

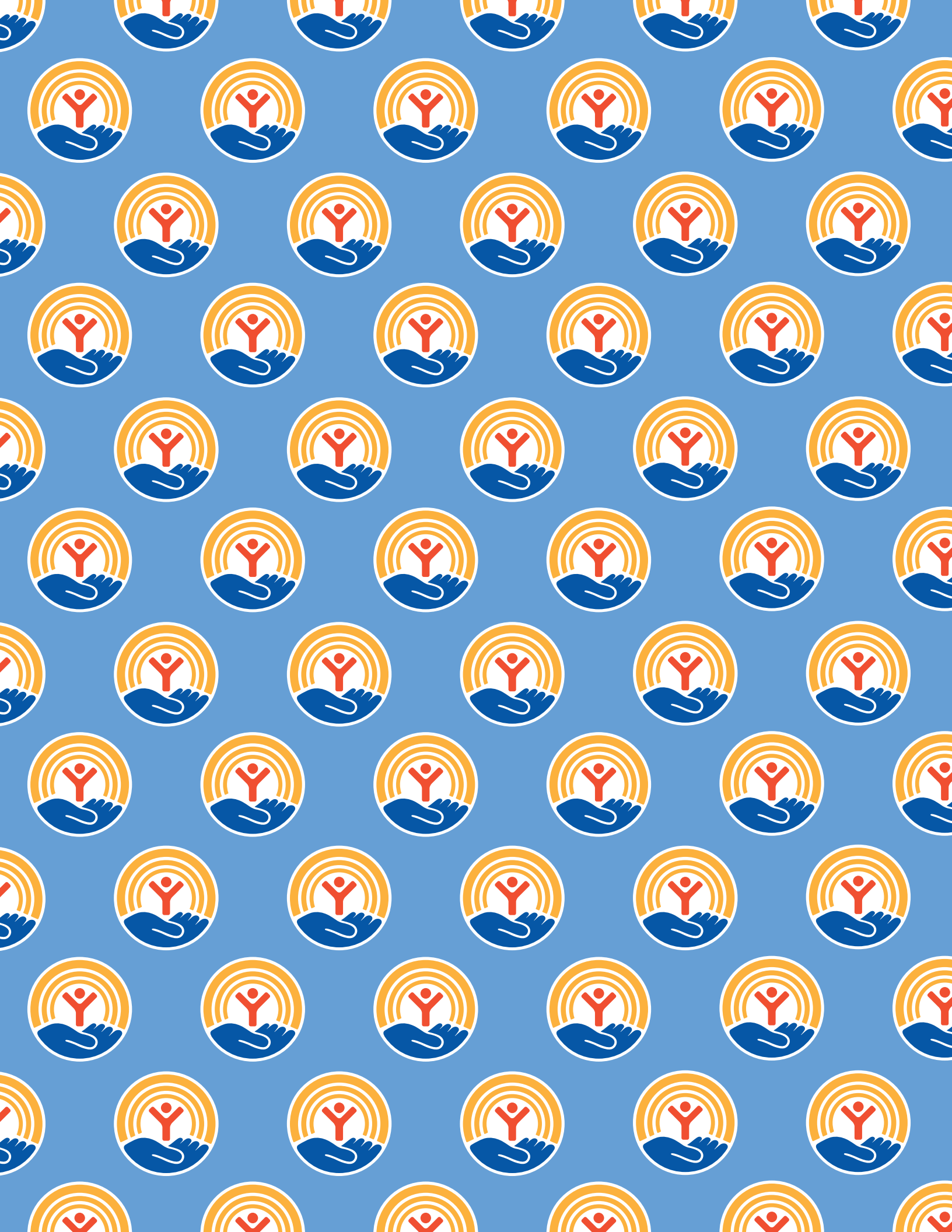
2022-2023

# Community Impact Report



United Way  
of Buffalo & Erie County





# LETTER FROM THE

## President

### Greetings and welcome to the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County 2022-2023 Community Impact Report.

Over the course of the last year, I've spent a lot of time moving about the community, meeting with supporters, business and nonprofit leaders and community members. Those conversations have helped shape my understanding of United Way's role in our Buffalo and Erie County community and a vision for the future. Time and time again, three themes have emerged.

#### **Action. Access. ALICE.**

These three words are what United Way is all about. Taking action to increase access for the 40% of our community living below the ALICE threshold, in financial hardship.

ALICE families are working, but are still struggling to meet basic expenses like food, housing, childcare and transportation. But because they live above the Federal Poverty Level, the needs of ALICE are often invisible. **That's why United Way has to be more visible.**

We cannot afford to be still or silent. We must use our voices, our resources, our time and talents to meaningfully fix the disparities that exist in our communities across Erie County.

