



Lake Area
United Way

United
Way



2018 ANNUAL REPORT





Lake Area United Way

Dear Supporters,

Every day Lake Area United Way fights for families, children, and seniors. When you donate to United Way, you're not just helping "someone in need." You are becoming a problem solver, a difference maker, and an opportunity creator. You are joining thousands of volunteers, donors, and advocates across the county to build strong neighborhoods. You fuel a cycle of help and hope for our entire community. What you give comes back. When you help your struggling neighbors, you improve the economic growth of our area. When you give someone a hand up, it contributes to a vibrant community where ALL families can thrive—and that is "the why" behind what we do.

The harsh truth is that one in four hardworking families in Lake County is on the edge of survival. They are working hard but not making enough to cover their basic needs. These families are forced to make tough choices every single day. What would you do- put gas in the car so you can get to work or buy your child's cough medicine?

Lake Area United Way believes that no working family should be forced to make these types of decisions. That is why every day your support fuels 26 local programs that provide critical services to Lake County residents in need. You help us strengthen local non-profits through coaching, training, and education. You help us connect residents in crisis to local resources through the 2-1-1 hotline and resourceroundup.com. You allow us to engage grassroots leaders and expand their reach.

Our mission is to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of our communities to advance the common good. United we break down barriers for struggling, working families. United we provide paths to financial stability. United we build hope and strong communities.

Helping struggling families is a community effort. We believe that thriving communities begin with thriving families, and your support of United Way makes that possible and you a vital part of the solution.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can make a difference for families in our community!

Sincerely,

Sherri Ziller

Chair — LAUW Board of Trustees

Meet **ALICE** in our Community

Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed










This isn't a budgeting issue, this is a resource issue. ALICE families live above the Federal Poverty Income level, which is \$25,750 for a family of 4, making them ineligible for most social supports available today. More than 40,000 households in Lake County are working hard, but are not making enough income to cover their basic needs. These families are forced to make tough choices every single day. What would you do-put gas in the car so you can get to work, or buy your child's cough medicine? Lake Area United Way believes that no working family should be forced to make these types of decisions.

1 in 4 Lake County Households are A.L.I.C.E.

What does it cost to afford the basics in our community?

Family of Four: 2 adults & 2 children

MONTHLY

	Child Care	\$979
	Housing	\$867
	Healthcare	\$795
	Transportation	\$649
	Food	\$525
	Miscellaneous	\$509
	Taxes	\$451

Monthly Total **\$4,775**
 Annual Total **\$57,300**
 Hourly Wage **\$28.65***

* 2016 Indiana ALICE Report

A BRAND NEW Approach

UNITED WAY FOCUSES ON LIVABLE WAGE JOBS & QUALITY AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE

You spoke. We listened. We did our homework. We're changing how we work.

Because of your input and your investment, Lake Area United Way began a new chapter in improving the quality of life in our community. In 2018, Lake Area United Way shifted its focus and resources to give a hand up to families who work very hard and still struggle to afford the basic necessities.

Our new work helps a large population of Lake County working families, also called ALICE: Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. These struggling, working families account for 25% of our population, or more than 40,000 people.

Conversations with ALICE families helped us understand the tough choices they make every month. Can I make my medicine last a few more days so that I can pay my rent? If I pay part of my utilities, can I afford groceries? We believe that families shouldn't be forced to make these choices.

ALICE families are working families. Sometimes the adults are working 2 or 3 jobs. So, they do not qualify for poverty assistance. Most ALICE families do not want poverty assistance either.

What do ALICE families want? Safe child care when parents are at work. Enough food on the table. Good health. Their own home. A livable-wage job. And, a buffer—a safety net in case of an emergency.

These dreams are in reach. This is where we can make a difference. We've engaged service providers, human resources professionals, and educational partners to form two working groups. These working groups are for the roll-up-your-sleeves, git 'er done-types of leaders. They are creating the path for struggling, working families to earn livable wage jobs and access quality, affordable childcare.

