# UNITING TO INSPIRE CHANGE AND BUILD THRIVING COMMUNITIES IVE UNITED

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United Way of the Lakeshore



2017 Annual Report





Every financial gift made to United Way of the Lakeshore in 2017 was put to work right here in Muskegon, Newaygo, and Oceana Counties. **All funds raised supported 57 programs** that were reviewed by local volunteers to ensure each met quality standards for programming, governance, finance, and capacity.

By **LIVING UNITED**, each individual donor was able to give a one-time gift with confidence that the contribution would make a direct impact on many lives in our local community.



Long-lasting change does not happen simply through the funding of services. Thank you to our United Way volunteers for engaging local, state, and federal lawmakers in securing needed supports for people across our Lakeshore communities.

Advocacy efforts helped to ensure \$900,000 in statewide 2-1-1 funding. State lawmakers also boosted eligibility for childcare vouchers for working families. Congress reauthorized the Earned Income Tax Credit and continued funding for Afterschool and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) programs that help our ALICE families.

Our volunteers sent postcards to Congress urging reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program – Congress extended CHIP for ten years! Local leaders authorized funding for senior programs, and recognized volunteer service.



United Way of the Lakeshore's Volunteer Center connects health and human service organizations with the time and talent of interested volunteers. Our online database, Get Connected, allows us to provide valuable human resources to nonprofit agencies and events.

Day of Caring sent 400 volunteers to 15 different sites to assist military families and veterans with home projects, clean up parks and museums dedicated to our veterans and armed services, and to put together kits of supplies for classrooms and energy saving materials for homeowners.

67 Retired Senior Volunteer Program members also had unique opportunities to serve with their peers. United After Work keeps our supporters LIVING UNITED after leaving the workplace by joining our efforts to help working families meet their basic needs.

#### Uniting to inspire change and build thriving communities. 10,000 more working families meet their basic needs by 2025 Education Income Health Building an educated People have long-term Healthy & safe workforce. self-sufficiency individuals & families. School Readiness Stable Employment Kids Have a Healthy Start + On Track Math & Reading • Established Savings Access to Care & Counseling Career Awareness + Housing Stability Safe & Caring Home & Community + On Time Graduation Manageable Expenses . Good Nutrition & Active Lifestyle Childcare, Transportation, Emergency Loan + Post High School Success

### ASSET LIMITED, INCOME CONSTRAINED, EMPLOYED

### ACCESS TO RESOURCES

- The 2-1-1 program answered **23,151 assistance needs**.
- CALL 2-1-1 served as the statewide pilot site for the new state integrated service delivery portal, bringing access to local resources to people's "fingertips".
- The Muskegon County Employers Resource Network, which has a success coach and emergency loan program on site at Muskegon County employers including CWC Textron, Eagle Alloy, Harbor Hospice, Port City Group, Wesco, GHSP, and others, provided assistance for 345 employees in need.

#### **DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS**

- We continue to use our **Agenda for Change** to inform the way we invest donor dollars to improve lives.
- A new partnership with Mission for Area People provided transportation assistance for working families based on individual needs.
- Affordable, available, quality child care is critical for ALICE families. A pilot program funded in 2017 through Arbor Circle's Great Start to Quality Western Resource Center gave out 58 mini-grants for childcare providers, to assist them in meeting licensure requirements or to provide improvements needed to stay in business.
- Workforce Stability Trainings are being offered in each county through the Michigan Team ERN.



40%+ of households in our community struggle to meet basic living expenses.

# BUILDING AN EDUCATED WORKFORCE

### **\$672,690 INVESTMENT**

United Way funded community programs and initiatives in 2017 that focus on long-term educational success.

### **83%** OF PRE-SCHOOLERS AND EARLY ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

demonstrated improved literacy through one on one reading and skill building sessions with Americorps volunteers.

### **2,600** CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OLD

are enrolled to receive free monthly home delivery of age appropriate books. The Dolly Parton Imagination Library continues to expand throughout our communities.