There is no understating it – this is a big task. It will take time. And none of us can do it alone.

The report that awaits you shows the seeds of what we can do together. It is with great pride that we showcase the work of our incredibly talented team and devoted supporters over the past year. But this is only the beginning.

It's time to change the trajectory – to create the kinds of programs, systems, policies and practices that uplift all of us and leave no one behind. To make our community a place where everyone can access a quality education, build economic mobility and live a healthy life. There is a role for each of us in this work. All that remains is for you to **Find Your Way.**

Together we can do this,



Trina Burruss  
President and CEO



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# COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



## UNITED IN THE FACE OF CRISIS

For many of the 40% of families in our community living in financial hardship, the December 2022 Blizzard had big consequences. Those who could least afford it faced lost wages, damage to their homes and property, or worse. United Way took action to help.

## COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND

In the wake of widespread community needs revealed by the blizzard, United Way of Buffalo & Erie County established the Community Resilience Fund as an ongoing vehicle for strengthening our community in the face of emerging needs and disruptive events.

## BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM SUPPORT

In the initial phase, United Way worked with local partners to gather information and identify urgent needs from the hardest hit areas of the community. These findings led to a three-pronged approach:

### Flexible Resource Recovery

- A total of \$125,000 was distributed through nonprofit partners to families in the hardest-hit areas, with 247 families receiving direct support ranging from \$250-\$1,000 for needs such as food, utilities, housing, household goods and transportation.

### Increasing Nonprofit Resiliency

- A one-year pilot of Work/Life Solutions has been provided to five direct-service nonprofits, increasing their capacity to continue to support families in need. Organizations will receive support from United Way in planning for sustainability of the program at the pilot's end.

### System Coordinated Playbook

- United Way will build a network of coordinated nonprofit responders across Erie County and design a process of mobilizing recovery resources through the 211WNY referral system, creating a more efficient and effective response during times of crisis.

In the event of future emergencies, the Community Resilience Fund will reactivate to receive donations and provide both immediate and long-term support through the nonprofit response network.

Right: National Grid was awarded the Building New Solutions to Old Problems award at the 2023 Community Champions Awards for their support of the Community Resilience Fund.



## LOCAL FOUNDATIONS, CORPORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS STEPPED UP TO SUPPORT THE FUND, INCLUDING:

- National Grid Foundation
- Buffalo Bills Foundation
- Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation
- Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo
- Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of WNY
- James H. Cummings Foundation
- John R. Oishei Foundation
- Western New York Foundation



# WORK/LIFE SOLUTIONS EXPANDS TO

## Nonprofits

Every day, in times of crisis and beyond, thousands of people in our community rely on nonprofit organizations – and those organizations rely on a strong, capable, caring workforce. Employees at nonprofit organizations have faced immense challenges, particularly since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Responding to multiple crises since 2020 has taken a toll on employees' mental health, resulting in significant workforce burnout. United Way knows that strengthening the nonprofit sector strengthens our entire community, leading us to pilot a new use of an existing United Way workplace initiative, to support nonprofit workers.

Thanks to the Community Resilience Fund, one year of United Way's Work/Life Solutions has been made available to employees at five local nonprofits. Through the program, workers reduce stress, improve their financial well-being and overcome obstacles that might otherwise pull them away from work, through an innovative set of solutions:

- A Resource Coordinator works with employees and their families to identify their unique needs, prioritize and create action plans to overcome obstacles and connect them with services.
- Financial education classes help employees and their families navigate the traditional financial services industry and boost their financial planning skills.
- A Loan & Savings Program, repaid through payroll deduction, helps employees overcome unexpected financial obstacles and stay on track.

The first cohort of participating nonprofit organizations include Buffalo Prenatal-Perinatal Network, Buffalo Urban League, Resource Council of WNY, Say Yes Buffalo and VOICE Buffalo. They join a growing group of employer partners benefiting from the stabilizing influence of the Work/Life Solutions program on their workforce.



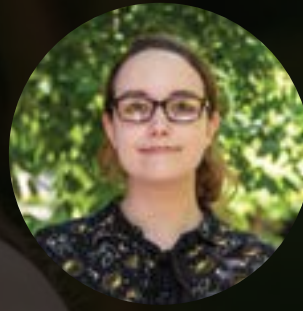
Evans Bank was awarded the Forging Unlikely Partnerships award at the 2023 Community Champions Awards for their support of Work/Life Solutions.



Scan the QR code to learn more about Work/Life Solutions.

# SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT:

## Meet Brynn



### ALICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

United Way of Buffalo & Erie County's ALICE Advisory Council works to positively impact the lives of Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained and Employed (ALICE) households by improving their financial stability. To do this, United Way works together with ALICE community members to find out their greatest needs and their ideas for ways to make life easier. United Way created the ALICE Advisory Council so that ALICE members can help direct the work of United Way going forward.

40% of families in Erie County are currently living in financial hardship. Of that group, 26% of households fall into this ALICE category – people who are working, whose incomes are above the federal poverty level, but who earn too little to cover their and their families' basic needs. However, they also earn too much to qualify for most assistance programs.

ALICE households make tough choices, such as deciding between quality child care or paying the rent. Even a small hiccup or surprise expense can be a huge setback to their family's financial security. Understanding the experiences of ALICE families is an important part of building effective community programs.

ALICE Advisory Council members meet every other month for about an hour to discuss community issues and share their perspectives on how these issues are affecting them and people they know. Each meeting focuses on a different topic, and the council acts as a representative voice for not only themselves, but for the people they interact with in the community. They discuss different United Way programs that are either already in place or being planned and provide feedback to shape the program.

One of those members is Brynn Brewington, a social work student, recent graduate from Buffalo State University and AmeriCorps member who is passionate about making a difference in her community. Brynn finds immense value in hearing from diverse voices in the community and appreciates the opportunity to contribute to the decision-making process. She considers her involvement with the ALICE Advisory Council an integral part of her education.

"As a social work student, going through my undergrad career and then being able to experience the ALICE Advisory Council and seeing everything else that United Way does, I feel like it's really helped complete my education. I had the component in the classroom, and now I'm really getting the community component – the person-centered component. It's incredible, bringing members of the community together. We're from all over the community, I've noticed. None of them are necessarily my neighbors, but we come together as a community and as neighbors to help solve all these problems that we're all seeing in different ways."

Through the ALICE Advisory Council, United Way listens to and raises up the voices of people in our community with lived experience who benefit from our work. Together, we are building a community where everyone can access a quality education, build economic mobility and live a healthy life.



Scan the QR code to learn more about Brynn.

## WHO IS ALICE?

### ASSET-LIMITED

Households may not own a home, car or may lack savings.

### INCOME-CONSTRAINED

Household income falls below the ALICE Survival Threshold, meaning they cannot make ends meet.

### EMPLOYED

Households are working or have worked.

**40%**  
**OF ERIE COUNTY  
HOUSEHOLDS LIVE BELOW  
THE ALICE SURVIVAL BUDGET  
– IN FINANCIAL HARDSHIP.**



# OUR

# Impact

## PROGRAM INVESTMENTS HIGHLIGHTS

Together with our coalition partners, United Way identifies community needs, develops solutions and applies resources towards closing gaps and opening opportunities for families in financial hardship.

Community investments in local, effective, results-oriented programs complement United Way's direct programmatic work and help create an ecosystem of health, education and financial stability supports at every stage of life.

Here are just a few examples of what we accomplished together last year through United Way funded programs across Erie County:

### MATERNAL HEALTH

248 mothers initiated first trimester prenatal care

### EARLY CHILDHOOD

16,168 children were enrolled in early learning and development programming

### CHILDHOOD OBESITY

2,631 individuals were physically active

### SCHOOL-AGE LEARNING

2,918 students demonstrated improvement in academic performance

### EMPLOYMENT & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

13,305 individuals completed job readiness training

### FINANCIAL CAPABILITY & ASSET BUILDING

1,112 individuals established a bank or credit union account

**\$2.5 MILLION+**

IN NYS FUNDING WAS SECURED IN SUPPORT OF 211 INFORMATION & REFERRAL CALL CENTERS STATEWIDE, THROUGH COLLECTIVE LOCAL UW ADVOCACY.

**\$1.5 MILLION+**

IN EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER FUNDS WERE DEPLOYED IN ERIE COUNTY THROUGH UNITED WAY.

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

WERE ADDED TO FULL SERVICE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS TO SUPPORT STUDENT WELL-BEING.

**4,015**

INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES RECEIVED FREE TAX PREPARATION THROUGH THE VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

**786**

GIRLS BUILT THEIR CONFIDENCE THROUGH WNY GIRLS IN SPORTS.

# THE COALITION

## Continuum

For United Way of Buffalo & Erie County, taking action and creating access to improve the health, education and financial well-being of ALICE families begins with our coalitions. These groups of community leaders and subject matter experts come together under United Way's leadership to share data and best practices, pilot programs and initiatives and influence systems change.

While United Way has convened active coalitions for many years, the shift to a life-stage continuum recognizes something we've always known – that health, education and financial stability are interdependent. This new holistic model opens up opportunities for greater cross-sector collaboration and strategic alignment.

