

# United Way of Monroe County addresses critical needs today and works to reduce those needs tomorrow.

Kevin Osborne



## Children & Youth Build Success from Education

Education is the path to increased earnings, so United Way works to ensure children have the cognitive and emotional support to enter school ready to learn and leave school ready to earn.

- ▶ More than 4,000 area youth participated in after-school programs, day care, mentoring, therapy, advocacy, and other organized activities. Nearly 50% of these youth live in low-income households.
- ▶ An after-school tutoring program focusing on reading and math skills saw math fluency scores improve by 39% and reading fluency scores by 38%.



## Families Earn and Save for Independence

United Way provides lasting, measurable improvement in people's lives. By making job skills workshops, health education programs, grocery delivery services, and stable employment opportunities available to those in need, we help people build assets and stay financially independent through retirement.

- ▶ More than 4,000 elderly residents were able to remain independent with services such as home modification and repair, meal delivery, legal assistance, fitness and health activities, social opportunities, and employment support.
- ▶ Partner agencies supported 259 individuals with disabilities in finding and keeping employment – increasing their self-esteem, community involvement, and earning power.



## Everyone has the Essentials of Life

Stable housing, a community safety net, counseling, low-cost medical office visits, and referral services supported by United Way help ensure every family can be successful.

- ▶ More than 469,500 meals were provided to local residents experiencing hunger, with approximately 40% going to children and 27% to seniors.
- ▶ 5,034 nights of emergency shelter were provided to women and children in the aftermath of traumatic violence.
- ▶ More than 9,500 low-income families were able to maintain their health through free or low-cost medical care, eyeglass and prescription vouchers, mental health counseling, physical therapy, flu shots, and durable medical equipment loans.



Photography donated by Kendall Reeves, Spectrum Studio

## Join us. When you take action, you create opportunity.

# LIVE UNITED™



United Way  
of Monroe County

# About your United Way

United Way brings people together from many organizations to tackle the issues that matter most. When we engage the community, we get results that no one can accomplish alone.

## Partnering to Achieve Community Goals

- ▶ We lead the Emergency Food and Shelter Board and the Long Term Flood Recovery Committee. We also provide fiscal services for the Homeward Bound Walk, Hunger and Homeless Week, and the NonProfit Alliance of Monroe County at no charge.
- ▶ Selected by the Mayor and County Commissioners, we chair the community team focusing on the needs of displaced workers. Partnerships like this ensure that adults losing their jobs can pursue other opportunities.
- ▶ We have full accreditation from United Way of America, meeting or exceeding all membership standards. In the past few years, we earned the Chamber workforce award, a statewide communications award, and a Midwest staff excellence award.
- ▶ We bring critical funding into our community by sponsoring free access to grant services.

## Children are Born Learning

Born Learning, a United Way initiative, is a program that encourages all care givers to turn everyday tasks into learning experiences for children. Born Learning materials translate cutting-edge research on early childhood development into user-friendly tools, including checklists that simplify parenting.

**bornlearning**<sup>SM</sup>

Research shows that investing in quality early learning pays huge dividends later on — in reduced crime, fewer teen pregnancies, more high school graduates, and more individual success in work and life. United Way works with Bloomington Hospital, Family Resource Centers of Monroe County, Bloomington Area Birth Services, child care facilities, and other providers to ensure families with newborns and young children have access to these materials. Visit [www.monroeunitedway.org](http://www.monroeunitedway.org) to download free copies.

## 2-1-1: Get Connected, Get Answers

2-1-1 is a three-digit number that connects people seeking services with the appropriate community organizations. Part of a nationwide initiative, 2-1-1 helps callers based on their specific circumstances. It is available 24/7 and is free and confidential.



The 2-1-1 service is available in Monroe and Owen Counties through a unique collaboration among Area 10 Agency on Aging, United Way of Monroe County, and the Indiana 2-1-1 Partnership. Calls are up 30% over last year, with most callers inquiring about basic and emergency needs. During the spring floods, 2-1-1 was a lifeline for many families facing disaster and uncertainty.

Charlotte Zietlow



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