

United Way
of Lake County



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

uwlc.org

MISSION

Mission

To measurably improve the quality of people's lives in Lake County.

Vision

United Way of Lake County will become the entrusted champion that drives improved outcomes in our community by funding services that impact health, education, and financial stability.

VISION

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Board Members

Chairman of the Board

Brandi Haught, KeyBank

First Vice Chair

Andrew Phelps, S&T Bank

Second Vice Chair

Maria Kula, STERIS

Treasurer

Rick Bumgardner, The Lubrizol Corporation

Robin Baum, Writer/Editor, Community Volunteer

Kerry Bliss, Alluvial Private Wealth Cleveland

Josh Bogner, Avery Dennison

Patricia Conrad, VISA

Lindsay Defeo, Leolo Hospitality

Dione DeMito, United Way of Lake County

Michelle Graf, The Lubrizol Corporation

Craig Heath, Mentor Public Schools

Terry Kilbourne, Tec Inc. Engineering & Design

Ian Lewis, Little Scholars Early Learning Center

Maria Manocchio, MAM Consulting

Patrick Mohorcic, Lake Development Authority

George Sari, George Sari Professional Services

Gary Schmitt, SMART Local #33

Brad Shimko, Martinet Recchia, Inc.

Danielle Sindelar, University Hospitals

Joshua Strickland, Dworken & Bernstein Co., LPA

Bryan Thomas, Lighthouse Advisers

Shane Vermilye, SMART Local #33

Marwin Walling, Painesville City Local Schools

Kristina Willey, Griffin Technology Group

Therese Zdesar, QualCare, LLC

Board Members Emeritus

Abraham Cantor, Law Office of Abraham Cantor

Melissa Ferguson, Functional Design

Thomas W. Ferguson, State Farm Insurance

Thomas D. Hill, Thomas Hill Investment Services

Rita McMahon, Aislinn Consulting

Robert Schiebli, Iron Workers #468, Retired

Carol-Ann Schindel, CPA, City of Eastlake

Staff

Dione DeMito, President & CEO

Jan Blair, Resource Development Associate

Stephanie Devers, Development Director

Tami Lewis, Director of Marketing & Communications

Zach Siebert, Chief Financial Officer

Jen Smyser, Volunteer Manager

David Whittaker, Community Impact Manager

LEADERSHIP



A Letter From Leadership

As we reflect on this past year of service, we are filled with deep gratitude for the unwavering support and generosity of our donors, volunteers, corporate partners, and community organizations. In a time when the world feels increasingly uncertain—whether due to economic shifts, environmental challenges, or changing community needs—your commitment has remained strong. Because of you, United Way of Lake County continues to be a beacon of hope and action.

Despite the obstacles, we have seen incredible momentum. Your contributions of time, resources, and heart have made a tangible impact across Lake County. Together, we've advanced critical services, expanded opportunities, and strengthened the safety net for our most vulnerable neighbors. Thanks to your support, over 100,000 services were provided by our partner agencies and community programs. Hundreds of volunteers stepped forward to make a difference, whether by sorting food pantry items, organizing clothes for our community's Back-to-School Bash, mentoring youth, or participating in our Day of Caring.

We also celebrated a year of incredible community engagement and record-breaking fundraising. From a wildly successful Winterfest to our packed Celebrity Server fundraiser, our signature events brought people together for unforgettable moments with real impact. The annual Golf Outing teed up another year of generosity, while Jail & Bail continued to rally supporters in creative, meaningful ways.

While we celebrate these achievements, we also recognize that this work is never finished. Every dollar raised, every hour volunteered, and every voice advocating for change moves us closer to a stronger, more connected Lake County.

It has been an honor to serve alongside such passionate community champions. We are proud of what we've accomplished together and filled with hope for what's next.

At United Way of Lake County, we remain deeply committed to building a community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Through collaboration, advocacy, and action, we will continue striving for a future where barriers are removed, support is accessible, and everyone can reach their potential.

Thank you for being part of this journey with us. Together, we are making a difference.

With Sincere Appreciation,



Brandi Haught
Board Chair, United Way of Lake County
KeyBank

Dione DeMistro
President & CEO
United Way of Lake County

CO-CHAIRS

A Letter From Our 2024 Campaign Co-Chairs

As proud members of the Lake County business community, it was a true honor to serve as Campaign Co-Chairs for United Way of Lake County. We have always believed in the power of coming together to make a difference, and this campaign reminded us just how generous, compassionate, and committed our community truly is.

We want to thank our incredible Campaign Cabinet for their unwavering dedication, leadership, and efforts that played a vital role in the 2024 campaign.

Supporting United Way of Lake County's mission is something deeply personal to us. Through our businesses, Ladies & Gentlemen Salon and Spa and The Brown Aveda Institute, we have seen how kindness, support, and opportunity can transform lives. That is why we were excited to be able to contribute a special campaign raffle prize of Monthly Salon Services for Life. As Campaign Co-Chairs, it was one of the ways we were able to give back and encourage community participation.

We are also incredibly grateful to Mentor Nissan for donating a remarkable \$10,000 raffle prize. Their generosity played a key role in driving gifts and fueling momentum throughout the campaign.

To every donor, volunteer, agency, and organization who stood with us and United Way of Lake County this campaign year, thank you. Your support helps children succeed in school, families thrive, and our most vulnerable neighbors find the help they need. We are so proud to have been a part of this effort and look forward to continuing to uplift our community together.

With Gratitude,



Ed and Nancy Brown
Owners, Ladies & Gentlemen Salon and Spa and The Brown Aveda Institute



2024 Campaign Cabinet Members

Erica Acheson-Dunay, Key Private Bank
Alyea Barajas, Lake County Board of Commissioners
Robin Baum, Community Volunteer
Jason Bridges, Lake Erie College
Ed Brown, Ladies & Gentlemen Salon and Spa
Nancy Brown, Ladies & Gentlemen Salon and Spa
Melissa Clayton, Huntington Bank
Jen Edgell, Ladies & Gentlemen Salon and Spa
Chief Carl Dondorfer, Waite Hill Police Department, Concord Township Trustee
Dr. Joe Glavan, Mentor Public Schools/Lakeland Community College
Michelle Graf, The Lubrizol Corporation
Nancy Guthrie, Community Volunteer
Brandi Haught, KeyBank
Pam Kurt, Kurt Law Office
Jim Levine, Express Employment Professionals
Doug Lewis, City of Painesville
Noreen Marlowe, Keller Williams Greater Cleveland Northeast

