

LIVE UNITED®

ANNUAL REPORT

Reporting on July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019

UNITED WAY OF DEKALB COUNTY

Our *Vision* is to enable people to work together creating a thriving and vibrant community for all.

Our *Mission* is to fight for the health, education, and financial stability for every person in our community.



www.unitedwaydekalb.org

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United Way of
DeKalb County



BOARD MEMBERS

Ian Mercer
Retired

Melissa Eshbach
Star Technology

Tyler Cleverly
Shelter Insurance

Zach Lightner
Burt, Blee

Bret Claghorn
DeKalb Health

Nick Scheumann
Oak Partners

Julie Hook
Retired

Marcus Carlson
St. Mark's Lutheran

Kyle VanOver
Steel Dynamics Inc.

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DeKalb Eastern Schools

Kristina Brockhouse
Children First Center

Tonya Weaver
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Schools
Bowen Center

Chris Clear
DeKalb Molded Plastics

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Retired

Jenn Gibson
Cameron Memorial
Hospital

Alicia Hyde
Dekko

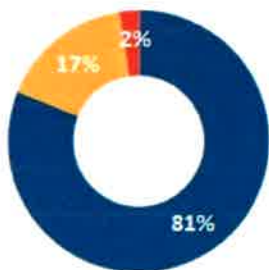
Rebecca Riley

THANK YOU to our United Way Board Members who are wonderful leaders, amazing advocates for the community and are committed to making DeKalb County a better place for all!

FINANCIALS

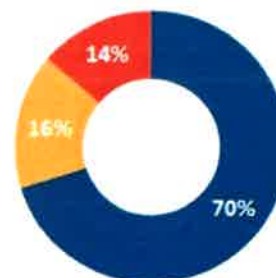
REVENUE
\$857,913.59

- Pledges & Campaign
- Grants & Fundraising
- Investment Income



EXPENSES
\$877,167.12

- Program Services
- Management & General
- Fundraising



A YEAR OF TRANSFORMATION

First...Thank you. We at United Way of DeKalb County love to say "Thank you!" Thank you for all your support for United Way of DeKalb County. Because of you, United Way of DeKalb County continues to make an impact as we fight for the health, education and financial stability of all in DeKalb County.

We have seen some amazing things happen over the last year. Thanks to our generous donors, we had our largest Annual Campaign ever. In April, our Power of the Purse Team hosted a lunch and dinner event to raise money for community initiatives that will create impact. Then, on June 28th, our Annual Day of Caring saw 622 volunteers work at 70 different projects around the community, making it one of our largest Day of Caring events in recent memory.

While we celebrate past accomplishments, we know there is still much that needs to be done. Of the over 16,000 households in DeKalb County, 11% live below the federal poverty line. Another 23% work hard, but struggle to make ends meet and are one blown car tire, sick family member or other unforeseen event away from also falling below the federal poverty line. 42% of students in DeKalb County remain eligible for free and reduced lunches, with some schools seeing the percentage as high as 65%. Drug abuse and addiction continue to be an issue in our community, as does lack of support services for the estimated 2,500 people in DeKalb County who are homeless or those nearly so. These are just a few of the challenges we face. And so, our work is not done. The fight continues.

United Way of DeKalb County is up to the challenge. With a growing number of amazing volunteers, continued support from our generous donors, and dedicated staff and Board of Directors, we are not only looking forward to meeting these challenges UNITED, we are also looking forward to overcoming these challenges UNITED.

To meet and overcome these challenges, it is going to take all of us. To enlist the help of the community in meeting the challenges we face, The United Way Board of Directors are determined that United Way of DeKalb County should seek input from community members. In June of 2019, we started this process through Community Conversations. From these community conversations, we will determine how, we as an organization, can better meet the needs of DeKalb County.

As you read through this annual report, I invite you to enjoy the stories, and examine the numbers. But most of all, I invite you to continue to join in the fight for the health, education and financial stability of all in DeKalb County. In doing so, I invite you to LIVE UNITED!

United We Fight, United We Win!
Zach Washler, UWDC Executive Director



**CHANGE
DOESN'T
HAPPEN
ALONE.**

16,221 Total Households in DeKalb County
11% of Households in Poverty
42% of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunches

IMPACT GRANTS & ALLOCATIONS

With your help United Way of DeKalb County fights for the **health, education, and financial stability** for every person in our community. Over **\$456,600** was awarded this last year just in impact grants and allocations alone. United Way partners with so many incredible agencies, organizations and programs that drive impact in our community, but we still have more great work to do!

HEALTH

McMillen Health—The BRUSH program teaches oral health and nutrition to parents and children ages birth to 5 years through Head Start and Preschool programs.

Serenity House—A safe and secure recovery place for adult men and women who suffer from alcoholism and drug addiction.

GKB Community Schools—The Social and Emotional Health programs at GKB include Student Assistance Program (SAP) a partnership with Bowen Center to provide support to students K - 12 as well as Sources of Strength.

DeKalb Eastern Community Schools— Created a Mental Health program that offers unlimited access to an “in-house” caseworker to support students and families.

DeKalb Community Impact Corporation—Hearten House is a shelter providing restorative care for women experiencing a homeless crisis.

St. Martin's Healthcare—St Martin's offers quality healthcare to those individuals without the means to provide for themselves.

Catholic Charities—RSVP is a Retired Senior Volunteer Program that supports activity and socialization for those 55 and older keeping them active in the community.

DeKalb Central Schools—The Student Assistance Program is a partnership with Bowen Center to provide support to students PreK - 12 with mental health needs by offering 3 free visits per student.