### STARTING LINE: HEALTHY BIRTHS

#### Infant and Maternal (prenatal-age 1)

Working towards an Erie County where all children have a healthy start and are equally prepared to grow, thrive, be healthy and give back to their community.

#### Coalition in Action

- Reduce premature birth
- Support breastfeeding
- Reduce trauma and toxic stress for new parents



HEALTH

### STARTING LINE: THRIVE BY FIVE

#### Early Childhood (age 1-5)

Building equitable and sustainable early systems of care and empowering families and caregivers to create healthy and nurturing environments inside and outside the home so that children are prepared to learn, grow and meet their individual potential in their first 5 years of life.

#### Coalition in Action

- Amplify parent voices
- Create equitable access to early learning and development programs
- Strengthen childcare workforce



FINANCIAL STABILITY

## STARTING LINE: COLLEGE AND CAREER READY

### School-Age Support (age 4-18)

Developing educational practices and supports to overcome disparities in well-being of students, particularly students of color, and increase college and career readiness for all youth.

#### Coalition in Action

- Promote culturally responsive education
- Support the social-emotional and mental health of students
- Provide academic intervention to keep kids on track



EDUCATION



## CREATING ASSETS, SAVINGS AND HOPE

### Helping Families Thrive (age 18+)

Identifying barriers to financial advancement and improving the economic mobility of families through tax credit awareness, workforce support, financial education and asset-building programs.

#### Coalition in Action

- Help families keep more of what they earn
- Strengthen our workforce
- Build generational wealth

# SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT:

Meet Broderick

**BRODERICK CASON, MANAGER OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR UNIVERA HEALTHCARE AND UNITED WAY C.A.S.H. COALITION MEMBER**



"Just by virtue of its name, (United Way) unites people together. They bring us all together for a like-minded opportunity to do some brainstorming, share some ideas, all with the idea that we're going to make the community better. I don't think you could do that if you were doing that in a vacuum.

If you did that alone, you'd get worn down, real fast. Other people help to lift you up. You see them trying hard, and you see them doing better. You try harder. You do better. And together, we are better.

United Way has kept me engaged because I see that there is real action, real improvement that you can see happening in the community because of those efforts."



Scan the QR code to learn more about Broderick.



## UNITED WAY OF BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY AWARDED \$1 MILLION NYS BREASTFEEDING, CHESTFEEDING AND LACTATION FRIENDLY GRANT

Early in 2023, United Way of Buffalo & Erie County was awarded a New York State Department of Health Breastfeeding, Chestfeeding and Lactation Friendly Grant. This five-year grant, which began July 1, 2023 and continues through June 30, 2028, will provide a total of \$987,510 to establish a Breastfeeding Friendly care continuum through a coordinated community network in Erie County.

This initiative will build and expand partnerships and advance broad-based policy, system and environmental changes that proactively promote, support and protect human milk feeding within community settings, businesses, and healthcare providers. Through a comprehensive approach that works collaboratively with stakeholders, this initiative aims to ensure that human milk feeding is supported and accessible to all individuals, regardless of their socioeconomic status, or racial or ethnic background.

"When more of the systems and spaces in which we work, live, gather, worship and play are Breastfeeding Friendly, more new parents will see breastfeeding as a viable option for them, because they will be surrounded with the supports they need to succeed," says Mary K. Comtois, Director of Health Initiatives for United Way of Buffalo & Erie County. "And increasing the number of babies who receive human milk pays off in a big way when it comes to increasing our community's overall health and well-being. Babies are protected from diseases such as ear infections, lower respiratory infections and diarrhea and have a decreased risk for asthma, diabetes and obesity later in life. People who breastfeed also benefit from lowered risk for breast and ovarian cancer, hypertension and cardiovascular disease."

This grant represents a continuation of United Way's work since 2014, when they worked with the NYS Department of Health to

create the first Breastfeeding Friendly Continuum in New York State, the results of which were included in research published in the Journal of Human Lactation and receiving recognition of our efforts in the national Continuity of Care in Breastfeeding Support: A Blueprint for Communities. This grant provides an exceptional opportunity for United Way of Buffalo to make a significant impact on the health and well-being of families within the community.



Lucy Coady,  
Breastfeeding  
Project  
Coordinator  
for United  
Way of  
Buffalo &  
Erie County



Mary K.  
Comtois,  
Director  
of Health  
Initiatives for  
United Way of  
Buffalo & Erie  
County

## \$3.6 MILLION+ IN GRANT FUNDING

### FEDERAL

- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
- Full Service Community Schools
- Emergency Food & Shelter Program

### STATE & LOCAL

- 211WNY
- Erie County United Way Works
- New York State Department of Health - Breastfeeding, Chestfeeding and Lactation Friendly New York

2022

# Campaign

THE UNITED WAY ANNUAL

## CAMPAIGN

RAISED

**\$9.1 MILLION+**

FROM

**24,000**

DONORS.