Nyeshia Moore-Samad, STERIS
Dr. Andie Musial, Lakeland Community College
Amy O'Brien, TWO MEN AND A TRUCK
Teresa Reid, Starting Point
Major Alma Riley, The Salvation Army
Major John Riley, The Salvation Army
Julie Ramos, Wickliffe City Schools
David Schick, Lake County ADAMHS Board
Danielle Sindelar, University Hospitals
Ray Sminchak, Mentor Nissan
Amber Thomas, Beacon Specialized Living Services, Inc.
Bryan Thomas, Lighthouse Advisers
Dr. Patrick Ward, Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools
Christine Weber, Mentor Area Chamber of Commerce
Mandi Wells, Little Scholars Early Learning Center
Dana Wolfe, Willoughby Western Lake County Chamber of Commerce

AWARDS

Gus Gehring Award

The Gus Gehring Award was established in the year 2000 in tribute to Richard "Gus" H. Gehring, a distinguished member of United Way of Lake County's board of directors. This award stands as UWLC's premier recognition for exemplary volunteerism and advocacy efforts.

Matt Logies Ambassador Award

United Way of Lake County's Matt Logies Ambassador Award was established in 2011 in honor and memory of former UWLC board member Matt Logies. This annual award stands to honor those who embody outstanding community service, the foundation upon which UWLC is built.

Power of One Award

United Way of Lake County's Power of One Award winner epitomizes the profound impact that a single individual can make in effecting positive change within our community.

Woman Leader of the Year Award

United Way of Lake County's Woman Leader of the Year Award recognizes the highest standards of female achievement, encapsulating the purpose of Women United and displaying excellence in leadership and accomplishments.

Emerging Leader of the Year Award

United Way of Lake County's Emerging Leader of the Year Award honors a new generation of leaders and celebrates an individual with admirable leadership skills and a commitment to encouraging positive development among Lake County's youth while fostering tomorrow's leaders.



Gus Gehring Award Winner

Gwen Corban
Community Volunteer



Matt Logies Ambassador Award Winner

Kerry Jonke
Laketran



Power of One Award Winner

Amy O'Brien
TWO MEN AND A TRUCK



Woman Leader of the Year Award Winner

Robin Baum
Writer/Editor and
Community Volunteer



Emerging Leader of the Year Award Winner

Anna Galipo
American Heart
Association

2024 4 Under 40 Award Winners

The Emerging Leaders' 4 Under 40 Awards honor our community's next generation of leaders. The awards pay tribute to Lake County's best and brightest young professionals for their hard work and achievements in the areas of leadership, community involvement, entrepreneurship, and professional accomplishment.



Kathryn Baden
Olympus Aerospace



Rochelle Fowler
The Lubrizol Corporation



Kerry Jonke
Laketran



Francisco Daniel Veloz Vela
Veloz Landscaping & Nursery

SUPPORTERS

2024 Community Impact Leaders



2024 Community Impact Champion



Impactful Donation Leader



Alexis de Tocqueville (\$10,000+)

Peter and Rita Carfagna
Richard J. Frey
The Kilbourne Family
Betty T. and David M. Schneider

James A. Garfield (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Marlene and Jack Cornachio
Tina Hart
William R. Jones
Elfriede Roman
Mary Gayle Smith

Lighthouse (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Vikas Arora
Michelle Graf
Edward Hribar
Christopher Johnson
David Mele
Eric J. Pohl
Chassidy Rellinger
Jerrie Lee Rispoli
Calvin Schroeck
Thomas Votava
Robert K. Wehrle
Friend of UWLC

Leadership (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Michael P. Alley Jr.
Robert Anderson
Mary Baker
Sherri Beedles
Robert Blank
Aimee Bogner
Joshua Bogner
Lauren Brandon
Rick Bumgardner
Dr. Kathleen Buse
Thomas and Pamela Cirino
Michelle and Robert Crombie
Donald Daut
Julie Dean
John Dellaria
Dione DeMitto
Stephanie Fleming
Kimberly Garren-Hudson
Monica Hammer
Brian K. Humphrey

James Kavulich
Ronald Kinkade
Brian Knapp
Kevin Kuhar
Thomas Kula
Rose Kuster
Sharon A. Lance
James D. Levine
Douglas L. Lewis
Gregory P. Lieb
Frank Loncar
Ben Magid
Jerry & Sue Mancino
Maria Manocchio
Steven Marks
David & Doreen Mattson
Rita C. McMahon
Jerome Micco
George B. Milbourn
Elizabeth Miller

Kathy Milo
Latham W. Murfey III
Raymond and Mary Murphy
Cheryl O'Brien
John and Joyce Petric
Robert D. Petti Jr.
Gregory Prymicz
David J. Radachy
Jennifer Rhone
Steven Rogers
John Settineri
Karen Showalter
Richard Stavar
Scott Super
Annette & Mark Sutherland
Frank Tomaselli
Danielle Wilttrout
Susan Witherite
Ryan Yost
Friends of UWLC

AMBASSADORS

Scan QR code for current list!



COMPANY GIVING

SBU Member + | Grant ~ | All Others are Workplace Campaigns and/or Corporate Gifts

ABB Foundation
Abbott Laboratories
AbbVie
Active Plumbing Supply Company +
Aexcel Corporation
Anderson Group Holdings
Aqua Ohio
Ashley Furniture
Avery Dennison
Best Solutions Home Medical +
BK Electric+
Bright Funds
Buyers Products Company
Cardinal Commerce
Caterpillar
ChiroLife +
Citizens Bank
City of Mentor
City of Painesville
City of Wickliffe
Civista Bank
Clean Eat+ +
Cleveland Clinic
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.
Crossroads Health
CSX Transportation
De Nora Tech
DeMilta Sand and Gravel+
Deloitte
Dillard's
Eaton
Enbridge
Epic, Inc. +
Erie Bank
Express Employment Professionals +
Fifth Third Bank
First National Bank
FirstEnergy Corporation
Fischer Special Tooling +
General Motors
Gould Inc. Foundation
Grange Insurance
H+J Certified Public Accountants
Hadrian
Harvey High School
Heiland Electric

