













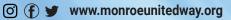
# Reimagine...

2020-21 Report to the Community

Serving Monroe, Owen, and Greene Counties









# 2020. What a year for us all.

In late February 2020, United Way and our member agencies grew concerned hearing the news about a spreading virus. We anticipated a few weeks of canceled fundraisers and added expenses for hygiene and sanitation needs. A predicted stay-at-home order might pause volunteer engagement. In early March — in what became our final in-person staff meeting of 2020 — we talked about launching a Relief Fund that would help support nonprofits continue to serve the multitude of needs in Monroe, Owen, and Greene counties. Little did we know what changes lay ahead.

With each day came a greater realization of the looming pandemic and its impact. Our decision to pivot towards relief work was quickly reinforced. We scaled up a wide-reaching response while key partners and generous donors jumped on board. Agencies faced challenges serving clients while shifting to COVID-19 health orders. Massive community help was needed.

People were being furloughed and laid off. People were dying. There was a shortage of personal protective equipment for frontline workers and the general population. Our safety net needed modifications as area shelters scrambled to implement physical distancing and quarantining. And our food security system foresaw supply chain disruptions ahead if we didn't act quickly.

With the help of generous community-minded donors, United Way did act — raising and distributing nearly \$1.6m to date in relief funds and bringing together community-wide collaborations to solve serious looming problems. Thanks to the compassionate generosity of donors and corporate partners, the COVID-19 Relief Fund was the beginning of an incredible fundraising sprint. That sprint finished by raising an additional \$1.2m for our annual giving campaign, Reimagine 2020, through innovative digital engagement. Our deepest thanks to the many loyal and new committed donors who made sacrifices for the good of others. Thanks also to the amazing people who volunteered their time through their workplaces, faith communities, clubs, and other affiliations. Every gift helped create a new future.

The pages ahead tell the story of the past year in words, numbers, and pictures, but cannot capture how much has changed.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, new ideas, partnerships, innovations, and a deepened sense of what we call "community" were born in the effort to Reimagine a better future.

And this is the silver lining. Your commitment to a better future inspired us to reflect on lessons and adaptations learned and to Reimagine what our community can look like when the pandemic is in the rearview mirror. With nearly half of us struggling to make ends meet before COVID, we cannot be satisfied just "getting back to normal."

United Way is deeply grateful for all of you who are embracing the need to build greater resilience in our community during these challenging times and to help Reimagine a future that functions equitably for everyone. Thank you for your tremendous generosity.

In partnership with you for a Reimagined future,

Efrat Feferman

United Way of Monroe County Executive Director



Efrat visiting the Bloomfield Rotary Club to discuss United Way's work in Greene County, including COVID-19 relief and community initiatives.

We are Whinking of you and appreciate all you do!

Dear Efrat and our friends at United Way,

I want to express our deep gratitude for the leadership and financial support of the United Way of Monroe County during our community's time of crisis. Your Covid-19 Emergency Relief Phase 3 funding could not come at a better time

from and I are so grateful for all you are doing for our neighbors had our comprenity to Kaapus sage and





Dealthy!

To: United Way; fleased to send you a Mus

#### Carlene's Giving Tuesday Facebook Fundraiser for United Way of Monroe County

United Way has shown immense support and continued advocacy and awareness of the great need of our community during COVID19. They helped support agencies with increased costs due to adjusting to new and unimagined delivery of services. They also foresee a recovery forward once this challenge passes. Their leadership is more important than ever.





"We are grateful for the work of United Way in supporting so many vital organizations and services in our community. Keep up the good work." - Scott S.

# Our Values: Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Opposition to Discrimination

Equity is the intentional inclusion of everyone in society. Equity is achieved when systemic, institutional, and historical barriers based on race, gender, sexual orientation, and other identities are dismantled and no longer predict socioeconomic, education, and health outcomes.