**\$2.4 MILLION+**

IN RESPONSE FUNDS WERE RAISED AFTER 5/14 AND THE DECEMBER 2022 BLIZZARD.

**\$1.9 MILLION+**

WAS CONTRIBUTED BY

**87**

TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY MEMBERS.

## MILLION DOLLAR CAMPAIGN

*Wegmans*

# SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT:

## Meet Vince

VINCE SALADINO, PRODUCT MANAGER FOR M&T BANK AND UNITED WAY DONOR



What does United Way's success look like to Vince? "You're looking at a community that's super engaged and connected. People feel like they have the right resources. Should they fall on some hardships, they're able to get out of it. You have people who are really interested in helping those people, and they're able to be connected. There would be such a clear way for people who want to give and can give to connect with those who are in need. It's a goal that we aspire to and strive for because it's so important to get better and closer to that goal. So for me, as a donor, wanting to make sure that my dollars are making an impact, wanting to make sure that it's the areas I want to be impactful in, that's why I give to United Way."



Scan the QR code to donate today!

# DAY OF CARING

## Returns

After a three-year hiatus, United Way of Buffalo & Erie County's signature volunteer initiative, Day of Caring, returned last June, bringing together individuals, businesses and organizations from across the community to make a lasting impact through service. Nearly 2,000 volunteers logged a total of over 8,000 hours of volunteering at more than 75 nonprofits during this single-day event. The value of the impact of that time for the nonprofit organizations served can be calculated at over \$250,000.

Day of Caring participants provided a wide range of volunteer support, such as renovating community centers, revitalizing public spaces, providing professional assistance to local nonprofits and more. One thing all the host organizations had in common is that they each play a frontline role in supporting the same health, education and financial stability impact goals as United Way.

Among the many volunteer teams participating in the day were groups from Wegmans, Delaware North and HSBC Bank, all of whom are longtime presenting sponsors of the event. For them, Day of Caring provides a valuable opportunity to bring their employees together for memorable team building and to live out their corporate values.

Featured as part of this year's event was the packing of 5,000 Emergency Care Kits filled with essential emergency preparedness items for distribution to Erie County residents in vulnerable neighborhoods. Their creation is part of an ongoing partnership between UWBECC and Erie County to increase emergency preparedness and community resilience in the wake of the December 2022 Blizzard. United Way and Erie County then partnered with 211WNY and Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries to make kits available to community members in need.



# COMMUNITY

## Engagement



### YOU BELONG BOOK PROJECT

We recognize that access to a wide variety of culturally inclusive children's books plays a crucial role in fostering understanding, empathy and respect among children. A quality education begins with reading. This is why, in February, we launched the You Belong Book Project.

The You Belong Book Project has two primary objectives. First, it aims to celebrate and promote a deeper understanding of cultural heritage and identity through books. Each month, we select a specific theme to celebrate a range of cultural and individual identities, such as Black History, Women's History, Disability Pride Month and Mental Health Awareness, among others. Local community members visit our offices weekly to read a children's book that holds personal significance to them and aligns with the theme of that month. These readings are recorded and made available online for families to access. This initiative has created a diverse and extensive library of

readings, serving to help children see themselves represented in books and exposing them to various cultures and ideas they might not encounter otherwise.

The second objective of the You Belong Book Project is to promote literacy among children and their families. When children are proficient readers, they can imagine more vividly, build a stronger vocabulary and engage in critical thinking. Providing this diverse and rich library of stories not only benefits children, but also serves as a valuable resource for parents, enabling them to offer engaging reading materials to their children when they are unable to read to them.

In addition to the online story library, United Way of Buffalo & Erie County has partnered with local organizations to organize book drives. These drives collect books that are then distributed to low-income families through local direct service organizations.

66,000+

PEOPLE VIEWED THE PREMIERE YOU BELONG BOOK PROJECT VIDEO.

5,000

EMERGENCY CARE KITS WERE PACKED FOR RESIDENTS IN HARDEST-HIT AREAS.

NEARLY

2,000

VOLUNTEERS LOGGED

8,000+

HOURS DURING DAY OF CARING 2023

1,628

INDIVIDUALS REGISTERED FOR VOLUNTEERING THROUGH VOLUNTEERWNY.

1,462

PEOPLE VOLUNTEERED THROUGH BUSINESS MEETS COMMUNITY AND SERVICE-TO-GO.

1,300

BABY BUNDLES WERE CREATED THROUGH THE COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER.

# TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY:

## 2023 Philanthropist of the Year

### JOHN N. WALSH III

John N. Walsh III, known to many as Jack, first became involved with United Way of Buffalo & Erie County nearly 40 years ago. In that time, he has held numerous volunteer roles, including serving as a United Way Board Member, chairing the Search Committee that selected Bob Bennett as United Way President and continuing to serve as a member of the United Way Advisory Council, participating as an investment volunteer, and leading numerous fundraising efforts, including two terms as chair of the United Way Tocqueville campaign.

Jack credits his family and upbringing for his strong sense of community. He recalls the hard work and sacrifice of his grandparents and parents to ensure their children all received a high quality education, while also instilling a philosophy of “the other guy first.” Within the family’s business, Walsh Duffield Companies, his father and uncle always operated under the premise that the organization has a responsibility to give back – not as a business tactic, but as an obligation of citizenship, a philosophy that continues to this day. He recalls his mother, a woman of great kindness and courage, as the connector and anchor of their extended family. And later, his wife, who he admired from the moment they first met, would become “a north star” for their family’s values.

Jack’s commitment to and influence on the Western New York community extends well beyond United Way. His impressive resume includes chairing a dozen nonprofit boards, numerous area annual giving or capital campaigns and having led or served on ten executive leader search committees. Jack is especially proud of his two decades of work on the Martin House capital campaign, which culminated in the successful restoration of this historic Frank Lloyd Wright site. He also finds great fulfillment as a volunteer with Read to Succeed, where he tutors and mentors first grade students in local classrooms.

For Jack, being recognized as the United Way Tocqueville Society Philanthropist of the Year is a surprising honor. “My life has been made easier by people whose shoulders I stood on, some really good people who were mentors. Wonderful volunteers and fabulous staff. All these people who toil in the trenches and don’t get the limelight.” Jack is grateful to the countless business executives, public officials and nonprofit leaders who have inspired, instructed and contributed to the success of his

legacy of community service over the years.

His hope is that this recognition will be used to call attention to the importance of encouraging all people, in their own way and within their own means, to get involved to help solve community problems:

“These are serious days ... (and) you ought to ask yourself this question: is this society going to work if only those of us that can afford it are happy? And in my view it isn’t.

We have a society that’s increasingly divided – economically as well as emotionally, and even philosophically, perhaps. But it isn’t automatic that you can easily survive in this world if you’re not a star. If you’re struggling to make your mortgage payment. If you’re struggling to keep your job. If you’re struggling to learn where your kids are going to get a quality education. If you’re worried about your healthcare program. If there isn’t equity in your access to healthcare. And one of the biggest referees in keeping a level playing field is United Way and the agencies that are part of United Way.”

As Chairman of Walsh Duffield, Jack Walsh represents the fifth generation of leadership for the organization. A graduate of Nichols School, Yale University and Harvard Law School, Jack worked for Citibank in New York City and for Aetna Life and Casualty Company in Hartford before returning to Buffalo, NY in 1973 to join his father and uncle in the family business. A Western New York native, Jack currently resides in Buffalo. He and his beloved late wife Connie are proud parents of two adult children – a son, Blake, who also works at Walsh Duffield, and a daughter, Kyle, who is a nurse practitioner in the San Francisco area.





## \$100,000+

William and Patricia Frederick  
Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy M. Jacobs Sr.  
The Marks Family Foundation  
The Margaret L. Wendt Foundation

## \$50,000-\$99,999

James H. Cummings Foundation  
The Nobel Family Charitable Foundation  
*1 member wishes to remain anonymous*

## \$25,000-\$49,999

Charles Balbach, Melissa Balbach,  
Teo Balbach  
Stanford and Judith Lipsey Foundation  
Donald MacDavid  
Mary Kennedy Martin  
Mr. and Mrs. William Regen Jr.  
Sebastian, Awner, Houlding, Spagnolo,  
Group at Merrill Lynch  
Mr. Chris Sebastian  
Mrs. Maxine and Dr. Steven Awner  
Mr. Austin Houlding and  
Ms. Michelle Daubert  
Mr. Graziano and Mrs. Juliana Spagnolo

## \$15,000-\$24,999

Joan and David Bruce  
EJ and Karen Butler  
Josephine Goodyear Foundation  
Peter Grogan and Christye Peterson  
David T. Hore  
Peter and Mary Jo Hunt  
Alice and Jeremy Jacobs Jr.  
Lawley Family Gift  
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Ann Sessions  
Robert and Chesterine Stevenson  
Robert P. Thill and Elizabeth A. Moll  
Charitable Gift Fund  
Eileen & Rupert Warren Charitable Fund  
Margaret and Bob Zak  
*3 members wishes to remain anonymous*

