

United Way of Hampshire County
2016 Campaign Report

CONNECTING PEOPLE
Changing Lives





United Way
of Hampshire County

UNITED WAY OF HAMPSHIRE COUNTY

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY
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SUPPORTING A NETWORK OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT CREATE BRIDGES TO A BRIGHT FUTURE



from left: Jim Ayres, Executive Director; Jessica Wales, Campaign Co-Chair; Molly Feinstein, Campaign Co-Chair

Jim Ayres

Jessica Wales

Molly Feinstein

United Way of Hampshire County relies on your support to create community connections that help close to 30,000 people a year. A food pantry, elder services, domestic violence victim support, legal services, health care ... and more. Your support of this network truly bridges the gap that puts so many of our neighbors at risk.

In turn, those who participate in our partner programs often are our most generous supporters—volunteering, giving and creating lasting change in their own lives and the lives of others. It is thanks to your generosity that we can continue to serve as a model for the community—bridging the gaps that are too easy to fall into, and forging the connections that bring people, ideas, and solutions together.

We are happy to introduce you to just a few people who have been helped by your support of United Way in the pages that follow. They inspire us to do more every day—and we hope that you feel proud of the positive change that you have made in our community.



“I’m showing my daughter that school is our life, our breath.”

Alia Alabsi

FINDING STRENGTH

Alia Alabsi fled Jordan in 2011 with her young daughter Bushra to escape from an abusive husband she feared. When she arrived in this country, Alia spoke only Arabic. She knew no one. Despair defined her.

Counseling helped Alia work toward strength, but she felt a lingering sense of depression as she thought her life lacked purpose. Knowing Bushra was watching prompted Alia to take action.

Alia found security, community connection and a sense of belonging with the support of United Way of Hampshire County’s partners. Safe Passage helped the 39-year-old woman learn how to feel protected; the agency also connected her to both the Center for New Americans and The Literacy Project, and they helped Alia become fluent in English and continue her education.

“I was feeling lonely and sad, but when I started with these organizations, I said, ‘Okay, I need to find myself,’ and now, I think I’m a good person. They helped me see how to be rich by giving back. Thank God I am safe, and I have found myself,” Alia says. “I feel worthwhile.”

Gifted with numbers, Alia volunteers twice a week in the math club at Jackson Street School in Northampton, where Bushra will enter fifth grade in the fall. Alia assists 50 students of varying ages, as well as a dozen others including Smith College students—in an Arabic language and culture class she started at Jackson Street. Alia is also a Sunday School leader in a local mosque, which the Northampton resident can easily attend because she now has a driver’s license and a car.

“I feel so happy. I feel proud,” Alia says, noting she continues to attend The Literacy Project’s classes four mornings each week. “I’m showing my daughter that school is our life, our breath.”

“We are not here just to simply exist,” she adds. “We need to do something. My goal is to do something bigger, and my daughter, when she sees me and knows ‘My mom did that,’ she will want to do something bigger.”

It is also Alia’s goal to serve as a role model for other single mothers in crisis. “I have this message for them: Don’t give up. You have children. They need you,” Alia says. “We have to be strong.”

Alia did not give up. She gave back.



“They all help in different ways, and people rely on their services. That’s why I do volunteer work, because I have gratitude.”

Rick Stegeman



WORKING TO GIVE BACK

Every Wednesday, Rick Stegeman can be found at the Community Breakfast at the Unitarian and Universalist Society in Amherst. He arrives about 9:30 a.m., as people are just finishing their eggs and toast. Rick greets friends and acquaintances and gets caught up on their news. He eats, too, and then he spends the next few hours deep cleaning the kitchen, breaking down cardboard boxes, stacking chairs.

This work is the means through which Rick feeds his own sense of self-purpose and shows his gratitude to the organizations in Amherst that have supported him since his mother died 10 years ago. Rick sought relief with United Way partner programs such as Craig's Doors and the Amherst Survival Center. They offered him shelter and nourishment when he needed it. He offers them his time and talents now, because he can.



“These are all important groups,” Rick says. “They all help in different ways, and people rely on their services. That’s why I do volunteer work, because I have gratitude.”