In order to achieve equity, United Way of Monroe County strives to be a model of diversity and inclusion, with our Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers reflecting the many faces. cultures, and walks of life that make up the communities we serve. We respect, value, and celebrate the unique attributes, characteristics, and perspectives that make each person who they are. We do not tolerate any form of discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, housing status, or status as a veteran, and hold funded partners, staff, employment applicants, and volunteers to these standards.

We also believe that bringing diverse individuals together allows us to collectively and more effectively address the issues that face our communities. It is our aim, therefore, that our partners, strategies, and investments reflect these core values.

United Way of Monroe County also recognizes structural racism and other forms of oppression have contributed to persistent disparities which we seek to dismantle. Our entire United Way network strives to engage community members, especially those whose voices have traditionally been marginalized. We work with residents and public and private partners to co-create solutions that ensure everyone has the resources, support, opportunities, and networks they need to thrive. We commit to leveraging our assets — convening, strategic investments, awareness building, advocacy to create more equitable communities.



## **Coming Together to Reduce Homelessness**

The pandemic illuminated the challenges experienced by our friends and neighbors, particularly those who were unhoused and those whose housing was insecure. Last March, while shelters and support services swiftly moved to safe procedures and programs, far too many people struggled to find stable, affordable housing for themselves and their families.

In response, United Way of Monroe County and the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County are working together to explore solutions for homelessness and housing insecurity challenges.

Building on new and existing partnerships, many formed during the COVID-19 pandemic, a wide-reaching network of regional providers, funders, and others are working to support short- and long-term strategies to reduce homelessness and address housing issues.

The Housing Insecurity Working Group reviewed and updated the community's existing Heading Home plan, created in 2014 by the South Central Indiana Housing Network. As the work shifts into focused groups, this plan will guide the investment of resources, the development or modification of programs and partnerships, and the data collection and reporting needed to assure we are on the right track.

This will not be a simple task, nor a quick one. The issues around homelessness are complex at both the individual and systemic levels. But we are confident we can be more effective as a community to ensure that homelessness is a rare, brief, and non-repeating occurrence in Monroe County and the surrounding region.

Interested in helping? Fill out the interest form at monroeunitedway.org/homelessness today.



## We didn't need a pandemic to tell us that people in our own community were hurting.

Even before the pandemic, more than half of our local population was already struggling. 1 in 5 were in full-blown poverty, while an additional third of our families teetered dangerously above the poverty line. Disparities exist within these numbers, further complicating the issue. Communities of color, single female households, seniors, and individuals living with disabilities are more vulnerable to poverty.

We can expect that poverty will worsen in the months ahead as we come out of the pandemic. Looking at current and emerging needs, we call on the community to reimagine a better normal. Shared accomplishments from the past year will inspire our work moving forward. A framework of resiliency created by United Way and our partners will guide our investments in the days ahead.

We will join together to build a better normal — increasing resiliency at the individual and community level, maintaining a strong safety net, acknowledging that trauma and social isolation prevent people from reaching their full potential. We will build on the strengths and assets we hold as a community.

Can we imagine a better normal where every person has a safe space to sleep at night ... a better normal where food is available to any family in need, and a neighbor may help deliver it to a homebound individual ... where anyone struggling with anxiety or depression can access affordable counseling from home because they have the technology ... where every child has at least one adult fighting for and mentoring them, with a whole village of support surrounding them? Can we imagine a better normal where access to justice and opportunities is equal and equitable?

We can — and we will — with the support of loyal donors. Because of that support, United Way is helping lead the way to a Reimagined future, to a more resilient, diverse, equitable, and inclusive community.

Please join your heart with others as we all Reimagine a future that works well for everyone.

# Together through crisis

In March of 2020, the entire world shifted. Our community came together with a generous spirit — allowing us to be responsive to evolving critical needs, while also looking toward recovery and resilience-building.