How Money Works Learning Center +
Huntington National Bank
Hynes
Hyster-Yale Materials Handling
IBM Corporation
ITW National
Jennifer & Co. +
Johnson Funeral Home and Cremation Center+
Jones Day
Just Natural Provisions +
Kalcor Coatings Company
KeyBank
KPMG Gives
Lake Catholic +
Lake County ADAMHS
Lake County Board of DD
Lake County Council on Aging
Lake County Domestic Relations Court
Lake County Employees Federal Credit Union
Lake County Free Clinic
Lake County General Health District
Lake County Government
Lake County Job and Family Services
Lake County Planning and Community Development
Lake County YMCA
Lake Development Authority
Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers
Lake Metroparks
Lakeland Community College
Laketrans
Lifeline for the Empowerment & Development of Consumers
Lincoln Electric
Little Scholars Early Learning Centers +
Lumen
Madison Local School District
Medicare Solutions: Frank Stanton +
Medical Mutual
Meijer
Mentor Community Development Block Grant ~
Mentor Public Library
Mentor Public Schools
Midwest Materials Inc
MUM Industries
Nationwide Matching Program
North High School

Northwest Bank
Ohio Combined Charitable Campaigns
Ohio Educators Association
Ohio State University
O'Reilly Auto Parts
Painesville City Local School District
Penske Logistics
Peoples Bank
Perry Local Schools
Platimun Roofing and Construction+
PNC Financial Services Group
Premier Bank
Riverside Local Board of Education
Rockwell
SABIC
Salvation Army
Sherwin Williams
Singerman, Mills, Desberg, & Kauntz Co LPA
Smoothie King +
South High School
Stanley Black & Decker
Starting Point
STERIS
Styropek
Sunbright USA +
Sunray Films +
Target
Technical Glass Products+
The B.B. Bradley Company
The Junkluggers +
The Lubrizol Corporation
The Middlefield Banking Company
The Mill-Rose Company
Thompson Hine LLP
Tremco Incorporated
TWO MEN AND A TRUCK +
United Way of Lake County
University Hospitals
Visiting Angels +
Vistra
Walmart Madison
Walmart Mentor
Web Wise Enterprises +
Wickliffe City School District
Z Zurich Foundation ~

Scan QR code for
a current list of
our workplace campaigns!



INITIATIVES

32nd Annual Feed Lake County Fundraiser: Spring 2024

Highlights:

- \$35,000 in food was distributed to 31 Lake County food pantries, with an additional \$48,000 distributed on an as-needed basis prior to this from United Way of Lake County's food pantry.
- A total of \$60,000 was raised from the fundraiser, thanks in large part to Buyers Products Company who matched all donations up to \$25,000.
- The top four food donors included:
 - PCC Airfoils – 5,327 lbs. of food
 - Component Repair Technologies – 5,049 lbs. of food
 - Mentor High School – 2,165 lbs. of food
 - Marous Brothers Construction – 1,900 lbs. of food

Thanksgiving Turkey Distribution: November 22, 2024

On November 22, 2024, United Way of Lake County was pleased to provide 860 turkeys and grocery bags filled with all the fixings to 35 Lake County food pantries to ensure the individuals and families they serve had a full Thanksgiving meal. Highlights included a donation of 100 turkeys from PCC Airfoils and a donation of 60 turkeys from Aexcel Corporation.

2024 Feed Lake County Partners

- A total of \$25,000 was donated by Buyers Products Company, who matched all spring 2024 Feed Lake County donations up to this dollar amount.
- A \$25,000 grant was awarded in the fall of 2024 from the Jerome T. Osborne and Georgeanne S. Osborne Charitable Trust to help alleviate hunger in Lake County.

Monthly Food Distribution Partnerships

United Way of Lake County has proudly partnered with both the Mentor Public Schools and the Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools to help coordinate volunteers for their free monthly food distributions. Volunteers distribute fresh produce and food to those in need via a drive-up system to families. The Mentor distributions take place on the campus of Mentor High School while the Willoughby-Eastlake distributions alternate between North and South High Schools.

Day of Caring: June 18 – 19, 2024

United Way of Lake County's 32nd Annual Day of Caring took place over two days, June 18 and 19, 2024. A total of 170 volunteers from 16 organizations and groups adopted 19 nonprofit projects. By mobilizing volunteers to dedicate their time and skills, Day of Caring alleviates the financial burdens of nonprofits, allowing them to allocate funds toward their core missions of serving those in need.

Youth United Way: December 20, 2024 Graduation

Youth United Way (YUW) is an annual youth directed initiative facilitated by the Emerging Leaders. This year's program was made possible through a \$2,500 grant from the Western Reserve Junior Service League. The program highlights the many needs residents of our community face along with available services while fostering a sense of social responsibility and encouraging active participation in meeting these needs. Twenty-seven students representing nine local high schools graduated from the 2024 fall class on December 20, 2024, after awarding \$10,000 in grants. The nonprofits that were awarded grant allocations can be found on page 8 of this report.

Back-to-School Bash: August 3, 2024

United Way of Lake County (UWLC) proudly supported the 2024 Back to School Bash (BTSB), a collaborative community event involving more than 40 local agencies and spearheaded by the Lake County Family and Children First Council. Held at Harvey High School in Painesville, the event was open to all Lake County families in need. Highlights included:

- The BTSB served 2,603 individuals and provided 1,601 supply-filled backpacks to students.
- UWLC coordinated the clothing and book drive for the event, overseeing the collection and sorting of all donated items. Staff and volunteers also participated on-site to help families find needed clothing items.
- UWLC donated \$10,000 to The Salvation Army Citadel to support their efforts in providing school supplies and backpacks.
- A grant from Enbridge Gas Ohio was generously provided in support of the BTSB.

EVENTS

HeroFest: August 4, 2024

United Way of Lake County hosted their fourth annual HeroFest event honoring Lake County First Responders on Sunday, August 4, 2024, at Classic Auto Group Park, home of the Lake County Captains. Over 200 First Responders and their families turned out to enjoy a day of fun at the ballpark. A total of \$15,716 was raised to benefit first-responder programs in Lake County.

Golf Outing: August 30, 2024

Emerging Leaders of United Way of Lake County hosted their eleventh annual Golf Outing Fundraiser on Friday, August 30, 2024, at Black Brook Golf Course in Mentor. A total of 132 golfers attended the sold-out event in support of the Emerging Leaders purpose, raising record funds of over \$33,000 in support of Lake County's youth.

Jail & Bail: September 6, 2024

United Way of Lake County (UWLC) hosted its second annual Jail & Bail Fundraiser on Friday, September 6, 2024. Laketrans CEO Ben Capelle operated the Laketrans "Jail Bus," while Lieutenant Bryan Bowen of the Lake County Sheriff's Office ensured all jailbirds were apprehended, complete with handcuffs and a reading of their UWLC rights. The jailbirds raised over \$13,000 in support of the organization's mission.