Rick first moved into Craig's Doors shelter three years ago, when the house he had been living in was repossessed by the bank. “Basically, it saved my life,” Rick says of the shelter, which he has not accessed for some time. “It was a good place.”

The Amherst Survival Center also provided a critical rescue to Rick around the same time. Not only did he appreciate the healthy meals he ate there, but he was also able to visit the doctor, where he received treatment for bronchitis. “The agencies offer good things, and I appreciate them,” he says.

Everyone in town knows Rick, and people easily see his pride and dedication to paying it forward. They say Rick is intelligent, caring, compassionate, a friend to all.

Rick can often be found volunteering at the Survival Center, and on Saturdays and Sundays, you can find Rick cleaning up and mopping floors after the day meal has been served at First Congregational Church. Sometimes when there are young people on hand, Rick takes on the role of mentor. “I let them do the helping,” he says, with a laugh.



With a shared focus on issues that affect children, youth and their families; ensuring the economic security of all of our neighbors; and connecting people to the resources they need to be safe and healthy— our partners and volunteers make a difference.



Members of the UWHC community including board members, staff, partners & volunteers build a bridge for positive lasting change in Hampshire County. Photo taken on Parent's Bridge at the Williston Northampton School, Easthampton

UNITED WAY OF HAMPSHIRE COUNTY FUNDED PARTNERS

Children, Youth & Their Families

Berkshire Children & Families • Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hampshire County (CHD) • Under Five Thrive (Behavioral Health Network) • Cutchins Programs for Children & Families • DIALS/ELTeen Outreach • Friends of Children • Girl Scouts of Central & Western Massachusetts • Healthy Families (Community Action) • Hilltown Collaborative for Children & Families (Hilltown Health Centers) • People's Institute

Economic Security

Amherst Survival Center • Casa Latina • Supportive Housing Programs (CHD) • Center for New Americans • Community Action of the Franklin, Hampshire & North Quabbin Regions • Community Legal Aid • Craig's Doors • Easthampton Community Center • Emergency Food & Shelter Program • Hilltown Supportive Housing Program (Hilltown CDC) • Massachusetts 2-1-1 Helpline • Northampton Survival Center • ServiceNet Housing & Shelter Programs • The Literacy Project • Valley Community Development Corporation • Empower Your Life (YWCA of Western Massachusetts)

Health & Safety

Behavioral Health Network • FamilyWize Community Service Partnership • Fit Together (ServiceNet) • Highland Valley Elder Services • Hilltown Community Development Corporation • Hilltown Community Health Centers • Safe Passage • Supervised Visitation Program (YWCA of Western Massachusetts)

"They always ask how I'm doing. That's one of the first questions they ask me."

Doris Tirrell



DELIVERING PEACE OF MIND

Mid-morning is a good time of day for Doris Tirrell of Easthampton. She doesn't drive, so she doesn't get out much. But she knows that each weekday, a volunteer will knock on her door, chat with her and offer a home-cooked meal as part of the Highland Valley Elder Services Meals on Wheels program. "I enjoy the meals, and I enjoy the people," Doris says. "They always ask how I'm doing. That's one of the first questions they ask me. I say I'm okay, so far."

A heart condition and a stroke several years ago are what stopped Doris from taking the wheel of a car. She says the meals program is critical to her, because it allows her to stay in her own home and be independent. "This really helps me out," she says. "At least I get one good meal a day." She adds that often, she can save a portion of her lunch and have it for dinner as well.

The meals are delicious; on this July day, they were prepared by Highland Valley staff with help from employees of Easthampton Savings Bank (see related story on opposite page). Doris says the quiche and the ham with raisin sauce are among her favorites. As important as the nutrition is for this 83-year-old woman, though, the daily check-in with another person is equally as valuable. Doris knows that if some kind of crisis—a fall or an illness, perhaps—prevented her from answering her door to accept the meal, someone from Highland Valley would do everything possible to make contact with her to ensure she was okay.

United Way's support is, in part, what allows this bridge of sustenance and safety to extend between Doris and Highland Valley, one of our partner agencies.

Meals on Wheels volunteers feel a connection with clients like Doris. Jason Barowski, 31, is one of those volunteers, who says he is always greeted with a smile when he knocks on a door.