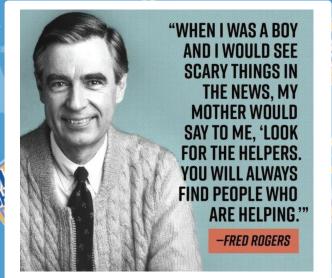




"When COVID hit, United Way helped us more than double our shelter capacity. Many families could no longer stay doubled-up with friends or family due to risk of COVID exposure. These families faced street homelessness or sleeping in vehicles, a condition that warrants DCS removal of the children. We leaned on relationships with local hotels to provide spacious suites with kitchenettes at a greatly reduced rate for each family. We also used United Way funding to purchase equipment to provide food and supply delivery to the families 3 days per week. Not only did we help children stay with their parents and safe from COVID exposure, but all of the families have since paired their income with affordable leases in their name." - New Hope Family Shelter

"Our Vehicle Assistance Program funds were depleted, and we are so grateful that the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund Grant will now allow us to continue to finance those repairs that are so urgently needed. This program for basic transportation enables our clients to be resilient and provides stability as they meet challenges now and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic."

Society of St. Vincent de Paul



Big thanks to all of Bloomington's extraordinary nonprofit organizations that continued to keep residents sheltered, fed, healthy and safe during the pandemic. Your jobs are not easy under normal conditions. However during this time of crisis when more services were needed and less volunteers were available, area nonprofit staff stepped up like never before to make sure no one fell through the cracks. I also want to shout out those new organizations that came together to fill in the gap when they saw a need - the Food Train, Bloomington (IN) Fabric Mask Drive, Hotels 4 Homeless, Mutual Aid Monroe County, Pigeon Hill Pantry, Humanity for the Win and so many others. Thank you for being the "helpers" referred to by Mr. Rogers and for your commitment to the people in Bloomington/Monroe County.

Added by Beverly Calender-Anderson



# \$1,592,737 **AWARDED**

- All-Options Pregnancy Resource Center
- American Red Cross Southeast Indiana Chapter
- Amethyst House
- Area 10 Agency on Aging
- Beacon, Inc. (Shalom Community Center)
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Ind.
- Bloomington Meals on Wheels

- Bloomington Pets Alive
- Bloomington Refugee Support Network
- Boy Scouts -**Hoosier Trails** Council
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington
- Brown County Community Foundation
- Catholic Charities Bloomington
- Centerstone Indiana

#### FOR MONROE, OWEN & GREENE COUNTIES

- Citizens for Community Justice
- Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County
- Community Kitchen of Monroe County
- Courage to Change Sober Living
- District 10 Pro Bono Project
- El Centro Comunal Latino
- Flourish. Inc

- Greene County Community Foundation
- Greene County Hospital
- Habitat for **Humanity** of Monroe County
- HealthNet **Bloomington Health**
- Hoosier Hills Food Bank
- Indiana Recovery Alliance
- LIFEDesigns
- Middle Way House

 Monroe County COAD

**46 GRANT** 

RECIPIENTS

- The Monroe County Food Train (City Church)
- Monroe County Humane Assoc.
- Monroe County United Ministries
- Mother Hubbard's Cupboard
- New Hope for **Families**
- New Leaf New Life
- Owen County Community Foundation

- Pantry 279
- Salvation Army
- The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- South Central Community Action Program
- St. Mark's Nursery School and Kindergarten
- Stone Belt
- United Way of Monroe County
- Wheeler Mission
- Youth First







# **Your COVID-19 impact**

5,347,810 meals and 71,280 food boxes were distributed to community members to keep them from going hungry.

265 households assisted with rent, utilities, and financial education to keep people safely housed in their own homes.

3,525 rides provided for essential trips.

1,839 individuals sheltered in safe environments.

97,020 medical, health, and hygiene items helped to keep community members safe and healthy.

2,315 remote and in-person care visits so that at-risk community members could stay connected, engaged, and healthy.

342 remote legal and mediation sessions.

3,016 remote mental health counseling sessions were provided to a growing number of community members negatively affected by the pandemic.



