

Ready, Set, Go!



Sharon Campbell,
Missouri Farm Bureau
United Way Board Chair

We're in the lazy days of summer here in mid-Missouri. A time to take it easy and stay out of the heat.

But there's nothing lazy about the 30 Pacesetter companies who have already started their United Way Campaigns! Pacesetters are organizations who jumpstart the United Way of Central Missouri Campaign. They hold their internal workplace campaigns in July and August, before the Community Campaign takes place in September and October. These pacesetters truly lead the way and have already been strategizing and hosting events.

Missouri Farm Bureau held the first Pacesetter fundraiser of the summer back in May, hosting a Dine-to-Donate night at Texas Roadhouse. In June, we hosted a Trivia Night fundraiser, and in July we hosted a Color Me Mine painting fundraiser,

dessert auction and penny wars for the United Way. Cole County Government hosted a successful community-wide Cornhole Tournament at the JC Memorial Airport in June. JC Autoplex is hosting a raffle to sell 4 lower level tickets to the Chiefs vs. Broncos game on October 12, which includes a parking pass and \$500 in spending money for the game. Tickets are \$10 each or \$25 for a three-pack and, when available, can be purchased on the United Way of Central Missouri website. And SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital hosted a Pizza Kwik Food Truck fundraiser in their parking lot last week, they are hosting a fundraising night at Big Whiskey's tomorrow from 5 – 9 p.m., they are hosting a lunch fundraiser in their cafe on August 9 from 11 am - 1:30 pm, and they are also running a raffle for a VIP 2-Day Racing Experience. Tickets are on sale now on the United Way of Central Missouri website for \$10 each or \$25 for three chances. The winner will receive two pit passes for the Ironman 55 – World of Outlaw Sprint Cars and Xtreme Midgits Race on August 5 and also an opportunity to run eight laps in a Kenny Schrader Racing Dirt Modified Cart on August 6. The package includes one night at a complimentary hotel and is valued at \$1,000. Be sure to get your tickets by this Thursday, July 27 at 5 pm!

With this year's United Way Campaign theme being Super Mario, we'll see many other businesses like St. Mary's planning

race-themed activities for their fundraisers! Osage Ambulances, Modern Litho/Brown Printing and MIB – a first-year Pacesetter – all have 'Kart' races planned for their employees, all in good fun for the United Way! Stay tuned to the United Way of Central Missouri website and Facebook page for more details and fun activities to come.

Thanks to Septagon Construction, United Way has also held a decorating contest of a plywood cutout in a shape that correlates to that year's Campaign theme. This year's shape is a Mario Kart, and in the next couple of months we will see some pretty fabulous Kart designs decorating the lawns of businesses and organizations around town. Not only do the employees of these organizations run the campaigns, they also find time to decorate these yard signs which bring awareness to the work of United Way.

Pacesetter organizations have contributed about 50% of the total campaign goal for several years. Last year, they broke a United Way record by raising 50.5% of the \$2.3 million campaign goal. That is how critical Pacesetters are to the success of the overall campaign. That's a lot of pressure! But as you can see, these organizations are full speed ahead and have found a way to make it fun while giving back to the United Way of Central Missouri and our community. And we can't wait to see what's in store for the rest of the Campaign... Ready, set, go!

United Way & SSM Health Mid-Missouri Share Common Goals

By Janet Wear-Enloe,
SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital

At SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital, we cherish our partnership with United Way of Central Missouri. Their mission – much like our own – is to help people in tough, anxious and uncertain times. Their effort on behalf of 28 non-profit health and human service agencies, works for the health, education, financial stability and basic needs of every person in our community. Our common goals help to make central Missouri a better place for all.

SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital History

In the fall of 1902, two immigrant Catholic nuns arrived in Jefferson City by train from St. Louis. Their mission from the Franciscan Sisters of Mary was simple, yet bold; establish a hospital in Missouri's capital city, serving people of all faiths without regard to their financial or social standing. Sisters Mary Gertrude Sharrenbroich and Ildephonse Sommerhouser spent two years raising money from the community to build the hospital, at the same time caring for the sick in a make-shift hospital in a house on Elm Street. On Oct. 18, 1905, the city celebrated the dedication of the new St. Mary's Hospital, a four-story stone structure with 38 patient rooms, which was to become a cornerstone of the community.

Their presence remains through the purposeful care given by today's hospital employees. The mission has not wavered – “Through our exceptional health care services; we reveal the healing presence of God.”

“A large majority of our employees say the mission is why they work here,” said K.C. DeBoer, regional president for Mid-Missouri and president of SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital. “Our employees have always been concerned about helping our community.”

Whether it was the nuns who arrived in Jefferson City or the staff who continue to carry out the mission of exceptional care and serving all patients regardless of their ability to pay, St. Mary's continues this tradition of helping our neighbors, caring for our community and offering support to those in need.