Doris enjoys these conversations, however brief they might be. She says she often hears updates from one volunteer about his farm work, and another speaks to Doris about an award she received. "I was so happy for her," Doris says, adding, "The volunteers are all very nice. I know they can talk for a minute and then they have to get going, because other people are waiting for them."





SERVING UP CONNECTIONS

Katie Carr and Jenn Mancini work in different offices for Easthampton Savings Bank, and until recently, they only knew each other as names in their email inboxes. What they had in common was that they were both eager to volunteer in the community.



Knowing Highland Valley Elder Services hoped to enlist new volunteers, our United Way stepped in to help make an introduction, connecting leaders at ESB and Highland Valley. The result: Katie and Jenn spent a morning with a team of bank employees and got to know one another as they helped Highland Valley produce nearly 500 homemade lunches for isolated elders in a dozen communities.

United Way connects organizations and volunteers once a month through our new program called United Way Volunteers. These efforts help employees seamlessly connect to more efficiently serve people in need.

"We've always been a big supporter of giving time in the community," says Michael Roy, a vice president at the bank and chair of ESB's volunteer committee, noting the bank is always looking for new organizations to serve. "We've also always been a strong supporter of the United Way, and this was a great opportunity for us

to give back. But it's also fun to volunteer with a group of coworkers."

The work gave them all a sense of purpose in the community. It helped them bond, and it gave Highland Valley 18 extra helping hands; the nonprofit was able to provide 366 meals delivered by volunteers (see related story on page 11) and prepare another 122 meals that were served at the agency's Northampton site and 11 other locations.

Jenn works in an office farther east, so having a chance to spend time with her fellow employees as she sliced and diced vegetables with Katie and bank staffer Terry Viens was particularly appealing. As a first-time volunteer, the experience made Jenn want to go back to her own community and give of her time. "It was great. Everybody was welcoming," she says. "It was good to be involved in the community and to know that what you were doing was actually helping someone."

LEADERS' CIRCLE

ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY

\$10,000 AND ABOVE

Anonymous (3)
John & Elizabeth Armstrong
Susan M. Clopton & John P. Levine
Jack Hornor & Ron Skinn*

GOLD LEVEL

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous (1)
Neal Abraham & Donna Wiley
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Kevin & Laurel Day
Ned DeLaCour & Nancy Lustgarten
Charles & Kelly DeRose
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Harold Grotewant
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Hilary Kornblith & Robin Harris
Eli Kwartler & Barbara Benda Jenkins
Kevin Lake & Sallie Deans Lake
Jonathan & Eleanor Lash
Ann Leone & Hans Vaget
Michele Craig
George & Ann Levinger
Lester K. Little & Lella Gandini
Christopher Loring & Mary Koenig Loring
Erin MacEachen Travis
Marjorie Magnier
Joe & Maria Malmborg
Mark D. Marshall & Helen O. Leung
Biddy Martin
Joshua & Davina Miller
Mark & Sandy Parent
Parmar Family
Michael Parsons
Nancy Ratner
Sarah H. Reece
David Chernock & Linda Abeles
James & Eugenia Collins
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Richard & Priscilla Finck
Penina & Myron Glazer
David & Patricia Graves
Alfred & Sally Griggs
Albert J. Grimaldi
Bruce & Ruth Hawkins
Marisa Labozetta & Martin Wohl
Mark Ledwell
Deborah Leopold
Peter Contuzzi & Giovanna Bellesia-Contuzzi
Mark Novotny & Sandi Ameden
Joseph O'Rourke & Marylynn Salmon
Michael P. Papaleo
Toni & Kitty Dougherty
Julie Pokela & Elizabeth Denny
Gilbert Ehmeke
John Pucci & Mary Bates
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Peter & Ann Pufall
Matthew Richi

LORNA BLAKE

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THE WOHL FAMILY

"Our family is steadfast in our commitment to United Way of Hampshire County. We know that our contributions make a real difference in the community."