EDUCATION

YWCA Northeast Indiana—The YWCA provides educational and prevention programs centered around dating violence and cyberbullying for youth and adults.

Anthony Wayne Boy Scouts—Scouting prepares young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling values of the Scout Oath and Law.

BYEA/Filling Station Youth Center— A safe recreational facility that offers physical, spiritual, emotional and moral guidance to young people within the community.

Northeastern Indiana CASA—Providing a voice for powerless children involved in the judicial proceedings; advocating for them and striving to improve their circumstances and quality of life.

GKB Head Start—Programs for pregnant women, infants and toddlers as well as full-day pre-school and home-based education to promote independence.

JAM Early Education—Serving children from infants through 6th grade by providing high quality learning.

Girl Scouts of Northern Indiana—A program aimed at helping girls unleash their inner G.I.R.L through fun, and challenging activities. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)

RISE Inc—Prepares, empowers and supports individuals with challenges to participate in the community to their fullest physical, social, emotional and vocational potentials.

YMCA of DeKalb County—The YMCA Early Learning Center provides quality child care at affordable prices as well as financial assistance to those in need.

Early Childhood Alliance—Partnering with ECA to offer Let's Talk Book Buddies programs that focus on helping parents learn fun and effective ways to teach early reading skills to their children.

School of Early Learning First United Methodist Church—Serving approximately 120 children ages 2-5 yrs. old, FUMC strives to provide quality care by supporting their teachers with proper educational tools and knowledge through many trainings.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church—Community QPR Suicide Prevention Training for adults within our community that work with and support our youth.

Children First Center—Programs that assist families through education of basic needs, financial stability, healthy lifestyles and nurturing relationships. Strengthening the whole family for a brighter future.

Big Brothers Big Sisters NEI— BBBS helps at-risk children realize their potential and build futures through big match activities that can be community-based or site-based through school programs or community outings based on their activity location.

Coburn Corners Preschool— Expanding current programs by adding a two year old classroom that supports the need of quality child care within our community.



HOMESWORK IS EASIER WHEN YOU ACTUALLY HAVE A HOME.

FINANCIAL STABILITY

Alliance Industries—By offering job training and education through employment to those with physical and/or mental disabilities, Alliance Industries helps support independent living and financial stability.

Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry—A program that reduces hunger issues by providing nutritious meat to hunger relief agencies.

DeKalb County Council on Aging—DART is an affordable rural transportation program that assists all ages to get to school, doctor appointments, work, community events, and so much more.

Cancer Services of NEIN—Enhancing the quality of life of those effected by cancer by providing financial assistance, practical resources, and educational opportunities to reduce the financial challenges for families.



POWER OF THE PURSE



Power of the Purse is an annual event that focuses on empowering those within our community to change the game and help raise funds for Community Impact Grants. Through the generosity of our corporate sponsors, purse donors and guests, 100 purses were raffled off as well as several different door prizes between the lunch and dinner events. This year's event raised over \$40,000 that will go directly back out into the community towards programs that make a difference, because change doesn't happen alone.

1 Day of Power of the Purse
487 Guests 100 Purses
\$40,000 Raised for Impact Grants

KINDERGARTEN COUNTDOWN CAMP

K-Camp is a free 4 week summer program offered to participating DeKalb County schools. Camp is designed to prepare children with little to no preschool experience by developing skills in literacy and social-emotional adjustment for their new roles as kindergarten students. During the month of June, 81 children participated in K-Camp at JE Ober and Waterloo Elementary. Each child received a backpack filled with school supplies, 20 new books, a wooden bookshelf and educational games. Each school also hosted a parent night where children painted their bookshelves with parents, showed off their classrooms and enjoyed family interactive activities. United Way donors provided more than \$28,500 to make this program successful. These children are more confident and prepared for their first year of school

because they were given the opportunity to meet new friends and teachers while learning the expectations of the classroom. United, we empower our children to succeed.

4 Weeks 81 Kids
81 Backpacks 1,620 Books
All FREE to Students
\$28,500 Donor Dollars in Education



DAY OF CARING

1 Day of Caring 70 Projects
622 Volunteers \$65,000 in Volunteer Hours
\$26,030 in Value to the Community

Day of Caring is a fun filled day of hard work, excitement, and neighbors helping neighbors to build and maintain a stronger community. United Way's Day of Caring brought together 622 energetic volunteers from 44 companies to take on 70 service projects throughout DeKalb County. Volunteers spent their time painting, landscaping, building ramps, and much more. \$65,000 worth of volunteer hours added over \$26,030 in value to the community. Day of Caring is the single largest one-day, community-wide volunteer event in DeKalb County.



CHANGES AHEAD

United Way of DeKalb County is spearheading a project and partnering with other DeKalb County organizations and businesses to host **Community Conversations**. These conversations are geared towards reaching out to the public to better understand the community's needs and goals. Community Conversations provides a safe place where people in the community can come together to talk about their aspirations, concerns and how they want their community to move forward. Joining forces will allow us to work together by listening, gathering data and setting community goals that create a greater impact within our community. United Way strives to do better, to make our community better and to strengthen the lives of all!

To better serve, we must be willing to listen and build relationships, identify key issues, set realistic goals and take action.

- What kind of community do you want?
- What concerns do you have about specific issues and how do they effect you personally?
- What do you think is keeping the community from making the progress we want?

These are just a few of the questions that will be asked during Community Conversations that will help engage participants and encourage a much deeper discussion on the topics that arise. If you are interested in participating in a Community Conversation, please contact us. 260-927-0995

Join the fight for a better tomorrow!

**CHANGE
WON'T HAPPEN
WITHOUT YOU**

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

THANK YOU



THANK YOU to our volunteers, donors, and advocates!