# **1,000** + YOUTH

benefit during the school year and summer from out-of-school time programs, where they are well-supervised in daily activities that include reading, science, technology & math (STEM) skills training, development, and leadership development.



in a teen parenting program were enrolled in an educational setting.

# **4,512** HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

were provided by youth in Muskegon, Newaygo and Oceana counties, providing learning and growth opportunities.

**EDUCATION** 

# 125 LOCAL TEENS

acquired employability skills for future career success while serving at area nonprofits, through a partnership with DTE and MI Works in our Summer Youth Employment Program.

### **10** NEW PICNIC TABLES

and 1 pavillion were built by Newaygo Day of Caring volunteers for a park that hosts summer educational/recreational activities.

### **60%** OF OCEANA HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS & SENIORS

participated in pre-college credit experiences.

# INSTILLING LONG-TERM SELF-SUFFICIENCY

\$385,080 INVESMENT

United Way supports and partners with programs that not only help in times of crisis, but also work to put families on a path to financial sustainability:

628 INDIVIDUALS

received help with money management through education and financial coaching.

# 17,552 FINANCIAL NEEDS

were met for families needing assistance with food, utilities, and other hardships.

## **154** women

and 144 children obtained safe shelter and assistance in accessing resources and becoming self-sufficient.

## 1,040 individuals

received preparedness education, increasing their resiliency.

## **78%** OF HIGH NEEDS RESIDENTS

have successfully resided in supportive housing for 12 or more months.

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47 HOUSEHOLDS

received Permanent Supportive Housing Case Management services, with none discharged back into homelessness.

# 2,537 ALICE TAX PAYERS

received income tax assistance resulting in well over \$3 million returned to our community.



received transportation assistance so they could get to work and medical appointments.

# ENSURING HEALTHY & SAFE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

\$345,244 **INVESTMENT** 

United Way supports programs that ensure healthy living for our lakeshore residents:

# **1,050** CHILDREN AND ADULTS

benefited from counseling, advocacy and assistance in their times of need.

### 17,715 ROUND-TRIP RIDES

for medical care were provided to 374 low income seniors.

**513** YOUTH learned the importance of healthy meals and snacks, and

### **15** AMERICORPS SERVICE MEMBERS

how to prepare them.

are working on neighborhood development and blight elimination in our urban core this year. The Urban Safety Corps launched through a partnership between the State of Michigan, Muskegon County Land Bank, and United Way of the Lakeshore.

### **100%** OF EXPECTANT MOMS

were strengthened through access to counseling, parenting education, and mediation services.

HEALTH

UNITED

### 150 BICYCLISTS

promoted healthy living by participating in our sixth annual RIDE UNITED bike event.

70 seniors

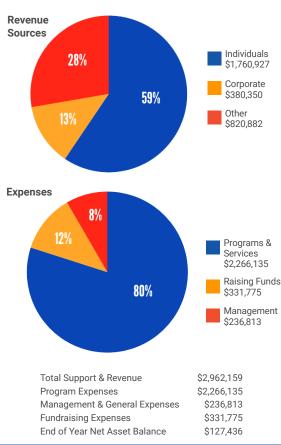
received homecare and companionship, enriching their lives. 90% reported feeling better healthwise, more independent, and more connected to the community.

### 86 FOSTER GRANDPARENT VOLUNTEERS

felt a sense of purpose and had a daily schedule, with 100% reporting a positive life impact from mentoring/tutoring students.

### **2017 CAMPAIGN** MORE THAN 7,000 DONORS RAISED \$2.3 MILLION

#### **FISCAL YEAR 2017**



Erin Kuhn, WMSRD

#### **2017 CAMPAIGN CABINET**

John Severson, Chair - MAISD Penny Albertie, Retired Red Cross Nancy Bierenga, Elan Realty Lakeshore Mary Beth Hegedus, Great Lakes Dental Christie Hill, Arconic DJ Hilson, Muskegon County Prosecuter's Office Jeanette Hoyer, Goodwill Industries of West MI Rich Houtteman, Consumers Energy