Here are a few of the activities where SSM Health Mid-Missouri Staff Support the work of United Way:

- Serving on the United Way Board, Campaign Leadership Team, Fund Allocation Committee, Strategic Funding Committee and HealthTran Committee.
- Participating in Women United.
- Delivering meals in the Food 4 Kids Summer Feeding Program.
- Working at the Mobile Food Pantry six times per year.
- Serving as a Pacesetter company.

SSM Health was also honored in 2020 when we received the Outstanding Pacesetter Award during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Pacesetter Campaign

First and foremost, we encourage all businesses – big and small – to host an employee campaign for United Way. The serious work of the campaign is fun and provides teambuilding opportunities for staff while raising critical funds for the community.

SSM Health's United Way Pacesetter Campaign features several events exclusively for



SSM Health's United Way Pacesetter team is led this year by Amy Campbell, Chief Nursing Officer/Vice President of Patient Care Services, and Susan Higgins, Imaging manager for St. Mary's Hospital. Team includes: front row, left to right: Malissia Smith, Jennifer Wankum, Tina Wood, Co-Chair Susan Higgins, Jessie Huber, Becky Miller, Jack Hansen; and back row, left to right: Co-Chair Amy Campbell, Jill Rikard, Janet Wear-Enloe, Sheila Adrian, Adam Moss, Beth Berhorst, Laura Sicht and K.C. DeBoer.

our staff but the following unique activities are for the entire community. We invite everyone to participate in these events so that together we can help United Way of Central Missouri provide a safety net of services to keep our community healthy and strong.

Community Events:

- VIP 2-Day Racing Experience Raffle Tickets – August 5-6. Drawing on July 28 (*see flyer on page 3*)
- Big Whiskey Night – July 27, 5 – 9 p.m. (*both dine-in and carry out, see flyer on page 3*)
- BBQ Lunch – August 9, 11 am - 1:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Hospital Cafe

VIP 2-Day Racing Experience Fundraiser to Support United Way

Have you ever wanted to drive a racecar?
Let NASCAR Legend Kenny Schrader lead you in a personalized experience you will never forget at Federated Auto Parts Raceway at 1-55, located in Pevely, Missouri!

Saturday, August 5, 6 p.m. - Ironman 55 - World of Outlaw Sprint Cars and Xtreme Midgits

You will receive two pit passes so you and a friend can experience a race from the vantage point of the crew. Hotlaps usually start between 6:15 – 6:30 p.m. with races beginning at 7 p.m.

The package includes one night at a complimentary hotel.

Sunday, August 6, 10 a.m.

One lucky person will get to run eight laps in a Kenny Schrader Racing Dirt Modified car. Then be prepared for the ride of your life as Kenny Schrader drives you in a two-seater for three laps around the track!

The raffle is valued at \$1,000 and tickets are \$10 each or \$25 for three chances.

The winner will be drawn and contacted on Friday, July 28.



SSM Health team working the Mobile Food Pantry on Heritage Founders Day on November 16.

Returning Home to United Way



Lee Knernschild,
United Way President

As I write this I am feeling both blessed and overwhelmed. United Way is where I started my journey in non-profit nearly 30 years ago.

Returning to United Way in the role of President, I stand in awe of the many ways United Way is impacting our community. In a few short days, I have witnessed the enthusiasm that is generated at a workplace campaign, the dedication of the United Way staff and volunteers, and how impactful the work of the United Way is. I am also reminded that none of this is possible without you!

Soon we will embark on the 2023 United Way Campaign and all the fun that follows. Ensuring services are available and agencies are there to help is what is most important. The United Way reach can be felt through 9 counties. Last year alone, 128,588 individuals were touched by a United Way agency, or benefitted

by a Community Support Grant. The beauty of United Way is that with one gift our partner agencies can continue the important work of helping individuals and families, and United Way can continue to implement solutions for our communities' most pressing issues. I do hope that you will consider supporting United Way as we work towards a healthier, stronger community.

In closing, I want to extend my gratitude to Ann Bax for her leadership over the past 13 years. She has done a masterful job in shaping the organization into the relevant, viable organization it is today. There is no doubt that United Way, its partner agencies and our community is better because of Ann!

Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.



Ann Bax,
Former United Way President

As I pass the United Way of Central Missouri President's baton to my dear friend and colleague, Lee Knernschild, I can't help but reflect back on the last thirteen years. My decision to retire was not an easy one, and is certainly bittersweet. It has been an honor, privilege and blessing to be part of the United Way family.

I am so grateful to those that believed in me and gave me a chance over thirteen years ago. They took a chance on me, and I hope I have made you proud!

I am proud to have had the opportunity to stand shoulder to shoulder to serve our community

alongside some of the most caring, selfless, passionate people who love this community like I do. I am proud of how we worked together to change lives, address critical needs and gaps in services, and help make our community the best it could be. I am proud of how our work brought individuals, businesses, nonprofits and decision makers together to have the tough conversations, mobilize resources and make smart investments so that every person and every family in our community can thrive.