# **Building Resilience**

Partner agencies, collaborative initiatives, and volunteer programs channeled your generosity into meaningful and lasting change for our friends, neighbors, and entire community. Adapting and innovating during the pandemic was a consistent theme for all of United Way's network, one which we are able to build upon, as we recover and work to create a better normal for all.

"I appreciate this program as I am on disability. The staff are always friendly and helpful." - Free Community Tax Service Client



#### **Day of Action**

**Bloomington Rotary Club members** masked up and volunteered their time to assemble 600 literacy backpacks for area youth. The group also generously provided a grant which funded the whole project!



## **Chilly Cook-Off a Success!**

Warm aromas filled the air as the community gathered to sample chili made by 23 local chefs at the United Way Freezefest Chilly Cook-Off in January. Thanks to all who attended and the chefs and volunteers who made the event a success!

Congrats to the winners and deep thanks to sponsors IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Old National Bank, Bunger and Robertson, Chocolate Moose, Coca-Cola Bottling Bloomington, IU Political and Civic Engagement Program, Printpack, and Taft Stettinius and Hollister, LLP.



### **Free Community Tax Service**

The 2020 Free Community Tax Service brought together 107 volunteers to help local residents file 1.636 federal returns at 10 fullservice sites managed by United Way, plus 2 sites managed by AARP/TCE. This saved clients as much as \$1,305,649 in tax preparation fees and brought back more than \$1.012.403 in refunds and credits. Clients used those funds and Earned Income Tax Credits to pay for food, clothing, bills, rent, and to put toward savings.



## **Financial Coaching**

United Way partners with Apprisen to offer free financial coaching. Program participants create personalized goals with their coach and then systematically work toward them. The 2020 cohort collectively paid off \$17,036 in debt and saved a total of \$13,820. 91% of participants increased their financial confidence.



## Catalvst Award

Executive Director Efrat Feferman was recognized as the 2020 Diane Breeden-Lee "Catalyst" by The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce for her ability to create consensus and motivate others in the community to accomplish greater goals. Congrats, Efrat!



### Classroom Mini-Grants

Teachers at Richland Bean-Blossom Schools got a boost to help improve teaching styles in the era of COVID-19. \$3,000 was awarded to 8 classroom projects as part of a new United Way Education Mini-Grants pilot program. The funds support teachers in smaller school districts outside of Bloomington for special projects not normally covered in their school budget. The first round of grants included projects like accessible outdoor equipment, video production tools, and engaging classroom literature.

United Way Member Agencies are supported year-round by your generosity. These agencies meet and collaborate regularly and hold high standards in nonprofit excellence. Additionally, United Way leads and supports several critical community initiatives.

#### **MEMBER AGENCIES**

- American Red Cross, So. Indiana Chapter
- Amethyst House
- Area 10 Agency on Aging
- Beacon, Inc.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Ind.
- Boy Scouts Hoosier Trails Council
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington
- Catholic Charities Bloomington
- Community Kitchen of Monroe County
- Girls Inc. of Monroe County
- HealthNet Bloomington Health Center
- Hoosier Hills Food Bank
- Indiana Legal Services
- LIFEDesigns

- MCCSC School Assistance Fund
- Middle Wav House
- Monroe County United Ministries
- Mother Hubbard's Cupboard
- New Hope for Families
- People and Animal Learning Services (PALS)
- Planned Parenthood of Indiana
- RBB School Assistance Fund
- Salvation Army
- Stone Belt

#### **LEADING INITIATIVES**

- AFL-CIO Community Services
- Bank On Bloomington
- Born Learning
- COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund

- Education Mini-Grants
- Financial Coaching
- Financial Stability Alliance
- Free Community Tax Service
- Roadmap to Success
- Real Men Read

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

- Community Organizations Active in Disaster
- 3E Innovation Network
- Let's Read
- Monroe Smart Start
- Nonprofit Alliance of Monroe County
- Nurse Family Partnership
- Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

# Your annual impact

95% of people residing in transitional shelter were able to move into stable, long-term housing.