Their on-the-front-lines perspective and expertise is shaping strategy and guiding United Way community investments.

Your continued support helps Lake Area United Way focus the work and bring the right people to the table. Thank you.



LIVE UNITED



2018 *Year in Review*



OVER THE EDGE

In July, Lake Area United Way introduced Northwest Indiana to an amazing new fundraising experience with Over The Edge. Residents rappelled 80 feet down the side of the Centier Corporate Centre in Merrillville. The event raised almost \$30,000 to help struggling working families in Lake County.

UNITY IN OUR COMMUNITY WEEK

We celebrated the second Unity In Our Community Week August 6th through the 10th with 14 volunteer projects taking place throughout the community. Unity In Our Community Week encourages people to get out and give back to the community through volunteerism. The week culminated in our 6th annual PackaPalooza where 280 volunteers packed 100,000 meals for those in need.



REAL. STRONG. GIRLS.

Real.Strong.Girls. expanded the Fierce & Fabulous Females program to a year-round project which impacted 240 girls in Lake County. The program is a partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana where volunteers help put on monthly themed activities to help the girls gain confidence and plan for their futures. We also held our first Winter Lock-In at the Crossroads YMCA in Crown Point, with over 50 girls attending for a fun filled and inspirational sleepover.



TURKEY GIVEAWAY

In November, Kenneth J. Allen Law Group partnered with Lake Area United Way once again to bring hope to struggling working families during the Thanksgiving holiday. Together, we provided 800 struggling working families with a Thanksgiving basket that included a turkey, sides, and a pie.

STAR AWARDS

Lake Area United Way hosted the third annual STAR Awards that recognized 17 individuals and 8 organizations who exemplified a heart of service by giving of their time and meeting the needs of our community.