Serving beside selfless, passionate, caring people has made me a better person and I will forever be grateful for the opportunity to be part of the United Way of Central Missouri team. The team consists not only of the extraordinary United Way staff, but the army of volunteers... Board Members, Governing Body Members, campaign co-chairs and campaign leadership team members, Fund Allocation and Strategic Funding committee members... just to name a few.

People who allowed me to lean on them in good times and bad and who understand we all have a responsibility to take care of our community-- because in great

communities like ours that's what we do--we take care of each other.

It has been an absolute team effort, one I am so proud of and will never forget. My United Way family are friends who I will have for life. I am so blessed!

I learned the importance of service and leaving the world better than I found it from my parents. My dad used to say, “If I don't do it, who will?” Those are words I try to live by, and I leave this role knowing I have received much more than I have given, and I know God isn't finished with me yet.

With the continued incredible support of our community, I have no doubt the United Way team will continue this important work as the trusted philanthropic leader, bringing community partners together to protect and serve this wonderful, caring community with the utmost passion, hard work and dedication and I will be their biggest cheerleader and advocate.

Thank you to every United Way supporter, advocate and volunteer for your friendship and what you have done and continue to do to support the United Way of Central Missouri and this community.

Keep up the great work, our community needs you!

Providing Childcare Services for Families Who Need Us

Donna Scheidt,
Little Explorers Discovery Center

Little Explorers Discovery Center (LEDC) is licensed for 99 children from birth to eight years of age. LEDC offers an accredited early childhood education program along with two meals and a snack for all children attending the Center. LEDC's doors are open to all children whose parents are either working or going to school, but gives priority to low-income working families. Childcare is made affordable for families with low income through a sliding fee scale based on a family's income.

Our youngest children are infants. LEDC provides iron-fortified formula and baby food for infants and partners with the Capital City Diaper Bank to assist families with basic needs. Along with degreed or Child Development Associate (CDA) certified teachers LEDC has volunteers who provide hugs and snuggles for this very young population.

Our toddlers, including two and three year olds, enjoy many activities; including singing and dancing, art activities like coloring and painting, science, math, literacy activities, planting vegetables, comparing colors, shapes and sizes, listening to stories, and sensory exploration like playing in water and cooking experiences. In addition to enjoying lots of activities, our four, five and six-year-old children take field trips to explore businesses and activities in our community like bowling, parks and a florist shop. All these activities are designed to increase body and brain development, help children feel secure and cared for, and help children successfully enter kindergarten.

LEDC doesn't do any of these activities alone; we're a United Way partner agency and rely on United Way support to keep our doors open. Thanks to United Way, our parents working minimum wage jobs are able to go to work every day knowing their child is in a safe place and they are able to afford childcare. In addition to helping families that work minimum wage jobs, United Way is often the only help for those families that "fall between the cracks". Sometimes parents make just enough money to disqualify them for any type of assistance, but not enough to support their family. With a sliding fee scale with five different categories, these families will receive some assistance from United Way.

LEDC hosts Parent Classes for families attending the Center. These classes primarily focus on Conscious Discipline by giving parents tools to help understand, regulate and control their own emotions and behaviors as well as helping teach children how to self-regulate. These parent classes are sponsored through a grant from United Way and help families integrate positive discipline approaches at home, matching the same approaches used while their children are at the Center.

LEDC is part of the Early Childhood Initiative sponsored by United Way. Thanks to being a part of this initiative, our Center staff is trained in the use of Conscious Discipline and local Center directors get to meet together and discuss the successes and challenges of childcare as well as share

important information.

As a United Way agency, LEDC partners with other agencies to better care for our community's most vulnerable population. For example, The Sneaker Project provides a new pair of shoes for the children from low-income households. For many of these children this is their first new pair of shoes. The Boys and Girls Club allows LEDC to use one of their vans two mornings a week for field trips, stretching those United Way dollars even further. Salvation Army and Rape & Abuse Crisis Service (RACS) have both provided services to families attending the Center who are homeless or suffering from domestic abuse, and we assist families in shelters in need of childcare whenever possible. By working together, United Way partner agencies serve families and individuals living in poverty in many ways with a goal of helping these families and individuals work toward a better life.

LEDC has been a United Way agency for about 50 years. The best part about being in business for this many years is when helping families becomes full-circle. We have had many graduates return to the Center as parents. Even though they no longer need United Way support and are able to pay the full fee, they return because of their experiences as a child were positive, and they feel safe coming home. We are so grateful to provide our services thanks to the support of being a United Way of Central Missouri partner agency!



Teacher Heather Taylor reads a book to a child in the infant room at Little Explorers Discovery Center.



Children practice literacy skills with teacher Melissa Small while attending daycare at Little Explorers Discovery Center.