Women's Winterfest & Holiday Food Tasting : November 21, 2024

Women United of United Way of Lake County celebrated a record-breaking evening at their annual Women's Winterfest & Holiday Food Tasting fundraiser, held the evening of Thursday, November 21, 2024, at LaMalfa in Mentor. The event brought together an unprecedented 520 guests for a night of holiday cheer, food tastings from 26 local restaurants, raffle prizes, and more. In combination with two back-to-back online raffles, the event raised \$122,527 to benefit Lake County women and children in need.

Emerging Leaders 4 Under 40 Awards Reception: January 23, 2025

The Emerging Leaders of United Way of Lake County recognized the recipients of their 2024 "4 Under 40" young professional awards - honoring Lake County's best and brightness - during an evening reception on Thursday, January 23, 2025. A crowd of nearly 150 gathered at The Everly in Mentor to celebrate the award recipients, highlighted earlier in this report. Another positive aspect of the event - \$8,282 was raised to benefit Lake County's youth.

Celebrity Server: March 13, 2025

Nearly 500 people turned out for United Way of Lake County's largest annual St. Patrick's Day-themed fundraiser the afternoon of March 13, 2025, at the American-Croatian Lodge in Eastlake. A total of 47 volunteers served as Celebrity Servers, raising tips from their guests. Funds were also raised from a variety of raffles, a Table 'O Sweets, a wine pull and games. Combined with phase two of the fundraiser - an online raffle - over \$98,000 was raised in support of United Way of Lake County's mission.

Scan QR code for current events!



Scan QR code to see a list of supporters!



Sponsors HeroFest ◊ | Golf Outing 2024 ~ | Jail & Bail ∞ | Winterfest + | 4 Under 40 > | Celebrity Server *

Advancing Women in the Workforce +
All Contractors Supply + *
Alluvial Private Wealth Cleveland +
Applied Laser Technologies ~
AQUA Ohio *
Best Version of You +
BK Electric Co. ~
Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center > ◊
ChiroLife +
Citywide Solutions *
Cleveland Auto Wholesale + ~
Cleveland Clinic ◊
Cleveland Clinic Mentor Hospital + *
Clicks by Kat + * >
Clean EatZ +
Conway Land Title ~
Crossroads Health ~
D & S Automotive Collision & Restyling ~
Dollar Bank + ~
EIS Exodus Integrity Services ~
First Federal Lakewood + *
FirstEnergy +

Fortress Law Group ~
Fredon Corporation *
Gazette Newspapers/Great Lakes Printing *
Global Real Estate Advisors, Inc. ~
Griffin Technology Group ◊ ~
How Money Works Learning Center +
In Loving Memory of LT Jeff Kirkner ◊
Jackpot Chicken & Jackpot Street Food ~
Jenniffer & Co. +
Jonke Construction >
Keller Williams Greater Cleveland Northeast ~
KeyBank + * ~
Kurtz Bros. Inc. ~
Lake County Captains ◊
Lake Erie College *
Lake Erie Distillery ◊ ~
Lake Metroparks + *
Laketrans ∞ >
Leolo Hospitality ~
Lighthouse Advisers ◊ >
Lintern Corporation Worldwide ~
Little Scholars Early Learning Center ~
Lucy's Laser + Med Spa ~

Madison Lakehouse ~
Martinet Recchia ~
Mentor Area Chamber of Commerce ~>
Mentor Nissan ~
Mentor Ridge & The Preserve ~
MIMI Magazine + *
Musser Lino ~
Nothing Bundt Cakes>
Onyx Creative ~
Olympus Aerospace >
PIP Marketing, Signs, Print + * ~
Paul Davis Property Restoration Experts ~
Platinum Roofing & Construction +
Provision Impressions ~
RAW Roofing Solutions + *
Sam's Club ~
Secure Recycling ~
Signature Health + *
Slowey Insurance Agency *
SMART Local #33 * ~
Somich & Associates CPAs * ~
Stanley Steemer + * ~
Sub Zero Mission *

Sunray Window Films + *
Tec Inc. Engineering & Design * >
The Junkluggers ~
The Kilbourne Family ~
The Lubrizol Corporation >
The News-Herald + *
Today's Family Magazine ~
Truist ~
Tuff Shed ~
TWO MEN AND A TRUCK + ~ >
University Hospitals ~
Veloz Landscape & Nursery >
Ville City Branding *
VISTRA +
Water Extraction Team *
Willoughby Hills Auto Repair ~
Willoughby-Eastlake Public Library + *
Xpress Printing Services ~



\$1,276,438 INVESTED INTO OUR COMMUNITY

\$1,000,000 Invested from Community Impact Fund

Health

\$22,700 Birthright:
Baby Formula Program
\$30,000 Cleveland Rape Crisis Center:
Services for Lake County Survivors
\$15,000 Family Pride:
Senior Support Services for Self-Sufficiency
\$10,000 Family Pride:
Healthy Families/Healthy Communities
\$15,000 Fine Arts Association:
Creative Arts Therapies
\$100,000 Forbes House:
Domestic Violence Shelter
\$20,000 Hospice of the Western Reserve:
In-Home Palliative Care
\$15,000 Kidney Foundation of Ohio:
Medication and Transportation Assistance
\$50,000 Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers:
Residential Childcare
\$100,000 Lake County Free Clinic:
Medical Services
\$15,000 Lake County Free Clinic:
Case Management
\$20,000 Lake County Free Clinic:
Dental Services
\$23,700 LGBTQ Lake County:
Safe Spaces Program
\$16,100 NAMI Lake County:
Ending the Silence Program
\$10,500 NAMI Lake County:
Return to Hope Program
\$80,000 Project Hope for the Homeless:
Shelter
\$20,000 Signature Health:
Geriatric Care Liaison Program

\$563,000 Total Allocated (56%)

Education

\$80,000 Crossroads Health:
Ohio Early Intervention Program
\$18,000 Lake County YMCA:
Summer Learning Loss Program
\$35,000 Lifeline:
Dolly Parton Imagination Library
\$9,500 Starting Point:
Lake County Devereaux (DECA) Program
\$8,000 Starting Point:
Childcare Training
\$30,000 The Salvation Army Corps Community Center:
Youth Learning Zone
\$15,000 Torchlight Youth Mentoring Alliance:
Community-Based Mentoring Program

\$195,500 Total Allocated (20%)

Contributors to the total funds invested from this community impact fund include:

\$96,000 Women United
\$30,000 Emerging Leaders
\$25,000 Feed Lake County

Financial Stability

\$35,000 Lake County YMCA:
Financial Assistance Program
\$16,500 Lake County YMCA:
Childcare Program
\$30,000 Lake-Geauga Habitat for Humanity:
Repair Program
\$35,000 Lifeline:
211 Help Referral Hotline Program
\$17,000 Wickliffe City Schools:
Family Resource Center
\$15,000 Catholic Charities:
Hispanic Outreach Program
\$20,000 Lifeline:
Security Deposit Program
\$5,000 Lifeline:
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program
\$24,000 Salvation Army Service Units:
Emergency Services
\$22,000 The Salvation Army Corps Community Center:
Red Shield Homeless Services Program
\$22,000 The Salvation Army Corps Community Center:
Emergency Services

\$241,500 Total Allocated (24%)

\$276,438 Additional Funds Invested

Food Investments:

\$46,928 Bulk food purchases
\$64,188 Value of donated food

Donor Designations:

\$110,218 (Various)

Youth United Way Grants:

\$4,000 Birthright: Baby Formula Program
\$5,000 Forbes House: Domestic Violence Shelter
\$1,000 Project Hope for the Homeless: Shelter

HeroFest Grants:

\$7,072 Crossroads Health:
Mental Health Program
\$7,072 The Lakeland Foundation:
First Responder Scholarships

Responsive Fund Grants:

\$5,000 Family Pride of NEO: Mental Health Services
\$2,500 Forbes House: Flood Damage Repair
\$9,260 Lifeline: Dolly Parton Imagination Library
\$10,000 Salvation Army Citadel:
Back-to-School Bash School Supplies

Affinity Group Grants:

\$3,000 Emma Caley Receiving Home:
Christmas Gifts (courtesy of Emerging Leaders)
\$1,200 Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers' Oak House:
Client Christmas Gifts (courtesy of Women United)

Scan QR Code for upcoming 2025-2026 Community Investments



2024 IMPACT AT A GLANCE



100,945 Services Provided*

United for Education



Children benefited from early-intervention programs



Children benefited from mentors, youth enrichment, and creative arts therapy programs



Pre-k children benefited from free monthly Dolly Parton Imagination Library books in support of literacy and kindergarten readiness



Persons served at 2024 Back-to-School Bash, many of whom received new & gently used clothing; 1,601 students in need received supply-filled backpacks



Elementary and pre-school children benefited from reading programs in support of literacy

United for Families & Individuals



Households benefited from free tax assistance



Families and individuals received housing support assistance



Domestic violence survivors benefited from refuge and care



Homeless persons received shelter and care



Emergency services provided to those in crisis



Hispanic families & individuals received acclimation assistance



2-1-1 referrals provided to those in need of help and services

United For Healthcare



Survivors of sexual abuse received care and support



Hospice patients and their families received comfort and support



Medical and dental visits funded for those in need



Mental health counseling services were provided

United for Community



Community Investment Committee Volunteer Hours



Day of Caring Volunteer Hours

United Against Hunger



Cans of formula provided for babies



Congregate meals provided for seniors



Food for our hungry

*Total services provided does not include volunteer hours, the value of the food provided to our community, and miscellaneous services.

VOLUNTEERS

Erica Acheson-Dunay # △ > %
 Crystal Adams *
 Carrie Ahlborn -
 Dr. Sunil Ahuja *
 Delmarcus Anderson ◊
 Tara Arnold -
 Carolyn Arwood -
 Jack Baca ◊
 Kathryn Baden ◊
 Sarah Baggott *
 Dr. Jessie Baginski -
 Sarah Bals *
 Alyea Barajas - # △
 Christine Barnes - %
 Danielle Barnes -
 Robin Baum ∞ - # † * %
 Andy Baumgardner ◊
 Luka Begovic ◊
 Doris Behnke - ◊
 Dick Bennett △
 Rebecca Bennett -
 Lindsey Bergant -
 Morris Beverage III - * >
 Jason Bickel ◊
 Bronte Billings - %
 Dawn Bizjak ◊
 Jan Blair -
 Kendra Blair *
 Kim Blair -
 Melanie Blasko †
 Melissa Blazek ◊
 Kerry Bliss ∞ - † ± % @
 Josh Bogner ∞ - △ @
 Brian Bontempo △
 Maggie Bosu !
 Bryan Bowen >
 William Bowers △
 Connie Bowler ◊
 Linda Brentar - %
 Jason Bridges # *
 Ed Brown # △
 Nancy Brown # △
 Jackie Bruner △
 Jude Brzozowski ◊
 Tony Brzytwa -
 Donna Bullis - %
 Rick Bumgardner ∞ - △ \$
 Shirley Burgett -
 Marge Burnett -
 Christy Bursby -
 Karen Burton △ \$
 Dr. Kathleen Buse † * %
 Rhonda Butler †
 Regina Butsko %
 Janice Cackowski ◊
 Ben Capelle * >
 Jen Capo △
 Nate Cartwright ◊
 Suzanne Casar △
 Debbie Casper - %
 Katie Cesarz ◊
 Mindy Cipriano ◊

Melissa Clayton # * △
 Melissa Cluton ◊
 Altovese Coe ◊
 Rachele Coley ◊
 Daniel Comai !
 Patricia Conrad ∞ - △ ^
 Kelly Conrad -
 Gwen Corban † %
 Judge Marisa Cornachio -
 Mike Cornachio -
 Dr. Christina Corsi %
 Christine Corwin ◊
 Amy Cossick ◊
 Gianna Costello -
 Julie Cottos ◊
 David Cowen ◊
 David Cross ◊
 Kim Crumble -
 TJ Crumble -
 Patrick Culliton ◊
 Cheryl Davis ◊
 April Debiase *
 Larry Defeo - !
 Lindsay Defeo - !
 Chris Deighan ◊
 Tim Deighan ◊
 Yvonne Delgado Thomas - %
 Sue Deming * △
 Dione DeMitro ∞ *
 Gabriel DeMitro -
 Stevie Dohm † !
 Chief Carl Dondorfer #
 Carrie Dotson △
 Shawn Douglas △
 Patricia Drewery -
 Beverly Dzomba △
 Ira Eason ◊
 Jen Edgell - # △ %
 David Elliott ◊
 Joe Englebrecht ◊
 Amy Fatica △
 Beverly Ferenz -
 Lakeisha Ferguson - *
 Mike Ferrante *
 Kimberly Fetty !
 Fifth Third Bank ◊
 Kenneth Filipiak △
 Sandra Fink △
 Renee Fitzgerald Palacio -
 Ellen Forbus - %
 Peter Ford ◊
 Lisa Formica ◊
 Susan Foster ◊
 Robert Fowler *
 Lori Franceschini △
 Anna Galipo !
 Chris Galloway *
 Elia Garcia de la Garza - %
 Mike Gattarello ◊
 Joelle Geiger -
 Andrew Gerland -
 Bethany Germano - %