2018 Financial Summary

Financial Summary for Fiscal Year Ending 12/31/18

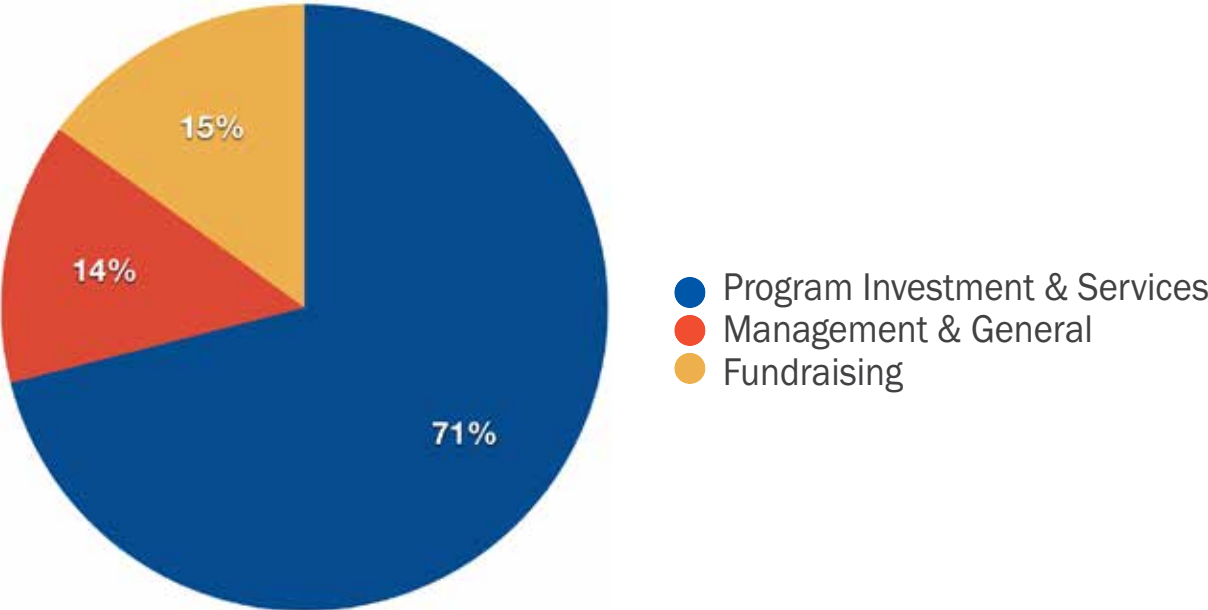
TOTAL REVENUES **\$2,274,084**

EXPENSES

Program Investment and Services\$1,640,065
Fundraising \$310,234
Management & General \$344,922
Total Expenses\$2,295,221
Revenues Less Expenses (\$21,137)

ASSETS & LIABILITIES

Total Assets\$1,743,707
Total Liabilities\$1,245,277
Total Net Assets (Fund Balances)\$498,430



2018 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Richard Cioni

Market President NWI
BMO Harris Bank

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Cash Processing / Meter Processing
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Executive Director
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Tom McDermott, Sr.

Retired

Evelyn Morrison

Marketing & Corporate Communications
Manager
Methodist Hospitals

Frank Mrvan

North Township Trustee

Desila Rosetti

Founder & President
Organizational Development Solutions,
Inc.

Matt Saltanovitz

Past - Chairman
Director
Northwest Region Indiana Economic
Development Corp.

Michael Schneider

2018 Campaign Chair
Market President NWI
First Financial Bank

Marisa Smoljan, CPA

Treasurer & Finance Chair
Tax Department Chair
McMahon & Associates CPAs, P.C.

Allen M. Spajer

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CEO
Strack & Van Til LLC

Mark E. Tade

Director, Employee Relations
US Steel Corporation –
Gary Works

Phil Taillon

Chief of Staff
City of Hammond

Christopher White

Vice-Chairman of the Board
Publisher
The Times Media Company

Sherri Ziller

Chairwoman of the Board
Chief Operating Officer
Northwest Indiana Regional
Development Authority



LAKE AREA UNITED WAY

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President/CEO

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Relationship Manager

Linda Hazen
Director, Major Gifts

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Erin Meisner
Relationship Manager

Megan Sikes
Community Engagement Manager

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Vice President, Finance &
Administration

Mariann Munro
Director of Financial Accounting
& Human Resources

LABOR

Luis Tovar
Labor Liaison

Community INVESTMENTS

Lake Area United Way invested in 26 local programs and partners that deliver services to residents of Lake County in the Areas of Education, Financial Stability, Health and Basic Needs.

AGENCY PARTNER

PROGRAM

American Red Cross	Comprehensive Emergency Services
The Caring Place	Domestic Violence Shelter
Catholic Family Services	Comprehensive Emergency Services
Greater Hammond Community Services	Food Pantry
Greater Hammond Community Services	Capes House
Haven House, Inc.	Domestic Violence Shelter
Meals on Wheels	Home Delivered Meals
The Salvation Army	Comprehensive Emergency Services
St. Jude House	Domestic Violence Shelter
Boy Scouts of America, Calumet Council	ScoutReach
Boys & Girls Clubs of NWI, Inc.	Youth Development
Catholic Family Services	Counseling
Crossroads YMCA	Before & After School Care
Crisis Center	Safe Place
Crisis Center	Teen Court
Gary Neighborhood Services	Neighborhood Building Program
Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago & NWI	Girl Space
Hobart Family YMCA	School Age Child Care
Indiana Legal Services	Legal Services
Mental Health America	Parents As Teachers
Tradewinds Rehabilitation Center Inc.	Child Care
Tradewinds Rehabilitation Center Inc.	Deaf Services
Financial Stability	Urban League of NWI
YWCA of NWI	Yes We Can!
Northwest Indiana Community Action	2-1-1
Summer Enrichment for The Handicapped, Inc.	Summer Enrichment for Students with Disabilities





TOP 25 CORPORATE CAMPAIGNS



Lake Area United Way partners with more than 300 corporate champions that are committed to our mission of improving lives by mobilizing the caring power of our community. The Top 25 Corporate Campaigns exemplify their generosity through corporate and employee gifts, workplace special events, sponsorships and employee volunteerism.