## \$10,000-\$14,999

Barbara and Brian Baird  
Daryl and Shelley Bible  
James E. Biddle Jr.  
Cedric and Trina Burruss  
Daniel Cole  
Paul R. Comeau and Victoria D'Angelo  
Shawn and Amy Connolly  
Paulette M. Cooke and Michael Toner  
Frank and Robin Curci  
Mary Anne and Ray Dannenhoffer  
Sara M. Dayton  
Bradley Derrick  
Robert and Elizabeth Evans

Drs. Eli Farhi and Emily S. Friedan  
Nancy and Richard Ferranti  
Robert J. and Martha B. Fierle Foundation  
Bodil and George Gellman  
Dr. and Mrs. Kevin Gibbons  
Brian and Denise Hansberry  
Mr. and Mrs. James Houser  
John J. and Maureen O. Hurley  
Louis and Joan Jacobs  
William and Anne Joyce  
Dr. Kenneth R. and Linda A. Kahn  
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Ted and Ginna Walsh  
John N. Walsh III  
Dr. Gil I. Wolfe  
Howard and Leslie Zemsky  
*1 member wishes to remain anonymous*

# ENDOWMENT

## MILLION DOLLAR ROUNDTABLE

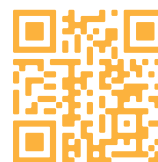
Peggy Pierce Elfvin  
Patricia H. and Richard E. Garman  
Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation

## TOCQUEVILLE LEGACY CIRCLE

Michael T. Cervi  
Paulette M. Crooke and Michael Toner  
Andrew and Teresa Dorn  
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David T. Hore  
Brian and Deborah Lipke  
Luis and Jessica Rodriguez  
Ted and Ginna Walsh  
Gina and Michael Weiner  
Ralph and Mary Wilson  
Margaret and Bob Zak

## CENTURY CIRCLE

Buffalo Bills Foundation  
Buffalo Sabres Foundation  
EJ and Karen Butler  
Shawn and Amy Connolly  
Mary Ellen Eagan  
Eastman Machine Company  
and Stevenson Family  
First Niagara Foundation  
Hunt Charitable Foundation  
John J. and Maureen O. Hurley  
Independent Health  
Lawley Family Gift  
M&T Bank  
Mader Construction Company, Inc.  
Margaret M. Martin  
Barbara Mierzwa  
Sanford and Margery Nobel  
PCB Piezotronics, Inc.  
Pegula Sports and Entertainment  
Wegmans



Scan the QR code  
to learn about  
Tocqueville Society.

# BOARD OF



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Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

Angela Blue  
NYS AFL-CIO/WNY Area Labor Federation, AFL-CIO

Kendra Brim  
Tesla

Alexander Burgos  
Draghi Burgos Construction

Paul Coleman  
KeyBank

Diane Colgan  
Tops Markets, LLC

Rev. Julian Armand Cook  
Houghton College Buffalo: East Side/Macedonia Baptist Church

James Dunlop  
Independent Health

Jamie Ferullo  
Ingram Micro

Denise Gueli  
Bonadio & Co., LLP

Cassie Irish  
Thermo Fisher Scientific

Patty Kaminski  
Wegmans Food Market

Patrick T. McGuire  
RBC Wealth Management

Stephanie McLean Beathley  
NYS Public Employee Federation, AFL-CIO

Dea Palmer  
Delaware North

Jeannie Parent  
Launch Leadership

Kathleen Rizzo Young  
Evans Bank

Hugh Russ, III  
Hodgson Russ, LLP

Melinda Seibold  
GEICO

Rupa Shanmugam  
SoPark Corporation

Jason Sinnarajah  
Buffalo Bills

Thomasina R. Stenhouse  
Community Volunteer

Anna Stolzenburg  
Pegula Sports & Entertainment

Demario Strickland  
Rochester City School District

Dr. Stephen Turkovich  
Oishei Children's Hospital

Brigitte Womer  
United Steelworkers District 4

*Board Members as of March  
31, 2023.*

# ADVISORY COUNCIL

Steve Bell  
Steve Bell Communications LLC

Kathy Best  
Lawley Insurance

Roger Cominsky  
Barclay Damon

Dr. Katherine Conway-Turner  
Buffalo State College

Paulette Crooke  
Community Volunteer

Dennis Elsenbeck  
Viridi Parente

Steve Finch  
Viridi Parente

David T. Hore  
PCB Piezotronics, Inc. and MTS Sensors

Susan O'Sullivan  
Ingram Micro

Luis Rodriguez  
Rodriguez Construction Group

Peter Hunt  
Hunt Real Estate

Maureen Hurley  
Community Volunteer

Rich McCarthy  
M&T Bank

Robert Mootry  
CSEA Region 6

Eileen Morgan  
Community Volunteer

The Honorable E. Jeannette Ogden  
Community Volunteer

Jim Tilley  
Community Volunteer

John Walsh III  
Walsh Duffield Companies Inc.