Children at Little Explorers Discovery Center enjoy music with teacher Mr. Aaron.

COLE COUNTY AREA MOBILE FOOD PANTRY SCHEDULE

August 2023

- (SAT) 5 **CATHOLIC CHARITIES**
1015 EDMONDS ST, JEFFERSON CITY
9:00 - 11:00 AM
- (TUES) 8 **TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**
13007 ROUTE C, RUSSELLVILLE
1:30 - 3:30 PM
- (THUR) 10 **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**
1822 TANNER BRIDGE RD, JEFFERSON CITY
3:30 - 5:30 PM
- (WED) 16 **BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**
11105 LAFAYETTE ST, JEFFERSON CITY
4:00 - 6:00 PM
- (SAT) 19 **CAPITAL WEST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
1315 FAIRGROUNDS RD, JEFFERSON CITY
8:00 - 10:00 AM
- (WED) 23 **ST. MARTINS CATHOLIC CHURCH**
7148 ST. MARTINS AVE, ST. MARTINS
4:00 - 6:00 PM
- (THUR) 24 **ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH**
310 MILLS ST, CALIFORNIA
4:30 - 6:30 PM

The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri and United Way of Central Missouri partner to provide food at no charge to those in need at the following locations. Please note any location, date and/or time changes for this month. Schedule subject to change. For questions, call The Food Bank at 573-474-1020 or United Way at 573-636-4100.

- Mobile Food Pantry Tips:
- Stay home or send a proxy to pick up food for you if you feel ill.
 - Remain in your vehicle for distribution; it is a drive-thru process.
 - Clear space in your trunk or back seat to receive food.



YES! I want to support our community! My total annual gift is \$ _____.

Gifts to United Way of Central Missouri are tax-deductible. For information about the tax advantages for including United Way in your will and estate planning, please call 573-636-4100. United Way provides no goods or services in consideration for this contribution.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____ E-mail Address _____

☐ I would like to remain anonymous in any publications regarding my donations to United Way of Central Missouri.

Payment Option 1: Cash or Check

Include your cash/check donation with this cutout and mail to the United Way of Central Missouri at 205 Alameda Drive, Jefferson City, MO 66109.

☐ Please use my donation to benefit all of the United Way of Central Missouri partner agencies, allowing me to make a greater impact in our community.

☐ **DESIGNATIONS:** Please designate my donation to the following partner agency(s). Minimum designation amount is \$25.00. Designations to agencies not a part of the United Way of Central Missouri network will be directed to our general campaign fund.

Payment Option 2: Online

Make your donation online by going to our website at www.unitedwaycemo.org or scanning the QR code below:

To support our community cut out the form, complete the information, and mail it to the United Way of Central Missouri at 205 Alameda Drive, Jefferson City, MO 65109.

Partner Agencies

4-H Youth Program

ABLE

American Red Cross

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Boys & Girls Club

Boy Scouts

Capital City CASA

Capitol Projects

Central Missouri Foster Care & Adoption Association

Community Health Center

Compass Health Network

Council for Drug Free Youth

Dreams to Reality

Girls Scouts

Homemaker Health Care

Jefferson City Area YMCA Child Development Center

Little Explorers Discovery Center

Osage County Community Living

Rape & Abuse Crisis Service

Salvation Army

Senior Nutrition Council

Special Learning Center

The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri

The Sneaker Project

Tri-County YMCA

United Way

What's Happening

VIP 2 Day Racing Experience

Have you ever wanted to drive a racecar?

Let NASCAR Legend Kenny Schrader lead you in a personalized experience you will never forget at Federated Auto Parts Raceway at 1-55, located in Pevely, Missouri!

Saturday, August 5, 6 p.m. - Ironman 55 - World of Outlaw Sprint Cars and Xtreme Midgets You will receive two pit passes so you and a friend can experience a race from the vantage point of the crew. Hotlaps usually start between 6:15 - 6:30 p.m. with races beginning at 7 p.m.

Package includes one night at a complimentary hotel.

Sunday, August 6, 10 a.m. One lucky person will get to run eight laps in a Kenny Schrader Racing Dirt Modified car. Then be prepared for the ride of your life as Kenny Schrader drives you in a two-seater for three laps around the track!

Raffle Tickets: \$10 each or \$25 for three chances. Value: \$1,000.

Raffle held by SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital to support United Way of Central Missouri.

The winner will be contacted on Friday, July 28.