- ArcelorMittal USA
- BP Whiting
- US Steel Corporation Gary Works
- UPS
- Exelon
- IBEW #697
- NIPSCO
- BMO Harris
- St. Mary Medical Center
- The Times of Northwest Indiana
- Cargill
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- CN
- Luke Family of Brands
- St. Catherine Hospital
- First Financial Bank
- ITW
- First Merchants Bank
- Target
- Enbridge
- Meijer-Highland-#170
- Krieg DeVault, LLP
- Lake County Public Library & Administration
- Tradewinds Services
- Centier Bank



2018 Leadership Givers

Leonardo Amat
Ashley Aspiras
Stefanie Bakajza
Ruby Bakhouché
John Bartels
J. Barth
Mitzi Beebe
Calvin Bellamy
Terri Bercich
Randall Bertalan
Ruth Best
Alicia Bohnsack
John Brett
Frederick Brown
Jolene Bukur
Mohammad Butt
Robert Cameron
Steven Carlson
Mathew Castelino
Joseph Chocola
Richard Cioni
Patrick Collins
John Companik
Denise Conlon
Leo Correa
Timothy Cottingham
Lisa Daugherty
Jason Day
Gary Day
Marijo Dluzak
David Drake
Preston Dunham
James Dye
Robert Early
Mark Ennes
Tristan Facer

Jeffrey Faga
Leroy Fasset
Karen Freeman-Wilson
Esteban Garcia
Michael Godsen
Robert Green
Jonathan Grein
Michael Griffith
John Haas
Paula Hammersley
Donna Hammersmith
Charles Hansotte
Kimberly-Joy Harris
Michael Hayes
A. Heinz-McCarty
Don Herald
Theresa Hernandez
Joseph Howarth
Nina Hunter
Mark Hunter
John Jamicich
Michael Jasaitis
Eric Jordan
Paul Karlin
Patrick Keenan
Sean Kelleher
Lewis Kimberly
David Kirchhoff
James Korba
David Kurt
Michael LaBroi
Adam Lawson
Antonio Lopez
Penny Lubieniecki
Julian Marsh
Gayle Martinkus

Jennifer Martsek
Richard Matthews
Robert May
Thomas McDermott Sr.
Ryan McDonough
Erin Meisner
Michael Milaszewski
Lindsay Miller
Brandon Miller
Craig Miller
Mike Moeller
Jerry Moore
John Morris
Evelyn Morrison
Lisa Mullins
Todd Mundorff
Mariann Munro
Jeffrey Orr
Kevin O'Shea
Helene Paros
Marla Parrish
Richard Paskis
James Peller
Alan Peterson
Patricia Peterson
Ryan Pondinas
Donald Porter
Shawn Ramos
Ranganathan Ravi
Ken Ross
Thomas Ruffner
Debra Rzepczynski
Matthew Saltanovitz
Kelli Schilling
Benjamin Schmid
Julie Schmidt

Michael Schwerha
Verne Seehausen
Elizabeth Sengupta
David Sharp
Randy Shepard
Andrea Sherwin
David Sikes
Denver Skaggs
Timothy Smith
Jermond Smith
Marie Smith
Marisa Smoljan
Tom Sourlis & Sue Eleuterio
Allen Spajer
John Stargel
Mary Sudicky
Daniel Swearingen
Mark Tade
Edward Thompson
Nathaniel Thompson
Laura Tigges
Luis Tovar
James Vadas
Virginia Vega
Michael Verbancic
Darren Viola
Nicole Walker
Christopher White
Lawrence Whitford
Donna Worst
Russell Wysocki
Donald Zentz
James Zierdt
Sherri Ziller
Michael Zmierski





Lake Area United Way

LIVE UNITED

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