PEWTER LEVEL

\$1,500 - \$2,499

Anonymous (1)
Margaret Anderson
Michael Ash & Krista Harpe
Todd & Andrea Barron
Randy & Cathy Bartlett
Doug & Anna Bowen
David Chernock & Linda Abeles
James & Eugenia Collins
Peter A. & Jill G. de Villiers
Richard & Priscilla Finck
Penina & Myron Glazer
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Matthew Richi

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John & Anne Ouitet
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Justine & John Holdsworth
"Having made provisions in our estate plan for a gift to the United Way of Hampshire County, we feel that our children are a powerful message on carrying on giving back, which has meant the most to us."

Eric C. Paige
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Andrew & Shelley Zimbalist

**Donors marked with an asterisk have included UWHC in their estate plans and are recognized members of the Legacy Circle. If you have included UWHC in your long-term plans, please let us know. Call our office at 413-584-3962 and we will be happy to welcome you to the Legacy Circle of Supporters.*

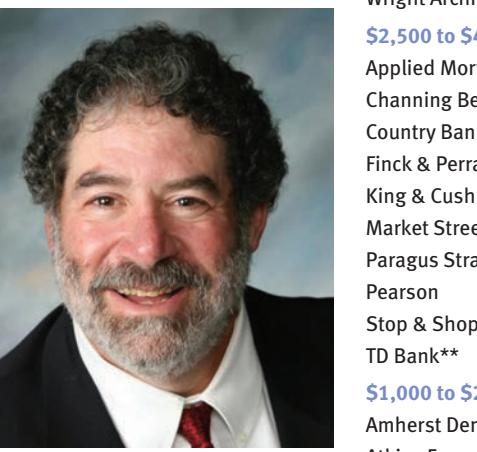
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In Memory of Nancy Huff
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Tighe & Bond

In Memory of Bruce Fogel

Benjamin A. Barnes
Charles & Kelly DeRose
James & Janet Hutchins
Keegan Werlin LLP
Northampton Radio Group

IN MEMORIAM BRUCE M. FOGEL



Our dear friend Bruce Fogel passed away in May 2016. Bruce was a champion for our United Way for decades, serving as Campaign Co-Chair in the late '70s, and as a member of the Board of Directors from 2006-2015.

WORKPLACE CAMPAIGNS

CORPORATE

\$100,000 and above

L-3 KEO**

\$50,000 to \$99,999

C & S Wholesale Grocers**

Easthampton Savings Bank**

Florence Bank**

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Packaging Corporation of America**

PeoplesBank**

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Daily Hampshire Gazette

Eversource Energy**

Wright Builders**

\$7,500 to \$9,999

National Grid**

Whalen Insurance**
\$5,000 to \$7,499
Goggins Real Estate**
Greenfield Cooperative Bank/
Northampton Cooperative Bank**
Syncnicity**
Webber & Grinnell Insurance Agency**
Wright Architectural Millwork**
\$2,500 to \$4,999
Applied Mortgage Services**
Channing Bete Company
Country Bank**
Finck & Perras Insurance
King & Cushman Insurance**
Market Street Research**
Paragus Strategic IT**
Pearson
Stop & Shop Supermarkets**
TD Bank**
\$1,000 to \$2,499
Amherst Dental Group**
Atkins Farms**
Bete Fog Nozzle
Brockway-Smith Company**
ChartPak
Country Curtains**
Eastman Chemical Company
Integrity Development & Construction
ISO New England
Saint-Gobain Industrial Ceramics**
Travelers Companies
UMass Five College FCU
Walmart
\$500 to \$999
Big Y Foods**
CISabroad
Enchanter Insurance
Lincoln Financial Group**
Macy's East**
Target Stores
UPS
VCA**
\$250 to \$499
Abbott Laboratories
\$50,000 to \$74,999
Amherst College

AT&T
Bank of America**
Berkshire Design Group
Best Buy Company
B-G Mechanical Contractors
Comcast
Federal Express
Gap**
General Dynamics Aviation
General Electric**
Hanover Insurance
Holyoke Gas & Electric
Illinois Tool Works**
J.C. Penney
Liberty Mutual
M.J. Moran Mechanical Contractors
Nationwide**
Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance
True Value
United Health Group**
Verizon Foundation**



Steve Monteiro of Smith College
"I've supported United Way of Hampshire County for 15 years. I know that they will make sure that my contribution supports the greatest needs in our community."