Fill out form to Register

unitedwaycemo.org/ssmhealthVIPrace

United Way of Central Missouri & Member Agencies Events Calendar

Month	Events
July	July 27: SSM Health St. Mary's United Way Fundraiser at Big Whiskey's July 31: Council for Drug Free Youth Ice Cream Social
August	Aug 9: SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital BBQ Lunch Fundraiser for United Way Aug 11: Big Brothers Big Sisters Golf Tournament Aug 11: Compass Health Network Golf Tournament Aug 17: Special Learning Center Perfect Pairings Fundraiser Aug 18 - 21: ABLE/Missouri River Regional Library Pop-up Sale Aug 28: Dreams to Reality Putt'n Noon to Five Ladies Golf Tournament
September	Sept 6: United Way Community Campaign Launch Sept 7 & 8: United Way Days of Caring Sept 11: Boys & Girls Club Cork, Fork & Brews Fundraiser Sept 21: Boy Scouts Barrels & Beats Fundraiser Sept 29: Osage County Community Living John H. Stratman Memorial Golf Tournament
October	Oct 7: The Salvation Army Hoes for Hope Fundraiser Oct 12: Capital City CASA Raise Your Glass Fundraiser Oct 19: Big Brothers Big Sisters Chili Cook-off/Cornhole Tournament Oct 25: RACS Masquerade Gala Oct 28: The Sneaker Project Haunted Hustle 5K

For additional information, please visit www.unitedwaycemo.org/calendar.

SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM - FREE LUNCHES FOR KIDS

FOOD 4 KIDS

July 5 - August 18, 2023

Starting July 5, FREE sack lunches will be distributed at the following locations:

Monday - Friday, 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM

- Apache Manor Mobile Home Park, 5101 Business 50
- Church of God in Christ, 616 Locust Street
- Corner of Edmonds & Elizabeth Street
- Corner of Ventura Avenue & Candlelight Drive
- East Elementary School Parking Lot, 1229 E McCarty Street

Wednesday, 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM

- Building Community Bridges, 213 E Ashley Street

Food 4 Kids is a free summer feeding program that provides children with nutritious food during the summer when school is not in session. Children under 18 eligible. One sack lunch per child.

Proudly Sponsored By SCHOLASTIC

CAPITAL CITY HOUSING TASK FORCE presents

UNHEARD VOICES

A LISTENING SESSION ON THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS

Are you having trouble finding housing in Jefferson City? Or is your rent too high? Poorly maintained apartment? Application rejected because of criminal background or prior evictions? We want to hear from you to understand the real problems so that we can continue to work on real solutions.

FREE FOOD! HOUSING FAIR! RAFFLE PRIZES!

THURSDAY JULY 27TH @ 6 PM
Salvation Army, 927 Jefferson St.

capitalcityhousingtgf@gmail.com capitalcityhousingtaskforce.org

UNITED WAY FUNDRAISER

July 27th 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

BIG WHISKEY'S

AMERICAN RESTAURANT & BAR

10% of Sales Benefit the United Way

Meet Our Board: Brenda Leydens



Tell us about you:
I was born and raised on a farm in Holt Summit with two sisters and a brother. I have spent almost 60 years here. I attended elementary school in Holts Summit and then later graduated high school at Jefferson City High School. I graduated from William Woods University with a degree in Business Management as well. I have one daughter, Taryn, and I

have two grandchildren that I love to spend time with; Paysen is 10 and Makenlee is 3 years old.

Employer:
I have worked in banking for over 40 years. I am the Vice President/Lender at Mid America Bank since 2010.

Community Involvement:
Outside of my involvement with United Way, I am a Holts Summit Community Betterment Association (HSCBA) member and assist with many community events with my job at Mid America Bank.

Why did you say yes when asked to be on the United Way Board of Directors:

I am proud to serve with an organization that I have faith in. My daughter was born with Spina Bifida back in 1984 and she attended the Special Learning Center for therapy on her legs, ankles and feet. The therapy was so important for her, and I know that made a huge difference. We were told she might not ever walk, and thanks to the Special Learning Center

she started walking at 23 months old. I believe in the work of the United Way and the critical support it provides to its agency partners like the Special Learning Center, who are making miracles happen every day.

Favorite thing about United Way:
I love the many organizations that we assist in our community.

Favorite thing about our community:
We have so many nice, caring people.

Number one on your bucket list:
I want to take our camper to the mountains to camp for a month after I retire.

Fun fact about you:
I love being outdoors early in the morning, drinking coffee way before the sun comes up. 4 am is the BEST TIME!

Words you live by:
Treasure each day.

Making It Happen for Our Youth

Wade Middaugh,
Boys & Girls Club

This year Boys & Girls Club of Jefferson City marks 28 years of afterschool and summer programming for youth in our community. During that time, the need for its growth and the importance of its services for our youth are more evident than ever. The past year is a perfect case for why the Club is so needed and how, over the last three decades, staff, board members, community partners like United Way, and investors have kept their eyes on the future and remained dedicated to expanding services to all youth in our community.