8,718 community members accessed affordable housing, financial products, and services.

3,957 school-age youth participated in mentoring or after-school programs.

57,807 hours of tutoring provided to 532 children.

679 children in K-3 received literacy supports.

260 people learned or were provided assistance with budgeting and money management.

34,771 people participating in physical activity or healthy food access and nutrition programs.

6,781 adults and children accessed physical and mental healthcare services and supports.

## **Emergency Food & Shelter**

United Way is a partner of FEMA, who provides support for local needs through the Emergency Food and Shelter program (EFSP). In response to COVID, Congress authorized additional funding, with a total of \$171,347 distributed to Monroe County agencies last year.

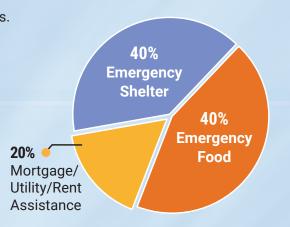
Key sector representatives evaluate applications and make funding decisions. We are grateful for these individuals and the ten recipient

agencies who attend to our community's most critical needs.

#### **EFSP Monroe County Board**

Shirley Boardman Beverly Calender-Anderson Maria Carrasquillo Monica Clemons Shawn Gerber Sherri Knieriem Iris Kiesling Barry Lessow Amber Skoby

Fran Weinberg



# Reimagine 2020

Fundraising Exceeds Expectations! Our deepest thanks to the United Way

family of donors who supported the annual fundraising drive, Reimagine 2020. While the past year brought changes in all our lives, one thing remained constant - the generosity of each and every donor who desires to make an impact on the lives of others through the work of United Way. Wrapping up at the end of February, Reimagine 2020 raised \$1,190,538 - exceeding expectations and overcoming many fundraising hurdles during the pandemic.

## These organizations, employees, and members make our community stronger with their annual fundraising gifts.

AAA Hoosier Motor Club Achelis & Bodman

Foundation

Aetna **AFGE 1415** AFSCME 832

AFSCME 1567 AFSCME 2487

AFSCME 2802 AFSCME 3995

AmazonSmiles Foundation

American Family Insurance Dreams Foundation

American Red Cross Amethyst House

Andy Mohr Automotive Group

Area 10 Agency on Aging

AT&T

Baird Beacon, Inc.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Ind.

Bill C. Brown **Associates** 

**Bloomington Township** Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington

CarDon & Associates Caterpillar

**Catholic Charities** Bloomington

CenterPoint Energy CenturyLink Clarke M Williams Foundation

City of Bloomington **Combined Federal** 

Campaign Comcast

Community Kitchen of Monroe County

CSL Plasma **Cummins Foundation** 

CWA 4818

**Curry Auto Center Duke Energy** 

Eli Lilly and Co. ExxonMobil Foundation Fifth Third Foundation First Financial Bank

FOP Lodge 88 General Electric

Company German American

Golden Hands Construction

**Great West Casualty** Company

**Greater Bloomington** Chamber of Commerce

HealthNet Bloomington **Health Center** 

**Hoosier Energy** Hoosier Hills Food

Bank **IAFF 586** 

IATSE 618 **IBEW 1393** 

Indiana Legal Services Indiana University

Indiana University Foundation

**IU Credit Union** 

**IU Health Bloomington** Hospital

**IU Retirees Association** 

**IUPUC IUPUI** 

**Ivy Tech Community** College

Jackson County Bank KeyBank

Kirby Risk Electrical

**Supply Company Kokosing Construction** 

Company

LIFEDesigns Meadowood

Retirement Community

**MCEA** Middle Way House

The Mill Monroe County

Community School Corporation

Monroe County Government

Monroe County Public Library

Monroe County United Ministries

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

Mutual Bank Foundation

Nationwide

**NCAA** 

Network For Good New Hope for Families

Northwest Bank Old National Bank

O'Reilly Auto Parts Owen County State

Bank

Pepsico Foundation

Printpack **Ouality Mill** 

Raymond James

**RBBEA** Richland-Bean

Blossom Community School

Corporation Salvation Army

SCI Kiwanis Club

Stone Belt

Target

Teamsters 135 **Troyer Foods** 

**UBS Financial Services** 

**IBEW 725** UPS

United Way of Monroe County

Walmart West Corporation

Thanks for In-Kind gifts:

Bloom Magazine The Coltrain Group The Herald-Times Shredding & Storage

Unlimited Ryder Magazine

## **Reimagine 2020 Award** Winners!

### **Mary Alice Gray Award**

Honors a United Way volunteer who best personifies the dedication and commitment of Mary Alice Gray Kyle Parker

#### **Spirit Award**

Recognizes an energetic volunteer who helps elevate United Way's mission and positive impact **Beverly Calender-Anderson** 

#### **Heart & Soul Award**

Honors a staff member who has exemplified excellence and dedication to United Way's mission

## Liz Feitl **Business Partner of the Year Award**

Honors businesses that contribute significant time, treasure, and talent to help United Way positively impact the community **Great West Casualty Company IU Health Hospital** 

#### Member Agency Campaign of the Year

Recognizes a member agency for their spirit of partnership addressing challenges together and running an outstanding campaign

Catholic Charities Bloomington Hoosier Hills Food Bank Stone Belt

#### **Community Builders Award**

The top five largest workplace giving campaigns **Cummins Foundation** Indiana University **IU Credit Union IU Health Hospital** Old National Bank

#### **Champions of Hope Award**

Celebrates employers that gave their United Way campaigns new energy and increased participation and engagement

**Jackson County Bank** Monroe County Community School Corporation Richland-Bean Blossom Community **School Corporation** 

# Be an Advocate

United Way is committed to building better, stronger, and more equitable communities right here in Monroe, Owen, and Greene counties. Our advocacy work supports this vision by raising awareness of legislative issues and opportunities for action, and by building relationships with our policy makers in order to more effectively shape policies at the federal, state, and local levels.

Our monthly Wake Up! with United Way speakers series, a collaboration with IU's Political and Civic Engagement (PACE) program, explores issues that directly or indirectly affect everyone in our area. Attendees can deepen their awareness about someone else's reality while learning about the challenges, innovations, collaborations, and resources available through area nonprofits, and how to get more involved in making a difference. Guests are invited to come with questions for the speakers or just listen and learn.

The 2021 Wake Up! with United Way season is focused on Building a Better Normal. Each month's discussion will bring to light how we can all create a brighter future that works for everyone in our community, including topics like homelessness, food security, and workers' rights. In 2020, topics ranged from mental health and voting access to human trafficking and adapting shelters during COVID-19.

Appreciation goes to The Mill in downtown Bloomington for generously providing event space since the inception of the series in 2019. Wake Up! with United Way is currently held virtually and all are invited to attend at no cost.

Thanks to the 2020 Presenting Sponsors: Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce and Bloomington Board of Realtors.



# **Reimagine 2020 Annual Fundraising Donors**

Leadership Givers make a substantial impact creating lasting change while also helping people get back on their feet today.

#### BENJAMIN **HARRISON**

[\$10,000+]

Dr. & Mrs. Richard DiMarchi Tim & Dorothy Ellis Rob & Lucy Fischman Jim & Joyce Grandorf Kirsten Grønbjerg C. Randall & Kathryn Powell Lauren Robel **Ruth & Scott Sanders** Charles Davis &

#### **PLATINUM**

[\$5,000 - \$9,999]

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Jeff Palmer & Mimi

Eva & Matthew Allen Jeff Balaguras Michael & M'lissa Bave Kyle & Dana Cattani Geoff & Karen Conrad Kiply Drew John & Sybil Eakin Don & Sandra Freund David Greene & Barbara Bealer Daniel Grundmann & Julie Paris Carol-Anne & Don Hossler Elizabeth N. Mann Michael & Laurie McRobbie Eric & LeeAnna Powell John A Sejdinaj Nancy Shin **Brian Shockney** 