Dr. A. Scott Weber  
University at Buffalo

Robert Zak  
Community Volunteer

*Advisory Council Members as  
of March 31, 2023.*

# FINANCIAL Report

## BALANCE SHEET

MARCH 31, 2023

Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$2,523,273
Investments	2,717,458
Endowment investments	16,511,687
Annual campaign pledges receivable, net	4,794,374
Other assets	1,065,113
Property and equipment, net	1,825,369
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$29,437,274</b>
Liabilities and net assets	
Liabilities	
Designations payable	\$2,284,561
Allocations payable	931,006
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	913,143
Other liabilities	2,243,244
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>6,371,954</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>23,065,320</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$29,437,274</b>

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

Operating activity	
Revenue, gains and other support	
Campaign results	
Current year campaign results	9,107,719
Endowment and other campaigns	2,432,576
<b>Total campaign</b>	<b>11,540,295</b>
Less: donor designations	(2,342,946)
Less: estimated uncollectible pledges	(300,000)
<b>Net campaign results</b>	<b>8,897,349</b>
Other revenue	
Grant and other revenue	3,663,516
Investment income (loss)	(713,599)
<b>Total other revenue</b>	<b>2,949,917</b>
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>11,847,266</b>
Expenses	
Community investments	
Gross funds awarded to agencies	10,006,831
Other programs and program support services	2,240,934
<b>Total program services including designations</b>	<b>12,247,765</b>
Donor designations	(2,342,946)
<b>Total program services, net</b>	<b>9,904,819</b>
Supporting services	
Management and general	1,424,597
Fundraising	1,469,078
<b>Total supporting services</b>	<b>2,893,675</b>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>12,798,494</b>
<b>Decrease in net assets from operations</b>	<b>(951,228)</b>
<b>Pension plan SFAS 158 adjustment to net assets</b>	<b>(103,392)</b>
<b>Net assets—beginning</b>	<b>24,119,940</b>
<b>Net assets—ending</b>	<b>\$23,065,320</b>

# CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS



Top: Wegmans was awarded the Inspiring Our Community to Live United award at the 2023 Community Champions Awards for their outstanding support of the 2022 campaign. Bottom: M&T Bank was awarded the Mobilizing Resources award at the 2023 Community Champions Awards for their outstanding support.

# SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT:

## Meet Tina

### DR. THOMASINA STENHOUSE, RETIRED MOOG EXECUTIVE AND UNITED WAY VOLUNTEER



"The need is so great in Buffalo. We're one of the poorest cities in the United States. But we're still thriving and we're addressing those needs, and we're addressing them through United Way, largely."

Tina's journey within United Way has been characterized by diverse roles and responsibilities.

From scoring grant applications to serving as a Day of Caring lead for over 10 years, she has continuously found opportunities to contribute and create meaningful change. Her involvement extended to joining the organization's Board of Directors, becoming part of the Women United Advisory Board and assuming the role of HR Committee Chair. And in 2020 and 2021, Tina proudly served as a United Way campaign co-chair, championing United Way's cause during one of the most daunting times in our community's recent history. Tina's dedication to United Way is evident in her claim of being an "adjunct member" of the staff, as she consistently shows up to support the organization's work.

"I'm retired now, so I spend a lot of time in volunteerism. And I have decided – I have chosen – to spend most of that time through United Way because when I think of United Way and what they do, they're already done the heavy lifting. They've done the research. They know the area. They know where the greatest need is. And they're working collaboratively, convening all the resources and working collaboratively to meet those needs. So I don't have to do that. And so I can volunteer my time and my resources to United Way and do that with the confidence of knowing it's going to where the greatest need is."

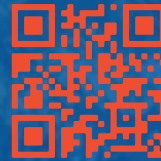
"I want to make the biggest impact on addressing our needs that I can as an individual. But I can't do it individually. I can't make the greatest impact individually. **But through United Way, through the multiplication of resources and the collaboration, I can make the greatest impact.**"

# FIND YOUR WAY

**\$10 MILLION IS MORE THAN JUST A GOAL. IT'S A CALL TO ACTION.**

When each of us does our part, together we close gaps and open opportunities for the 40% of Erie County living in financial hardship.

Join us to **Find Your Way**.



Scan the QR code to donate today!



**United Way of Buffalo & Erie County**

742 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14209

[uwbec.org](http://uwbec.org)

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