In the spring of 2022, with continued waitlists at multiple sites, the Club began searching for a new location to expand services on the West side of the community. When an ideal location was found in May, staff and board members wasted no time in purchasing the building and property. Our unwritten motto is “Make it happen,” and this plan was no different. After a sixty-day remodel, the Club opened the new facility in August. Purchasing, remodeling and opening a new facility for 175 children in less than ninety days would take a miracle. Yet again, the Club, with the support of our community at our back, has seen many miracles for our youth. The new Sadowski Center opened last fall and just completed its first very successful school year. It continues that success and building on our mission to serve more children by allowing the Club to offer a second summer camp location. It also doubles the amount of children that can be served every summer.

The Club didn't stop there. While the Sadowski Center is serving youth for the first time this summer, the Club has expanded its commitment to our teens as well. For the first time ever, our middle and high school-aged Club members have a full summer long camp instead of just the month of June this year. This expansion furthers our investment and commitment to teens in our community. For the past few years, one of our priorities has been to better serve our teen population and increase the number of teens in our program who need our support. The Club has made investments in high-end STEM activities for teens that includes robotics, 3D printing, esports programming, a recording studio, and even virtual reality career exploration goggles. The primary



Malani Morris was announced the Boys & Girls Club 2023 Missouri Jr. Youth of the Year.

focus for our teens at the Boys & Girls Club is to help guide their success and offer a variety of experiences and programs that engage them in thinking about their future and what that successful future looks like to them. This expanded program during the summer helps to provide continuity of our programming for teens and has already proven itself to be a great success with a 59% increase in teen enrollment since last year.

All of this growth is only possible because of the continued support of our community, and we have no greater community partner than United Way of Central Missouri. United Way not only funds a large share of the scholarship program that allows those youth who cannot afford the program to attend, their funding has also supported many necessary items over the years. Items like vehicles to transport kids home who don't have reliable transportation in their family, kitchen equipment to provide meals so no child goes home hungry, or temporary walls to divide spaces and keep kids safe during COVID. We are so appreciative of the continued support from United Way and its donors that helps ensure we partner with other United Way member agencies like Little Explorers Discovery Center, the Sneaker Project, or Dreams to Reality to make those funds go father for those in need in our community. We are all stronger when we Live United together!

The growth of our programs is vital to the success of our mission to enable all youth to become responsible, caring and productive citizens in our community. However, the programming, experiences, mentoring and support offered by the Club are the true recipe of what makes the Club successful in that mission. There is no better example of the success of our programming and our mission than Teen

Center member Malani Morris, a 13-year-old who attends Lewis & Clark Middle School. Malani has attended the Club for over 4 years. She is a remarkable young woman who personifies all of the qualities that we encourage in a Club Kid. She is involved in her community, shines academically, and is truly engaged in the Club and has grown from her experience with us. Earlier this year, Malani represented the Club in Boys & Girls Club of America's premier leadership program in Missouri as a Jr. Youth of the Year candidate. The Youth of the Year program consists of Club youth representing their hometown Clubs from across the state with essays and speeches. The program concludes with a winner announced each April in the Capital City. Candidates also get to meet the Governor, their representatives, receive a proclamation from the Missouri Senate, and share their Club experience.

Malani did an excellent job representing our community and our Club. She was announced as the 2023 Jr. Youth of the Year for Missouri! She begins a legacy for our Club and community as the first-ever winner from Jefferson City. We are so proud of her and were humbled as she shared her experience at the Club, speaking eloquently about the support from staff, the time she gets to bond with friends she doesn't see at school, and how the accepting and empowering environment at the Club has set her up for success in her future. This is why all of us at the Boys & Girls Club of Jefferson City do the work we do, because youth are our future, and we owe it to them to clear obstacles, empower them, and set them up for a successful future. Looking at the past three decades of support, growth and success at the Club, now more than ever, I feel confident our community's future is in good hands with our youth!



Pictured Right: Teen Center members engage in Esports and Virtual Reality Career Exploration Goggle programming at the Boys & Girls Club.

Pictured Below: The Boys & Girls Club opened the Sadowski Center with a Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting with Tom Sadowski and his family.



Expansion of Services for Those with Disabilities

By Susan Roemer,
Independent Living Resource Center

Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC) first opened our doors in 1997 serving Cole, Southern Callaway, Moniteau, Miller, Morgan, Osage and Camden Counties. We are one of 22 Independent Living Centers in the state of Missouri and serve persons with disabilities including youth, young adults, the aging and veteran populations.

ILRC offers the Five Core Services; which includes Advocacy, Peer Support, Independent Living Skills, Information and Referral, and Transition. Additionally, we have programs designed to support our community such as Consumer Directed Services, Care Closet (offering needed cleaning and hygiene products to those who are in need), and our Durable Medical Equipment Program offering new and gently used equipment to individuals in need.