Lisa Gibaldi △
 Ryan Gilkerson >
 Emily Gilliam † △
 Kim Gilmore *
 Dr. Joseph Glavan - # △ >
 Rocio Gonzalez ◊
 Michelle Graf ∞ - # △ ^ > ± %
 Charvon Green ◊
 Mastin Greere ◊
 Jack Gregorin \$
 Jacklyn Grgurich !
 Avery Griffin ◊
 John Griffin -
 Jennifer Grill △
 Tawnee Gucciardo -
 Nancy Guthrie # %
 Carol Hagan %
 Meg Hagan - † %
 Debra Hall △
 Mayor Chris Hallum *
 Ashley Hanzel -
 Mike Hanzel -
 Martha Harrington -
 Christine Hartog △
 Brandi Haught ∞ - # △ = %
 Justin Haught -
 Terrie Haycox %
 Sharon Headley ◊
 Craig Heath ∞ * △ ± @
 Jennifer Heath △
 Jay Hemphill †
 Savanna Hershman ◊
 Madison Hewitt ◊
 Ariel Hill △
 Dr. Matthew Hiner △
 Kenny Hoffacker -
 Sylvia Hoffman -
 Paul Holm △
 Michelle Hudson ◊
 Jordan Husted ◊
 Brian Humphrey ◊
 Cathy Humphrey - %
 Lisa Imondi - %
 Tara Isabelle ◊
 Kathy J. -
 Christopher Jochum △
 Michele Johnson - ◊ %
 Tricia Johnston - † >
 Kerry Jonke - △ !
 Mario Jurcic !
 Marien Kaifesh - %
 Cristen Kane - △ %
 Teffin Karner △
 Rose Ann Kay △
 Myranda Keister ◊
 Linda Kerry ◊
 Terry Kilbourne ∞ - \$ @
 Edward Kinkopf ◊
 Carolyn Kinkoph - %
 Kyle Kintner -
 KJ Fasteners ◊
 Darya Klammer %

Gianna Kliegl -
 Michael Kliegl -
 Cathryn Knezevich %
 Bill Knox †
 Kathy Knubel -
 John Koscho ◊
 Becky Kosik -
 Toni Kramer -
 Maria Kula ∞ - △ ^ %
 Wendy Kunash ◊
 Sue Kunsman -
 Cheryl Kuonen †
 Kat Kurkov -
 Nick Kurt -
 Pam Kurt - # † * %
 Ginger Lacey ◊
 Lake Metroparks ◊
 Gloria Lane - %
 Tim Lane *
 Dorothy Lang -
 Marian Lantzy -
 Beverly Lee ◊
 Crystal Leidy △
 Tom Leone ◊
 Dave Leskovec -
 Jim Levine #
 Doug Lewis # * △
 Ian Lewis ∞ - ≈
 Teri Lilley -
 Dana Locher △
 Cindy Lord * △
 Joseph Lubman ◊
 Marybeth Mack △
 Sarah Madsen △
 Ann Mahler -
 Melanie Majikas †
 David Malinowski *
 Dan Mangan ◊
 Maria Manocchio ∞ ± ^
 Katrina March *
 Bob Marchese ◊
 Christine Margalis - △ %
 Noreen Marlowe - # *
 Ashley Marrie -
 Scott Marsh -
 Kathleen Martin %
 Michelle Massaro △
 Mike Matoney △
 Matt Mormile Farmers Insurance Agency -
 Kathy Mayher -
 Mike Mazi ◊
 Donald Wayne McLeod -
 Karen McLeod *
 Michelle McClure %
 Erin McCrone -
 Heather McCue - †
 Jay McDonald *
 Kristen McLaughlin - † %
 Angi McMichael %
 Sharlyna McQueen -
 Joe Mecozzi -
 Leesa Mecozzi -

VOLUNTEERS

Madison Mehl –
 Caleb Mehls !
 Men of Honor –
 Abel Menchaca –
 Elliot Menchaca –
 Lani Menchaca –
 Maddie Menchaca –
 Dallana Mendoza –
 Teresa Metzler ◊
 Mike Miles ◊
 Mary Jo Miller *
 Sherry Miller –
 Vicki Miller ◊
 Gino Mogorovic ◊
 Patrick Mohorcic ∞ ◊ Δ \$ > ≈
 Lauren Molnar Δ
 Janel Montgomery Δ
 Nicole Moore %
 Nyesha Moore-Samad # Δ
 John Morabeto *
 Christine Morgan ◊ Δ
 Larry Moyle ◊
 Brian Mudio ◊
 Lydia Munoz ◊
 Dr. Andie Musial – # ◊ Δ %
 Amanda Nagle Δ
 Jodi Nead %
 Jason Nedley †
 Jeanette Nelson ◊
 Lynn Nestor –
 Skylar Nettles –
 Ruth Nevins –
 Angelita, New Hope Baptist Church –
 DeeDee, New Hope Baptist Church –
 Elizabeth, New Hope Baptist Church –
 Sandy, New Hope Baptist Church –
 Tamara, New Hope Baptist Church –
 Tamika, New Hope Baptist Church –
 Dan Nichols *
 North High School Students Δ
 Amy O'Brien – #
 Renee Ochaya –
 Karen Olkeson –
 Julie O'Neil – %
 Cathy Orange %
 Kristin Oriani –
 Lucas Orians ◊
 William Orlando ◊
 Kevin Orosz ◊
 Rhonda Osagie-Erese †
 Qian Ou ◊
 Dino Paci ◊
 Paul Palagyi Δ
 Pam Palermo Δ
 Carol Palesh ◊
 Suzanne Paquin %
 Kenzie Park –
 Scot Park \$
 Mark Pastore –
 Brian Peluso ◊
 Patty Perry – > %
 Judi Peters Δ

