockey Club

Erie Playhouse  
Erie SeaWolves  
Erie Times-News  
Grise Audio Visual Center

Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett  
Lamar Advertising  
McCarty Printing

Moore Research Services, Inc  
PRI Community  
Printing Concepts, Inc,  
Scott Enterprises  
Wegmans  
WJET/FOX/YourErie.com  
**Earn It Keep It Save It**  
United Way Erie FREE Taxes

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

4 NINE Center - North East  
Booker T. Washington Center  
Corry School District  
Edinboro University  
Erie County Public Library  
Erie Federal Credit Union

Gannon University  
Girard School District  
Greater Erie Community Action Committee  
Housing Authority of the City of Erie

John F. Kennedy Center  
Martin Luther King Memorial Center  
Multicultural Community Resource Center

Penn State Erie, The Behrend College  
The Porreco College  
Union City School District  
Widget Financial

## 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](http://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](http://UnitedWayErie.org/Loyal) or call (814) 456-2937 ext. 221

**UPMC HEALTH PLAN** *Thank you to our sponsor!*



## COMMUNITY SERVICE FUNDS

Many employees at a number of local companies give to United Way through a Community Service Fund. These funds contributed to United Way during the 2019-2020 Campaign.

Barber National Institute  
Modern Industries Employee Community Fund  
Saint Vincent Hospital  
UPMC Hamot

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THROUGH OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS



# 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:

**25 consecutive years of campaign growth: 1996-2020**

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ERIE**

**18 consecutive years of campaign growth: 2003-2020**

**TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT SUPPLY COMPANY**

**17 consecutive years of campaign growth: 2004-2020**

**AMERICAN TINNING & GALVANIZING**

**15 consecutive years of campaign growth: 2006-2020**

**CUSTOM ENGINEERING**

**14 consecutive years of campaign growth: 2007-2020**

**FINISH THOMPSON INCORPORATED**

**10 consecutive years of campaign growth: 2011-2020**

**MERRILL LYNCH**



*Finish Thompson Incorporated earns Honor Roll Distinction for 14 consecutive years of campaign growth.*

**Eight consecutive years of campaign growth: 2013-2020**

**THE KEYSTONE FOUNDRY DIVISION OF UNITED BRASS WORKS**

**Seven consecutive years of campaign growth: 2014-2020**

**HBKS WEALTH ADVISORS**

**MOORE RESEARCH SERVICES, INC.**

**Six consecutive years of campaign growth: 2015-2020**

**GIRARD HIGH SCHOOL**



# J. DAVID DEVER MEMORIAL AWARD

The 2019 John David Dever Memorial Award for outstanding community service in Erie County was presented to Eric Seggi, National Association of Broadcast Employees & Technicians representative. This award is given to those who exemplify leadership, dedication and commitment to improving people’s lives.

Left to Right: Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council President, Jack Lee, Eric Seggi and Ron Oliver, Vice President, Labor Division & AFL-CIO Community Service Labor Liaison

# WHERE THE MONEY GOES

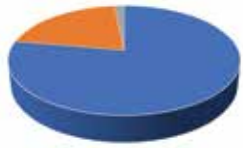
**FOR EVERY DOLLAR RAISED BY UNITED WAY OF ERIE COUNTY, 99 CENTS STAYS IN ERIE COUNTY. YOUR SUPPORT IS HELPING BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY.**

PROGRAM/SERVICE	PROVIDER	INVESTMENT
211 Helpline	PA 211 Southwest	\$114,000
Behavior Support Services	Achievement Center	\$28,700
Collective Impact Coordination Services	United Way Community Schools	\$353,900
Community School Blended Case Management Services	United Way, UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor, Gannon University	\$268,225
Diehl Elementary Community School Coordination Services	Mercyhurst University	\$60,000
East Middle School Community School Coordination Services	UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor	\$60,000
Edison Elementary Community School Coordination Services	Achievement Center	\$60,000
Edison Elementary Afterschool Program	Achievement Center	\$27,000
Elk Valley Elementary Community School Coordination Services	Achievement Center	\$60,000
Emergency Needs Response	Various	\$286,000
Erie FREE Taxes	Various	\$222,000
Harding Elementary Community School Coordination Services	YMCA of Greater Erie	\$60,000
I Can See	Union City Area School District Foundation	\$7,000
Imagination Library	Various	\$309,700
Iroquois Elementary Community School Coordination Services	Susan Hirt Hagen CORE at Penn State Behrend	\$60,000
Kindergarten Readiness Summer Program	Iroquois Elementary School	\$10,000
McKinley Elementary Community School Coordination Services	Edinboro University	\$60,000
McKinley Elementary Out-of-School Time Coordination Services	YMCA of Greater Erie	\$11,300
Mental Health Liaison Services	Achievement Center	\$52,500
Mirror Program	USCRI International Institute of Erie	\$85,000
Neighborhood Organization Community Impact	Various	\$13,000
Perry Elementary Community School Coordination Services	Erie Family Center	\$60,000
Pfeiffer-Burleigh Elementary Community School Coordination Services	Family Services of NWPA	\$60,000
Pfeiffer-Burleigh Elementary Out-of-School Time Coordination Services	Family Services of NWPA	\$45,000
PLAYtime	Erie Playhouse	\$20,000
Positive Youth Development	Susan Hirt Hagen CORE at Penn State Behrend	\$80,000
Raising Readers Coordination Services	Various	\$202,200
Strong Vincent Middle School Community School Coordination Services	Gannon University	\$60,000
Strong Vincent Middle School Out-of-School Time Coordination Services	Gannon University	\$45,000
Success By 6	Early Connections	\$30,000
Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy at McKinley and Pfeiffer-Burleigh Community Schools	Family Services of NWPA	\$20,000
United Way Scholarships through Erie's Future Fund	Early Connections	\$180,000
Women's Recovery Center	Hamot Health Foundation	\$37,500

