

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

This is a great time to be involved with United Way. We currently have volunteer opportunities for our Community Investment Process; this is where the 'Why United Way' happens. United Way leads community transformation through effective, efficient, and integrated solutions that empower everyone to be self-sufficient. When you invest in our Community Impact Fund, we invest back into community programs that have proven, measurable outcomes that move people towards self-sufficiency. United Way along with local agencies, subject-matter experts, and community leaders have spent the last four years studying our community, gathering data, and facilitating conversation to determine where we are as a community and how we can move our population towards self-sufficiency. You can help determine the best investment for our community in the following Lines of Effort:

- Health (completed)
- Safety
- Essential Services
- Youth Education (completed)
- Adult Education & Job Skills Development (completed)

United Way of Decatur & Mid-Illinois is a local organization. When you invest in UWDMI, it stays here to help our community. You can be part of the solution by volunteering. For more information, call us at 217-422-8537.

We are the hand raisers. The game changers. Change doesn't happen alone. Together, we must Live United.

- Debbie Bogle
 Executive Director, United Way of Decatur & Mid-Illinois

COMMUNITY IMPACT SUCCESS STORY

Through the Decatur Salvation Army's Pathway for Hope Program, parents struggling in life get the training they need to move towards self-sufficiency. Here is a story about one client:

This Pathway for Hope client is a single mother with six children. She moved to Decatur to flee a domestic violence situation in another state. Her relationship got so violent at one point she had to be hospitalized. Fortunately, this client found her way to the Pathway for Hope program in 2017 and began working with Case Manager Andrea Lewin. Lewin helped the client set goals including housing, economic stability, employment, and ultimately self-sufficiency.

With help, the client found housing, and the Salvation Army assisted with her first month's rent and deposit as she next began to focus on her goals. The client hit a setback in February 2017 when she lost a child shortly after birth. Lewin referred her to Catholic Charities for counseling.

The client returned to Pathway for Hope programming after overcoming her grief. She had two of her children involved in other Salvation Army programs as she progressed on her own goals. With Lewin's help, the client was able to obtain housing, household items for her family, and she achieved some economic stability that her family really needed.

Unfortunately, this client passed away in January 2018 due to complications from a surgery. She was on track to graduate from the Pathway for Hope program in one month. Her oldest daughter has stepped up to take care of her siblings, and on February 8, 2018, the client's family accepted a graduation certificate in their mother's honor.

Lewin will continue to work with her client's family to ensure their needs are met.

SAVE THE DATES

UW Annual Meeting: May 3, 2018
 Ride United: June 3, 2018
 BO3K: July 21, 2108
 Run United: August 25, 2018

THANK YOU DUNN CO.

Big thanks to Dunn Co. for supplying the asphalt and resurfacing our parking lot!

MEET OUR STAFF



As a Resource Development Associate, I help with the fundraising aspect of United Way. I enjoy getting in front of businesses and individuals to share how even a small investment can impact our community. Tapping into established relationships is crucial, but I also love to meet new people. My other role at United Way is to assist with Marketing & Communications. I manage our United Way social media pages (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) and I reach out to our media partners when we want to share information about our campaign or one of our events. I am



responsible for the graphic design of our promotional materials, and I put together the quarterly newsletters.

I'm approaching one year as a United Way employee and I have enjoyed it so far. I've learned a lot and expect to learn much more in the coming years. Thanks for reading!

UPCOMING EVENTS

United Way Annual Meeting

Join us at the Decatur Club Grand Ballroom at 5:30 pm on Thursday, May 3, for our United Way Annual Meeting & Awards Dinner (doors open and cash bar at 5pm). We will have fine cuisine from Jeff Ingle and his crew as we listen to music from the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church choir. After dinner, we honor businesses and individuals that have made this year's campaign successful. Sign up individually or for a table of 10 at uwdecatur.org, or call 422-8537.

BO3K 2018

Do you enjoy running through 1.8 miles of military-style obstacles,



climbing walls, tunnels, strength & endurance challenges, inflatables, and a slip-n-slide-finish? Then you and your friends need to sign up for our 4th Annual Big Obstacle 3K sponsored by Patty Gogerty with Sams Hockaday Insurance. Join us on Saturday, July 21st, to conquer BO3K and stick around for food and drinks. Enjoy music from our finish line DJ and cheer on other runners with an ice cold beverage (or two) in your hand. Get signed up before June 30 for the early bird discount and you'll be guaranteed a tshirt or tank & our BO3K headband. For those that crash and burn and want to forget their pain...we have adult beverages on hand!

MEET OUR BOARD MEMBERS



Chris Harrison
Realtor
Brinkoetter & Assoc.

"I started donating to United Way in 2002 as part of the employee campaign at the bank I worked at. In 2010, I was honored to be asked to join the United Way Board. Since then, I've seen the program through many challenges and successes. I am still honored to be a board member for United Way."

THANK YOU
VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to those who volunteer their off time to help us. Stay tuned to our Facebook page (United Way of Decatur & Mid Illinois) to help us celebrate our Volunteers!

Find volunteer opportunities by visiting our Volunteer Portal at uwdecatur.org.



JOIN US FOR AN
IMPACT TOUR

Impact tours are a great way for donors to see up-close how their investments are impacting lives in the community. United Way transports community members to our partner agencies to learn more about their important programs.

Impact Tours generally take two hours and we visit two or three different agencies, but we can tailor tours to meet your time constraints. United Way can choose the agencies or you can give us some preferred agencies to visit. We can host 5 to 30 people.

Schedule your Impact Tour today by calling us at 422-8537.

uwdecatur.org

United Way
Good Shop

By choosing these businesses, you're investing in United Way Community Impact programs focusing on youth education, adult education & training, health, safety, and essential services.

- The Village Barber Shop**
110 North Dr - Mt. Zion

Dale's Southlake Pharmacy
245 W 1st Drive - Decatur

Colee's Corner Drugs
845 S Route 51 - Forsyth

Kenney's ACE Hardware
2880 S Mt. Zion Rd - Decatur
- Goodfellas**
160 N Merchant St. - Decatur

Tony Piraino
Brinkoetter & Assoc.
Ph: 217-972-2867

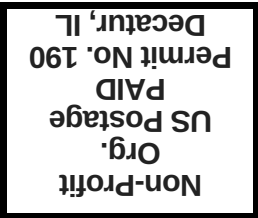
Chad Murray Law
363 S. Main Street - Decatur

Harrison & Peterson
Brinkoetter & Assoc.
Ph: 217-520-2085



United Way of Decatur & Mid-Illinois: 217.422.8537

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



United Way of Decatur & Mid-Illinois
201 W. Eldorado St.
Decatur, IL 62522

Thank you for your continued support.