In 2018 we were the recipients of a United Way Community Support Grant allowing us to purchase a driver simulator. ILRC teaches drivers permit curriculum assisting individuals to prepare for the drivers permit exam. Drivers permit classes are taught in classrooms in our region as well as individual instruction as requested. Once a permit is obtained, our driver simulator allows individuals to practice for their road test. These are just a few of our many added-



A consumer at Independent Living Resource Center prepares for a drivers permit exam utilizing the driving simulator funded by a United Way of Central Missouri Community Support Grant in 2018.

value programs and services. Our goal is to assist individuals to live a life of independence and community involvement to whatever extent they choose. ILRC is proud of the work we do within our seven-county area including our partnerships with United Way of Central Missouri, local schools and other organizations.

ILRC is excited to announce the United Way Community Support Grant we recently received. This grant will allow us to remodel our teaching kitchen to universal design specifications and ADA compliance affording our community a model for design and our consumers an accommodating learning experience. In addition to working one on one with individuals, we are developing a curriculum to include workshops featuring local nutritionists and chefs teaching specific dietary needs cooking classes and developing kitchen skills in those seeking greater independence.

Our kitchen will feature accommodating cooking utensils and assistive technology that will benefit many to learn the kitchen skills necessary to care for themselves. We are so thankful for our many business partners who are working hard to remodel and supply our kitchen; including Meeks Lumber Company, Lages Cabinet Shop, Kitchen Craft, Bernskoetter Plumbing, Stokes Electrical, Coleman Appliances and more.

ILRC is embarking on a new path this year expanding services and increasing community outreach. We are underway of a much-needed facelift in our Center and will be hosting an open house for all to attend in the fall and learn more about our consumers and center. We are so appreciative of United Way of Central Missouri for selecting us as one of the many outstanding agencies that was awarded grant funding this year, and we are looking forward to this incredible expansion of services for our consumers.

Thanks to a grant from the United Way of Central Missouri, Independent Living Resource Center will be remodeling its teaching kitchen to universal design specifications and ADA compliance, providing an accommodating learning experience for those with disabilities. Photos include consumers of Independent Living Resource Center learning kitchen skills prior to the renovations.



Meet Our Campaign Co-Chairs: Cassandra Atchison, Modern Litho | Brown Printing



Tell us about you/your family:
I am a Jefferson City native and alumni of St. Peter's School, Helias and University of Missouri-Columbia where I graduated with a degree in Communications. I met my husband, Brandon Atchison, also a Jefferson City native and alumni of Jefferson City High School and Columbia College, while working across the hall from each other at the Capital Mall over 15 years

ago. Brandon is the Executive Director of the Missouri Economic Development Council and recently earned his Master of Public Affairs from MU. We've been married for 14 years this October and have two sons, Liam (9) and Leif (6). The boys attend school at St. Joseph Cathedral where Brandon and I are active parishioners. We enjoy being active outdoors whether it's walking at Runge, coaching the boys' sports teams or playing golf together as a family.

Occupation:
My current role is Vice President of Marketing. Marketing and communications have always been a passion for me, and I've had the honor of serving Modern Litho | Brown Printing in this capacity for the last 14 years.

Community Involvement:
Zonta Club of Jefferson City Board Member and Committee Chair; St. Joseph Cathedral Home and School Board Member; Jefferson City Area Chamber of

Commerce Young Professionals and former Broad Member, Membership Drive Volunteer, Jefferson City START program coordinator/speaker, Leadership Jefferson City; United Way Board Member, Power of the Purse Host Committee and Chair, Pacesetter Campaign Coordinator, Marketing and Special Events Team, Women United Council Leader, Dine and Shop United Chair, Campaign Leadership Team and now Campaign Co-Chair

Why are you passionate about the United Way?
Let me count the ways! There are many reasons to love our United Way, but for me it comes down to trust. Having volunteered in several roles, I've seen how decisions are made. I know donations are utilized where they can have the most impact in our community. I've seen the needs that come to the doorstep and how our United Way addresses each one with compassion, dedication and diligence. I've learned that many

people in our community make up the United Way, not just the staff, but hundreds of volunteers that give time, talent and treasure to make our community better. Everyone benefits from a strong United Way because these are our co-workers, neighbors, friends and family we are helping to live their best possible lives.

Why did you say 'Yes' to the role of United Way Campaign Co-Chair?
It's an absolute honor to represent the United Way, to be entrusted with such an important role is truly humbling. It's a chance to grow personally, to get to know the wonderful people and businesses in our community better and to inspire others. Also, I'm a little competitive...I want us to hit that goal!

Favorite fun fact about the United Way:
Benjamin Franklin said, "If you want something done, ask a busy person." There

are forty-four members on our Campaign Leadership Team this year. And these team members happen to be some of the busiest people I know! They are picking up the torch from the Pacesetters and seeing that we finish the Community Campaign strong.

Favorite part of Campaign so far:
It's difficult to pick just one, so here are my top three: meeting the passionate and energetic campaign coordinators at numerous businesses and organizations who make their workplace campaigns happen year after year; feeling the overwhelming support our community has for the United Way and its twenty-eight partner agencies; and being able to thank long-time supporters and volunteers while inspiring others to become one.

