

2021  
—  
2022



**UNITED WAY**  
Northwest Indiana

# COMMUNITY REPORT

H A R N E S S T H E

P O

W E R  
O F C A R I N G



**When people can't buy food, pay rent, secure childcare, or face many other kinds of crises—they look to United Way for help.**

In fact, United Way is committed to filling gaps in crucial safety nets for our region, while also tackling root causes like financial stability and education to create sustainable futures.

Our breakthrough Level Up program works one on one with individuals to provide personal mentoring and holistic support to remove barriers and change lives for good. We are helping people train for better-paying jobs and care for their families—benefits that will affect generations to come.

**118**

ENROLLMENT  
2021-2022

**45**

GRADUATES  
2021

**69**

GRADUATES  
2022



**LEVEL  
UP**

Northwest Indiana

Breaking barriers.  
Building lives.

## Life-changing Impact

As a result of her hard work in the Level Up program, Kimberly, a 38-year-old single mother of two, has raised her family income. Compared with her previous job, she is now working closer to home and earning more money in a career path that she chose for herself. She's working with a logistics company earning \$26/hr.





# From the Leadership

In Northwest Indiana, almost one in three households can't afford basic needs such as childcare, housing, food, transportation, and healthcare. Half of Americans report that they live paycheck to paycheck. We receive approximately 1,000 phone calls from neighbors requesting emergency help every year. And we know that such a call can be the tip of an iceberg. Some of our community's challenges run deep. There are urgent needs, and there are root causes below them.

In our 2023-2025 Strategic Plan, we aim to reduce the number of Northwest Indiana households living below financial sustainability levels by producing 1,000 graduates through the Level Up program. We also aim to guide at least 3,500 community members to the immediate help they need by creating a one-on-one case management and referral service. We continue our partnership and collaboration throughout the Region. We aim to grow our capacity to match the needs of our citizens.

We recognize that we are a steward of our Region's trust and financial support. The 2023-2025 Strategic Plan is the culmination of a region-wide listening campaign, a deep data dive, and innovative problem-solving informed by many voices. We want to use our resources to help people when they need help and tackle root causes to build up lives and livelihoods.

We believe everyone in Northwest Indiana deserves the right to thrive. Our new bold plan harnesses the power of caring to make every life in Northwest Indiana better—today and tomorrow. We are immensely grateful to every individual, ally, advocate, foundation, and corporation who joins in this crucial mission.

*Together, we can harness the power of caring!*

*Adam O'Doherty*

Adam O'Doherty  
President and CEO

*Jeff Strack*

Jeff Strack  
Board Chair



**DAY of  
CARING**  
UNITED WAY  
**AUG 05 2022**

## 1,000+ Hands at Work

1,018 sky-blue T-shirts dispersed across Northwest Indiana to complete 106 amazing projects.

Their generous service helps nonprofits throughout the Region, in the largest single-day volunteer event in Northwest Indiana. Thank you, volunteers, for making the day a success!





# UNITED WAY

Northwest Indiana

## Thank You, Donors!

We recognize the gracious support of all of donors,  
including the following donors of \$5,000 or more:

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Download the  
2023-2025 Strategic Plan at  
[unitedwaynwi.org/strategic-plan](https://unitedwaynwi.org/strategic-plan)