Helen Petersburg Δ
 Kathy Peterson \$
 Andrew Phelps ∞ ^ >
 Terri Pilarczyk Δ
 Rich Pillar –
 Mel Prileson-Douglas !
 Al Raddatz *
 Leslie Radke !
 Kelli Raines !
 Ireland Rainey –
 Vijay Rajan ◊
 Julie Ramos – # %
 Linda Randa Welch –
 Pat Raymond –
 REA Associates ◊
 Mark Rees *
 Leah Reese † %
 Teresa Reid # † Δ %
 Karen Reis Δ
 Jen Reiss Blatnik %
 Annie Reynolds –
 Charlie Reynolds –
 Katie Reynolds –
 Tiffany Reynolds ◊
 Kelli Rianes –
 Graham Richard ◊
 Major Alma Riley # Δ
 Major John Riley # Δ
 Martha Robb – %
 Bonnie Robbins –
 Brandon Robinson !
 Andy Rose *
 Brendan Rosplock ◊
 Amy Rottinghaus –
 Jane Rottinghaus –
 Anne Royer –
 Louise Ruffner –
 Sarah Russell ◊
 Ann Rzepka Budziak – %
 Matt Sabo >
 Mayor Joe Sakacs *
 Matt Sanderson ◊
 Nancy Santilli –
 Nora Sasek –
 David Schick #
 Julia Schick –
 KT Schmidt –
 Maurine Schmidt †
 Rose Schooler ◊
 Beki Schrieber Δ
 Lorrie Schuck –
 Mark Schwerdtfeger Δ
 Michelle Seifert – %
 Matt Selker Δ
 Michael Semick >
 Mia Severino !
 Devin Shilling –
 Brad Shimko ∞ !
 Christopher Siemen ◊
 Gayle Sikula %
 AnDao Silbaugh * >
 Jeremy Simmons ◊

Danielle Sindelar ∞ # Δ
 Michelle Sisler Δ
 Cindy Skinner *
 Ryan Skulski –
 Robert Slowey !
 Erica Smeal *
 Ray Sminchak #
 Ayden Smith ◊
 Cindy Smith –
 Curtis Smith ◊
 Kate Smith –
 Andrew Smyser –
 Ben Smyser –
 Finn Smyser –
 Jen Smyser † %
 Josie Smyser –
 Carol Snively –
 Ashley Snowberger !
 Lisa Snyder Δ
 South High School Students Δ
 Joseph Spiccia *
 Maria Stadler –
 Loretta Staton ◊
 Abigail Staudt *
 Jane Steger – %
 STERIS –
 Rita Stickle Δ
 Patrick Stitts Δ
 Sharan Strahan –
 Kathy Strancar – %
 Douglas Sundstrom –
 Mary Ellen Sundstrom –
 Christine Susnik –
 Donna Swan – ◊
 Donita Swanson ◊
 Margaret Sweitzer ◊
 Judy Szabo –
 Kyle Tankovich !
 Lisa Tankovich –
 Bill Tanski !
 The Lubrizol Corporation –
 Amber Thomas # %
 Bryan Thomas ∞ # ≈
 Dr. Jack Thompson *
 Amy Thuer %
 Torey Tolson Δ

Ali Tomaselli –
 Joseph Tomsick * Δ
 Michael Tonnk –
 Summer Torok Δ
 Addison Trefzger –
 Philip Trimble ◊
 Diana Trubiani –
 Kathy Van Winkle ◊
 Mayor Michael Vanni * Δ
 Lydia Vasile –
 Jeffrey Vennetti ◊
 Precious Verdier Δ
 Shane Vermilye ∞
 VISA ◊
 Judy Vogler –
 Mary Ellen Vogt –
 Andrea Vullo Δ
 Marwin Walling, Sr. ∞ – † Δ @
 Maggie Wank –
 Dr. Patrick Ward # Δ
 Doug Webb ◊
 Christine Weber – # † * %
 Mandi Wells #
 Taylor Wenson ◊
 Liam Whelan ◊
 Janet Whiting ◊
 Alec Wiggins !
 Phyllis Wilcox %
 Dr. Kristina Willey – %
 Anna Wilson †
 Joann Wirtz – %
 Cathy Wisen –
 Dana Wolfe # † * ◊ >
 James Wyman Δ
 Johnte Yarbrough ◊
 Craighton Young ◊
 Raina Yowell ◊
 Steven Zablotney ◊
 Annie Zahradnik †
 Therese Zdesar ∞ – @
 Cathy Zegarac Δ
 Cathy Zeller –
 Timothy Zimmerman ◊
 Alex Zinni ◊ ^
 Melissa Zumo !

Volunteer Role Legend

Board Member ∞
 Campaign Cabinet Member #
 Celebrity Server *
 Community Impact Committee Member @
 Community Investment
 Committee Member †
 Day of Caring Participant ◊
 Emerging Leader Member !
 Employee Campaign Manager Δ

Event Volunteer –
 Finance Committee Member \$
 Governance Committee Member ^
 Jail & Bail "Jailbird" >
 Marketing Committee Member ^
 Resource Development
 Committee Member ≈
 Strategic Planning Committee Member ±
 Women United Member %

AFFINITY

Women United of United Way of Lake County

Women United (WU) is a dynamic network of like-minded women who are passionate about making a difference and work to positively impact the lives of Lake County women and children through the efforts of membership, volunteering, and philanthropy.

In addition to their volunteer work, WU hosts Speaker Series and Socials with Purpose, where guests bring donations to each nonprofit cause the group adopts. **Their signature event is their Women's Winterfest & Holiday Food Tasting fundraiser, the details of which are outlined within this report.**

Over the last 10 years, WU has proudly awarded grants totaling over \$422,000. This includes the following \$96,000 in grants allocated as part of the 2024-2025 funding cycle:

- ◆ \$12,000 Birthright: Baby Formula Program
- ◆ \$12,000 Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, Services for Lake County Survivors
- ◆ \$12,000 Fine Arts Association, Creative Arts Therapies
- ◆ \$12,000 Forbes House, Domestic Violence Shelter
- ◆ \$12,000 Lake County YMCA, Summer Learning Loss Program
- ◆ \$12,000 Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers, Residential Childcare
- ◆ \$12,000 Lifeline, Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- ◆ \$12,000 The Salvation Army Corps Community Center, Youth Learning Zone

Highlights from Women United's speaker series, social events, and volunteerism included:

- ◆ Social: Spring Social with Purpose at The Willoughby House
- ◆ Speaker Series: Thriving Through Change at SOL
- ◆ Social: Nature-Inspired Social with Purpose at Holden Arboretum
- ◆ Speaker Series: Human Trafficking in NEO at Paradigm on the campus of Mentor High School
- ◆ Social/Fundraiser: Bottles, Boards & Boutiques at Mentor Harbor Yachting Club
- ◆ Volunteerism: Mentoring students enrolled in The Women's Center of Lakeland Community College
- ◆ Volunteerism: Mentoring clients of Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers' Oak House and Nevaeh House
- ◆ Volunteerism: Christmas gifts provided for domestic abuse survivors at Forbes House



Kerry Bliss
Women United Chair

Emerging Leaders of United Way of Lake County

Emerging Leaders of United Way of Lake County (EL) seek to be a catalyst for change in the lives of Lake County youth through leadership, advocacy, knowledge, and education in order to facilitate positive behaviors that will create tomorrow's leaders. The group also works to develop, connect, and empower young professionals by providing a mix of professional development opportunities, which includes networking and social activities, speaker series, and volunteer opportunities.