#### **2017 LOANED EXECUTIVES**

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\*\*\* Gold 60-100% Participation\*\* Silver 40-59% Participation\* Bronze 20-39% Participation

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### **NEWAYGO**

Gerber Federal Credit Union Fremont Insurance Company Bucher Hydraulics Spectrum Health Gerber Memorial Newaygo County White Agency Newaygo County Mental Health Newaygo Co. Regional Education Service Agency - NC RESA Gerber Foundation Fremont Area Comm. Foundation

### **OCEANA**

Gray & Company GHSP - Hart Barber Steel Foundry Corp. Shelby State Bank - Shelby Mercy Health Lakeshore Campus Shelby Public Schools Pentwater Public Schools Excel Propane - Hart Hart Public Library Shelby Area District Library

#### THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR WORKPLACE DONORS!

While United Way of the Lakeshore has made every attempt to ensure the accuracy of this list, some workplaces may have been inadvertently missed. Please visit www.unitedwaylakeshore.org/annual-report for the most up-to-date listing, and be sure to let us know if you were inaccurately omitted.

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### THANK YOU TO OUR ANONYMOUS DONORS!

While United Way of the Lakeshore has made every attempt to ensure the accuracy of this list, some names may have been inadvertently missed. Please be sure to let us know if you were inaccurately omitted.

Please visit unitedwaylakeshore.org/annual-report for the most up to date listing.

### **100 YEARS OF CARING** LIVE UNITED

January 27, 1918. It was three o'clock in the afternoon in West Michigan, but in far off France it was nine in the evening and guns were firing. As American soldiers were in the trenches fighting a European war, eight local leaders gathered at the Muskegon Chamber of Commerce to discuss needs closer to home. At the table were Executive Committee members W.E. Jeannot, F.C. Whitney, Archie McCrea, H.E. Langeland, W.H. Wilson, A.J. Dratz, F.W. Riblet and T. Lunsford; absent at that first meeting were members L.C. Walker and C. Young. Officers were elected, and motions were passed to hire office assistance and buy office supplies. Publicity and Membership committees were formed, then the meeting was adjourned.

The Muskegon War Chest was underway! This was the foundation from which the Community Chest would rise, creating a brighter future for our community, and paving the way for what we now know as United Way of the Lakeshore!



"We must build up a new civilizaton; a new idea in giving... the rating of a man must be based on what he is and does."

> Colonol F.C. Whitney President of the War Chest

"I support the know of 1g as any people asl mpsey Wilson

MUSKEGON COUNTY UNITED APPEAL

A Report INITED





GIVE TED WAY



or greek

4-19-51

In the News

1951

Local Aids Day Care Center

Milk Carton Advertisement





COMMUNITY CHEST





"United Way prioritizes the needs of the community and inspires the community to meet those needs through community service and giving. You get more 'bang for your buck' giving to United Way!"

United Way Raises \$1,247,524

-Josephine Anacker

United

We Stand!



January 2018. United Way of the Lakeshore begins a year long celebration of a century of uniting to inspire change and build thriving communities. From it's beginning, forged in a time of war, through a hundred years of evolving to meet the needs of a changing population, United Way of the Lakeshore has formed solid partnerships, engaged legions of donors and volunteers, and supported programs that support every person in our community. We believe that together, we can fight the challenges that come our way, and that, **United We Win**!

These pages are just a sample of the historical timeline we've put together to honor our past. To see the complete timeline, stop by our office at 31 East Clay Avenue, or visit unitedwaylakeshore.org/100years-history





United Way of the Lakeshore





Real Property

# FINISH

# WORK LEARN SERVE

RIDE June 16 RideMI.org GOLF August 18 unitedwaylakeshore.org/golf CARE September 7 GetConnected.org/doc

### LIVE UNITED 2018

### **THANK YOU SIGNATURE SPONSORS!**













MERCY HEALTH

Muskegon Community College



31 E. Clay Avenue, Muskegon, MI 49442 – Phone: 231-722-3134 – Toll Free: 877-722-3134 www.unitedwaylakeshore.org – Facebook: UnitedWayLakeshore – Twitter: @uwlakeshore