

# Campaign

# FLASH

## December 11, 2020

### United Way



## Newsletter

United Way  
of St. Clair County

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### ~ SEASON OF GIVING ~

The season of giving is upon us and **WE NEED YOU!** How can you give the gift of hope and stability? Have you given \$20.20 in 2020 to make a positive impact on the community? Are you able to increase your pledge this year? How about an end-of-year charitable gift for tax purposes? So far, we have raised enough funds to help 7,950 neighbors. Please help us reach our goal of serving 15,000 people this year!



15,000 People

It's COLD out...  
Let's raise this temp!

56.0%

Change Starts Here

\* Percentage illustrated is a recent snapshot of funds received.  
This amount increases daily.

### ~ CAMPAIGN CORNER ~

Let's see what some more of our phenomenal volunteers have been up to!

#### Commercial Retail Division:

Aubrey Balinski, TCF Bank; Butch Kuhn, St. Clair Chrysler Jeep Dodge RAM

Steve Fernandez, Country Style Market Place; Michelle Shepley, TCF Bank

Michele Hayre, Chef Shell's Restaurant & Catering; Valerie Skotcher, Lakeshore Motel

Renee Hinkley, TCF Bank; Debbie Stokan, Holiday Inn Express & Suites

Kristy Jones, Economic Development Alliance; Nicki Swinson, TCF Bank

Lewis Jones, Top Shelf Human Resources; Sharon Wilton, Fort Gratiot Charter Township

Michele Jones, Country Style Market Place; Michelle Wrubel, Chef Shell's Restaurant & Catering

The Commercial Retail Division volunteer group has grown exponentially this year! Thank you to all the newcomers and returning folks who are out there engaging businesses throughout the county! Perseverance is a resounding theme. UPS gifted our Community Campaign with a consistently strong start; thank you! During this time of economic uncertainty and social adaptation, when our retail, restaurant, and hospitality businesses are being hit hard, they are still giving what they can and finding ways to support the community. One example of their creative campaigning is Downtown Port Huron's **Small Business Giving Saturdays**. Six weeks of local shops sharing their income to help those less fortunate. We appreciate your support! It is encouraging to see businesses from the big box stores to local Mom & Pop shops dedicated, against all odds, to building a strong community for all residents! Thank you for your compassion and generosity!

#### Labor Division:

Richard Cummings, St. Clair County AFL-CIO CLC President

Workers in the Labor Division are exemplifying Live United to help their neighbors with basic needs. Among our many dedicated companies hosting employee giving campaigns and other FUNdraising activities to the best of their abilities, Kiewit Corporation, DTE Energy, and McLaren Health have been having Plant Gate Drives. This gives employees the opportunity to toss their spare change and dollars into a bucket as they drive through the gate into work. The Blue Water Building Trades has also organized community action opportunities, such as food trucks, for workers to volunteer their time for their neighbors. Thank you for lifting each other up over life's hurdles!



# ~ Sleigh bells ring, are you listening? ~

In the hustle and bustle of the end of year rush, don't forget to have a little fun! Take some time to unwind and find beauty in life.



amazon smile

Your Settings



United Way of St. Clair County  
Port Huron, MI  
[Change charity](#)

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Generating donations

ON ▾

Your AmazonSmile Impact

## Doing some holiday shopping?

Remember that AmazonSmile will donate a percentage of your spending to our Community Campaign. Get the most out of your giving by choosing UWSCC on [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and in the app.

## Give a gift that keeps on giving!

Order by December 18<sup>th</sup> to receive  
your packages for Christmas!



### An example of the wonders your generosity supports:

Presented by: Catholic Charities of Southeast MI, Mental Health Counseling ...

A middle-aged woman with two teenage children was recently divorced. Her oldest, a son, had been diagnosed with diabetes. To their dismay, it is not able to be regulated and has been causing seizures that require frequent stays in the hospital along with other medical appointments. The woman's frequent absences from work has created difficulty with her employment. In addition to this, her mother is terminally ill and lives in another state. Unable to sleep more than a few hours each night, not eating, and at her wits' end, the woman came into our office seeking help. She was depressed and overwhelmed.

Through therapy, the woman learned positive coping skills including deep breathing, meditation, and keeping a journal. She also learned assertive communication skills and was then able to speak with her son's doctors more effectively and advocate on his behalf. After working with our Human Resources representative, the woman's self-confidence flourished. This enabled her to advocate for herself and complete the process of qualifying for FMLA so her work absences could not be counted against her.

During her time with us, the woman also realized that she needed to take better care of herself if she was going to be able to care for her children, especially her son. She began saying "no" when she needed to. Her sleep and appetite improved along with her mood and energy level. While many of the issues in the woman's life are ongoing, her ability to manage them has greatly improved; giving her a sense of being in control of her life again and empowering her to provide the care that her son needs.



## ~ YOUTH UNITED ~



This Fall, a group of students from Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School. Came together in search of ways they could serve their community. Their first United Way activity was a pumpkin palooza day at the park with new friends from The Arc of St. Clair County. Together, they enjoyed decorating pumpkins, having cider and donuts, and having a pumpkin roll down the East China Township Park.

Donations were appreciated from Vandenbosch Farms, Neiman's Family Market, and Pankiewicz Cider Mill and Farm. It was a fantastic first event; well done!



United Way of St. Clair County's Mission is...

to mobilize the community of St. Clair County to raise funds and/or resources to meet identified human service needs with the highest level of accountability and community involvement.