#### **GOLD**

[\$2,500 - \$4,999]

Anonymous (4)

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Anonymous (3) SILVER

Lisa Abbott

Carl Ziegler

[\$1,000 - \$2,499]

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Carl Bauer

Kirk White Janice Wiggins Jason Wilber & Michele Mattoon Cleveland Wilhoit Arlington & Carol Williams Richard & Donna Wolf Matthew Worland Philemon Kiprono Yebei Bob Zaltsberg & Susan Williams Charlotte Zietlow Kurt & Lisa Zorn Kevin & Collette Zumbrun Anonymous (51)

#### YOUNG **LEADERS**

Hillol Bala Lori Shefchik Bhaskar Christopher & Allison Chopra Mr. Matt M DeSchepper Jon Dunn Mr. Mitchell Graham Farmer Beth Fossen Seth & Krista Freedman Jennifer Geary John Gernand Kurt Jourdan Amy & Bryan Leyenbeck Henry Loope Sarah Lubienski Holly McLauchlin Renee Petrina Andrew Poore Andrew & Erin Predmore Rendy Schrader Nick Shafer Saniago Sotomayer Samantha Tirey Nick Valliere Ryan Vice Adam Wason David Welch Matthijs Wildenbeest Nikos Zirogiannis & Keera Allendorf

John & Erin Zody

# Creating change beyond a lifetime

"People still ask us why we left Texas for Indiana! Bloomington offers a unique combination of everything we love."

In the four years since their move from Austin after retiring, Conna and Richard Oram have already established deep roots through their volunteer work at United Way and other local agencies. "We both believe it is important to experience the effects of income inequality on individuals to better understand its implications for society," Richard said.

Both Conna and Richard retired from careers in education. Richard worked at the University of Texas for over 30 years as an academic special collections library administrator and curator of rare books. Conna enjoyed her time as a high school Latin teacher for over two decades.

"Richard was able to continue his volunteer work with the United Way Free Community Tax Service, similar to his volunteer work in Texas, and I've volunteered for this and other local programs, which give us much fulfillment and meaning," Conna said. Amy Leyenbeck, Community Impact Director at United Way commented, "The Oram's have been great volunteers; Richard's been a tremendous site coordinator for our tax program!"

During the last several months of isolation, the Orams revisited their estate plans, wanting to include a community impact gift in their wills. Richard shared that after conferring with their advisors, they altered their wills to include a legacy gift to United Way, "Something that could bring about change for years in the community."

beyond their own lifetimes." If you would like to discuss the potential of a legacy gift to United Way, please consult your tax and estate professionals. Resource Development Director, Sherrie Shuler, is happy to discuss your interest in leaving a lasting gift to the community with United Way. Contact her at (812) 334-8370, ext 13 or sherrie@monroeunitedway.org.



# **COVID-19 Emergency Fund Donors**

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The COVID Relief Fund grant committee members lent their time and expertise in grantmaking, community coordination, public health, and resource development in order to assure that funds raised were distributed in the most effective and efficient way during the pandemic. On behalf of United Way and the 45 recipient agencies, we send our deep gratitude to:

Jon Barada Beverly Calender-Anderson

David Johnson Lee Jones Graham McKean

Moira Marsh

Tina Peterson Jennifer Piurek

United Way deeply appreciates all donors, regardless of gift size. If you or someone you know has been inadvertently omitted from our recognition lists, please reach out right away so that our records can be corrected immediately at: sherrie@monroeunitedway.org.