HIGHER EDUCATION

\$75,000 and above
Smith College
UMass Amherst
\$250 to \$499
Abbott Laboratories
\$50,000 to \$74,999
Amherst College

Up to \$10,000

Five Colleges Incorporated
Hampshire College

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

\$10,000 and above

Cooley Dickinson Health Care

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Baystate Mary Lane Hospital
Behavioral Health Network
Collaborative for Educational Service
Highland Valley Elder Services
ServiceNet

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Stavros Center for Independent Living
Berkshire Children & Families

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Community Action
Community Enterprises
Cutchins Programs for Children & Families
Hilltown Community Health Centers
Hitchcock Center
United Way of Hampshire County
Valley Community Development Corporation

\$500 to \$999

Amherst-Pelham Regional School District
Easthampton Public Schools
Williamsburg Public Schools
Williston Northampton School

Up to \$999

Amherst-Pelham Regional High School
Belchertown Public Schools
Hampshire Regional Schools
Ware Public Schools

**Workplace Campaign total includes corporate support.

LOCAL BUSINESS LEADERS

\$2,000 and above

Thornes Marketplace
rk Miles

Up to \$499

Amherst Survival Center
The Carson Center, A Program of Behavioral Health Network

Community Legal Aid
Forbes Library
Friends of Children
Girl Scouts of Central & Western Massachusetts

Greater Northampton Chamber of Commerce
J. Rich
Johnson & Hill Staffing Services

Hadley Garden Center
Hotel Northampton
Hampshire Regional YMCA
The Literacy Project

Western Mass Elder Care
The Murphys Realtors
Paradise Copies

GOVERNMENT

\$5,000 and above
City of Northampton
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Employee Charitable Campaign

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Combined Federal Campaign
Town of Amherst

Up to \$999

Hampshire Council of Governments
Northampton Retirement Board

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS K-12

\$2,500 and above

Northampton Public Schools

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Amherst-Pelham Regional School District
Easthampton Public Schools
Williamsburg Public Schools
Williston Northampton School

Up to \$999

Amherst-Pelham Regional High School
Belchertown Public Schools
Hampshire Regional Schools
Ware Public Schools

LOCAL BUSINESS 365

\$365 to \$999

Amherst Farmers Supply

A 2 Z Science & Learning Store

Big E's Supermarket

Center for New Americans

Hilltown Community Development Corporation

People's Institute

Safe Passage

\$1,000 to \$1,999

Pioneer Valley Travel

Polish National Credit Union

Provisions

Saga Communications of New England

Strada

Upton-Massamont Realtos

WEBS America's Yarn Store

LOCAL BUSINESS CONTRIBUTORS

Up to \$364

Able Copier Service

Cummington Supply

Polish National Credit Union

Saga Communications of New England

Sansom & Sansom CPA's

Serio's Pharmacy

ServiceMaster of Northampton & Amherst

25 Central

Acme Surplus

Backstop Seated Massage

Banh Mi Saigon

Borawski Insurance

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Cookie.Works

Cornucopia/Heavenly Chocolate

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2016 Workplace Champions, Cooley Dickinson Health Care, increased employee participation by 117% and giving by 84%.

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Hotel Northampton
LaSalle Tree Service
Northampton Cooperative Bank
division of Greenfield Cooperative Bank
Packaging Corporation of America
Paul Shoul
RC Communications
Seth Mias Catering
Smith College
Sunrise Inc.
TD Bank Northampton

SPLIT UNITED
Annual Ski Benefit for UWHC
\$7,000

LIVE UNITED



United Way
of Hampshire County

United Way of Hampshire County

P.O. Box 123, 71 King Street, Northampton, MA 01061

Tel 413-584-3962 Fax 413-584-5114

uwhampshire.org

For more detailed financial information, visit www.uwhampshire.org, where UWHC's most recently filed Form 990 and audited financial statements are available.

United Way of Hampshire County is committed to ensuring the most updated and accurate reflection of our donor and volunteer community. We apologize for any misspellings, omissions or other unintended inaccuracies. Thank you for your understanding.