The above list correct at time of printing and subject to change. Grant periods for the above programs and initiatives range from one year to three years.

**TOTAL LOCAL INVESTMENT: \$3,048,025**

# 2019 FINANCIALS

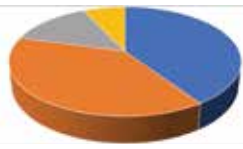


## \*Revenue - \$3.9M

**78%**  
Campaign Revenue  
3,063,286  
\*Without donor restrictions

**21%**  
Grants and Sponsorships  
811,118

**2%**  
Other Revenue  
64,567



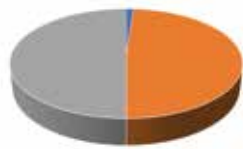
## Community Investments and Expenditures - \$4.7M

**41%**  
Funds Awarded  
1,912,103

**39%**  
Program Services  
1,823,600

**14%**  
Fund Development  
642,606

**7%**  
Administration  
330,759



## Balance Sheet

**\$565,688**  
Liabilities

**\$23,022,465**  
Net Assets

**\$23,588,153**  
Total Assets

NOTE: Expenditures exceeded Revenue by \$.8M. This was due to the timing of the expenditure of dollars reserved in prior years.

## 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](http://UnitedWayErie.org/about/accountability)

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Board Chair  
UPMC Hamot

**James B. Ohrn**  
Vice Chair  
Custom Engineering

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

**Nicholas A. Austin**  
Penelec, A FirstEnergy Company

**Christina Bernatowicz**  
PNC Financial Services, Inc.

**Janel Bonsell**  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Schaffner Knight Minnaugh & Company

**Terry L. Cascioli**

**Christopher Clark, DO, MHA**  
Saint Vincent Hospital

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**Kelli Gambill**  
Project Blueprint Graduate  
Erie Insurance

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Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership

**Boo Hagerty**  
Marketing and Communications Committee Chair  
Hamot Health Foundation

**Alan R. Hamilton**  
Wabtec Corporation

**Debbie Iavarone**  
Parker LORD

**Bill Jackson**  
President  
United Way of Erie County

**Jack Lee**  
Roofers Union Local 210

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

**Tesha Nesbit**  
Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair  
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**James C. Nuber Jr.**  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 56

**Brian Polito**  
Erie's Public Schools

**Katie Ruffa**  
Young Leaders Society Steering Committee  
Northwest Bank

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MacDonald, Illig, Jones & Britton

**Lisa Slomski**  
KeyBank

**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

# STAFF

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

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**Bill Jackson**  
President  
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**Erica Jackson**  
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Ext. 238

**Mike Jaruszewicz**  
Vice President, Community Impact  
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**Ron Oliver**  
Vice President, Labor Division & AFL-CIO Community Services Liaison  
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Ext. 233  
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**Laurie B. Root**  
Senior Vice President  
Ext. 223

**Gina M. Schaefer**  
Resource Development and Office Manager  
Ext. 221

**Ashley Wilczynski**  
Administrative Support and Database Associate  
Ext. 243

**Christine Yuhus**  
Controller  
Ext. 234



# 2020 Tocqueville Award Recipient



*Robin Scheppner*

## PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

Gwendolyn White	2019
James E. Martin	2018
James Ohrn	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

# HISTORY OF THE TOCQUEVILLE AWARD

*United Way's highest honor*

United Way Worldwide created the national Tocqueville Award in 1972 to recognize people who have rendered outstanding volunteer service in their communities. United Way of Erie County began its Tocqueville Award program in 1983.

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.



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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