# **United Way Team**

\* Denotes Committee Chair

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Becky Rose, MCCSC School Assistance Fund June Taylor, Community Kitchen

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Gina Lovell, Amethyst House

Mary Morgan, Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce

Chris Myers, Area 10 Agency on Aging Esthela O'Neill, Ivy Tech Bloomington

Sherrie Shuler, United Way of Monroe County

Geng Wang, Civic Champs

Kirk White, Indiana University

#### **United Way Staff**

Efrat Feferman, Executive Director Catherine Blankensop, Community Engagement Assistant Director

David Cook, Resource Development Assistant Director

Liz Feitl, AFL-CIO Community Service Liaison Chris Hazel, Finance Director

Jennifer Hottell, Community Engagement Director Amy Leyenbeck, Community Impact Director

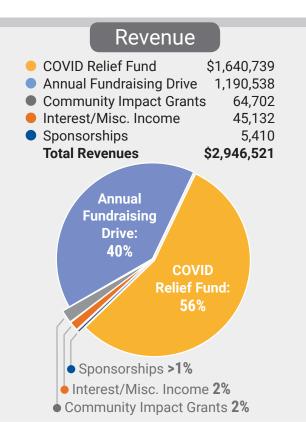
Sherrie Shuler, Resource Development Director

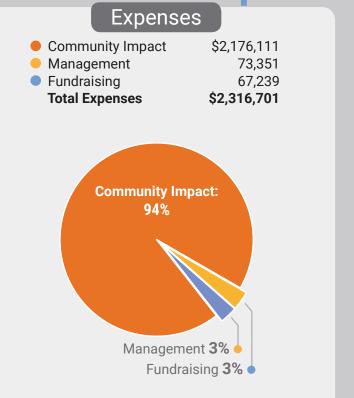
#### Interns

David Gardner, Education Associate Heather Hoffmeyer, Cox Scholar, Management & Policy Intern

Amy Kendall, IU Campus United Way Coordinator Madison Martin, Health Associate Andrew Poulter, Financial Stability Associate

Financial Snapshot





# Myra Powell memorial gift benefits the community

Long-time local resident, Myra L. Powell, "loved the community and was invested in seeing it grow," according to her family. Son, Eric and daughter-in-law, LeeAnna Powell, owners of My Sports Locker, are both lifelong Bloomington residents and deeply appreciate the importance of supporting the local community.

"With financial blessings from Myra & Bud to our family, we would like to donate \$5,000 in honor of Myra to continue supporting United Way of Monroe County," said LeeAnna and Eric.

"The work of United Way does not go unnoticed by our entire family and, we hope, future generations of our children and, someday, grandchildren. We think this is a fitting way to honor Myra's love of community through this memorial gift."

Soon after graduating from Bloomington High School in 1955, Myra met and married Lyle S. "Bud" Powell and they enjoyed over 50 years of marriage until his passing in 2016. Together they owned several businesses in Bloomington and surrounding towns. Myra Lou worked for over 30 years in the accounting field before her retirement.

As testament to her love of community, Myra Lou was a member of Sherwood Oaks Christian Church, a member of the Monroe County Fair Board where she had served as Treasurer, Queen Contest Advisor, Commercial Building Booth Rental, and was a 4-H leader for many years.

"My mother taught me to give back, and United Way has been part of our family for as long as we can remember," said LeeAnna, whose own mother, Liz Feitl, has worked for United Way in various capacities since 1981.

Deep appreciation to Myra Powell and her family for caring for our community.



Executive director Efrat Feferman was presented with a "19 Heroes of the Covid-19 Crisis" Hunger Action Award by Julio Alonso, Hoosier Hill Food Bank executive director (from a social distance, of course).

HHFB shared, "Efrat and United Way of Monroe County have coordinated much of the community's financial response to the crisis, working through several stages of grantmaking to ensure that important community needs were met...including rapid approval of grants to HHFB for food purchasing that allowed us to start ordering food early in the game."

We're honored with this recognition and inspired that so many have come together with funds, time, and caring hearts to support people in our community. "United Way is not just a fundraising initiative, important as that is, but also a community-building institution, which in the long run can be even more significant. The current pandemic crisis makes clear we must be ever alert for ways and means we can come together." – Donald W.

To read more about how your donation is creating resilience visit monroeunitedway.org/MyImpact.

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United Way of Monroe County



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