Emerging Leaders host two signature events each year: a 4 Under 40 recognition ceremony and a golf outing fundraiser. Details about each can be found within this report. Funds raised support their grant allocation program and support the EL-led Youth United Way initiative, which provided students with funds to award as part of the program, the details of which can be found elsewhere in this report.

Over the last nine years, EL has proudly awarded grants totaling over \$186,000. This includes the following \$40,000 in grants allocated as part of the 2024-2025 funding cycle:

- ◆ \$10,000 Lifeline: Dolly Parton Imagination Library Early Childhood Literacy Program
- ◆ \$10,000 NAMI Lake County: Ending the Silence Program
- ◆ \$10,000 Torchlight Youth Mentoring Alliance: Community-Based Mentoring Program
- ◆ \$10,000 Youth United Way: Grant Award Allocation Program

Highlights from the Emerging Leaders socials, volunteerism, and leadership initiatives included:

- ◆ Social: Summer Solstice Yoga at Mentor Beach Park
- ◆ Social: Bocce Ball Tournament at SNPJ Farm
- ◆ Volunteerism: Back-to-School Bash clothing distribution at Harvey High School
- ◆ Leadership Initiative: Facilitation of Youth United Way program
- ◆ Social: Friendraiser Holiday Social at Tricky Tortoise Brewing Company
- ◆ Volunteerism: Fulfillment of every child's Christmas gift wish list from the Emma Caley Receiving Home of the Lake County Department of Jobs & Family Services



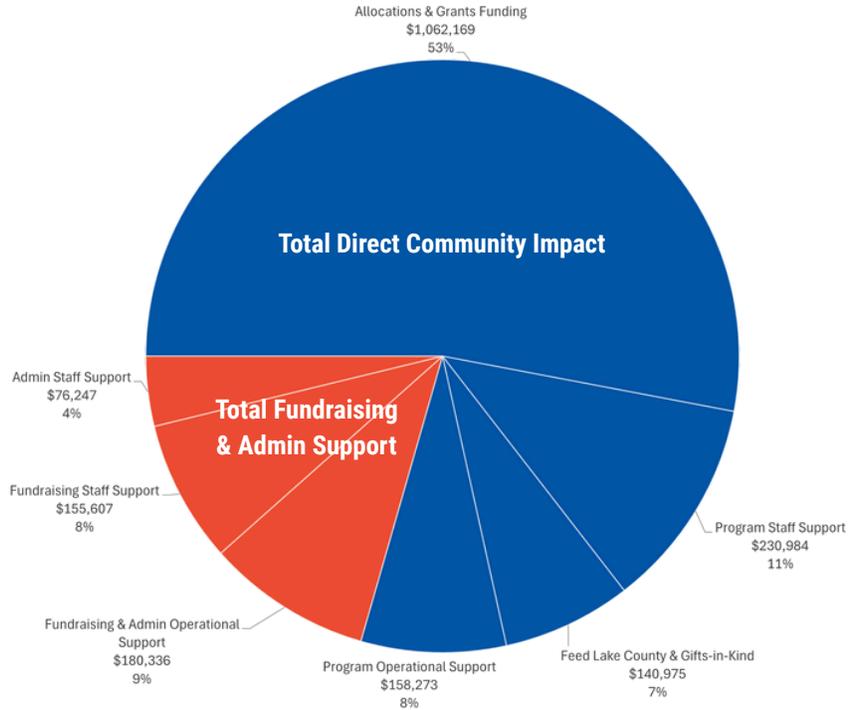
Brad Shimko
Emerging Leaders Chair

Scan QR code for
all of the many ways
you can join us in
giving back!

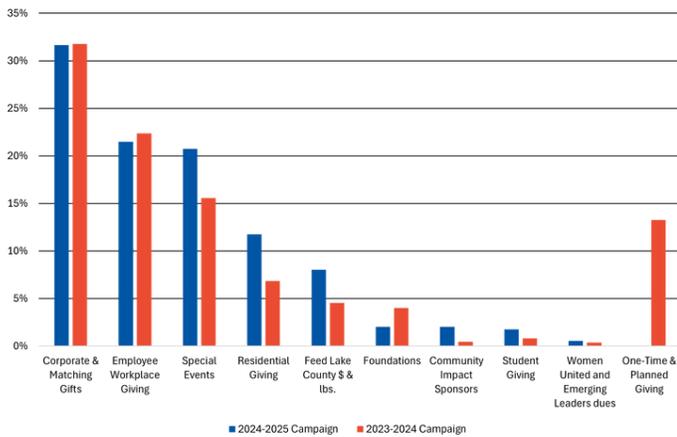


FINANCIALS

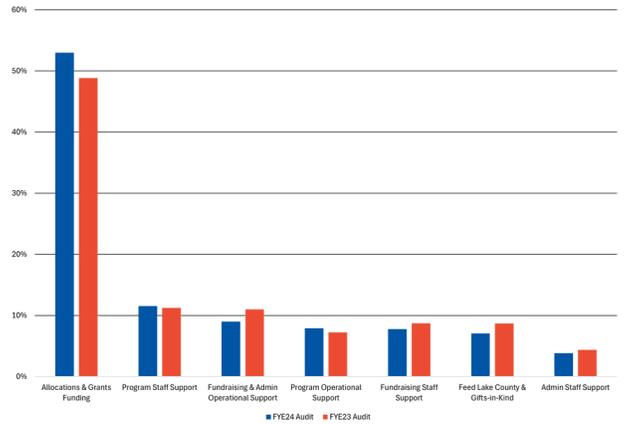
How were UWLC funds used in FYE24?



Where do UWLC dollars come from? Two-Year Comparison



How are UWLC dollars spent? Two-Year Comparison



At United Way of Lake County, we hold ourselves to the highest standards of accountability and transparency. We're proud to have earned the highest possible rating and ranking from two of the nation's most trusted nonprofit evaluators—affirming our commitment to excellence and responsible stewardship.



Scan QR code to view our most recent, full Audited Financial Statements and Form 990



United Way
of Lake County



UNITED WAY OF LAKE COUNTY

Turning Small Gifts Into Big Impact.

9285 Progress Pkwy., Mentor, OH 44060

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