Favorite Super Mario game and character:
My favorite Super Mario game is Mario Kart! I always pick Princess Peach, of course.

And my kart of choice is anything pink! I am admittedly not very good, but I love racing my boys and watching them relish beating me. Fun fact about Princess Peach, did you know that her famous blonde bangs are said to be "heart shaped"? In the new Super Mario movie, Bowser references this as one of the attributes he loves about Peach.

Words to live by:
I'm an eternal optimist, something I'm proud to say I get from my parents. My dad has often told me, "Carpe Diem." Latin for "Seize the day." I've always thought of it as a directive to make the most of life and your experiences. It's why I usually say "yes" when I'm approached with a new opportunity. I have never regretted it.

Meet Our Campaign Co-Chairs: Doug Hagenhoff, Hawthorn Bank



Tell us about you/your family:
I grew up in Westphalia and attended grade school at St. Joseph and graduated from Fatima High school in 1982. I graduated from college at CMSU in Warrensburg (go Mules!), which is where I met my wife Jennifer. Jennifer is a retired teacher, having spent her entire 30-year career serving the families of

the Fatima school district. Her love for children continues in retirement as she now works part-time at Discovery Place daycare, and she just completed her first school year as a "big" for a "little" at East School. We've been married 34 years and have two daughters, Brooke and Meghan. Brooke is a Meteorologist with the U.S. National Weather Service in Des Moines. Meghan is a Registered Dietician with Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan. She and her husband Joe live here in Jefferson City.

I love to be outdoors so on the weekends you'll usually find me at the family farm, hunting, fishing or taking my old hot rod out for a drive.

Occupation:
I'm a Vice President/Consumer Loan Officer at Hawthorn Bank and have worked there just over 8 years.

Community Involvement:

Jefferson City Evening Lions Club member for 20 years, holding positions of Membership Chair, Treasurer, and Tail Twister; Active member of First Christian Church, where I've been Deacon, Usher and Treasurer; Outlaw Car Club positions of Treasurer and President; Jefferson City Salute to America festival committee member, 2021 event chair and current board member; 2019 graduate of Leadership Jefferson City; United Way of Central Missouri Pacesetter campaign committee for Hawthorn Bank; United Way Governing Board member, United Way Fund Allocation Committee member, and now Campaign Co-Chair for United Way.

Why are you passionate about the United Way?
There is so much need in our community, and there are great agencies out there addressing those needs every day; United Way gives me the opportunity to

help them all! United Way allows me to join with hundreds of others that volunteer their time and give their dollars to support those agencies and help our friends and neighbors. Having served on the Fund Allocation Committee for the last 5 years, I've seen firsthand how those dollars are used and what good stewards of those donated funds the United Way is.

Why did you say 'Yes' to the role of United Way Campaign Co-Chair?
Who says no to Ann Bax? Seriously, I'm humbled and honored to have been asked and am looking forward to helping get the message out about all the great things the United Way and our volunteers do every day in our community to help everyone live their best possible life.

Favorite fun fact about the United Way:
I love the new GIVE 5 "civic matchmaking" program! As

someone who has an eye towards retirement in a few years, I love this program of matching retirees (and soon to be retirees) with volunteer opportunities. I'm sure it won't take me long to sign up for a class after I retire.


Favorite part of Campaign so far:
It's hard to pick just one, especially since we're just getting started, but seeing the enthusiasm from the campaign coordinators at our Pacesetter Launch event on June 28th was inspiring. And the special appearance of our "toads" from Little Explorers Discovery Center, Special Learning Center and Boys and Girls Club before the start of the event was the best!

Favorite Super Mario game and character:
Mario Kart! I know I'm Mario for the campaign, but when playing Mario Kart, I'm always Donkey Kong. When he wins the race, he stands up in his car and beats his chest. I may or may not


be known to mimic him when I win, which isn't often... so I need to make the most of it when I do!

Words to live by:
It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit. To me, it's a reminder to stay humble and remember that there are always great people working behind the scenes as a team to accomplish great things.


Why Give to United Way?




John is passionate that kids have a better future. He is a major donor to one agency.



At a presentation at John's work place, he is invited to donate to United Way. John wonders: "Why should I give to United Way when I can give directly to my favorite agency?"



John's colleague explains that United Way has the unique ability to assemble a diverse network of agencies that ALL work together to help youth succeed, strengthen and sustain families, respond to crisis, improve health, and support the aging.



United Way leverages your donation so it addresses the true complexity of community need and creates lasting change for a stronger, healthier community.

IMAGINE WHAT IS POSSIBLE WHEN WE ALL CARE. REALLY CARE.

About a perfect stranger, a lonely woman, a hungry child. If you can imagine a life changing from sleeping in the cold to finding a warm bed... a child feeling safe, instead of living in fear... a man growing old without losing his passion for life... Then you can imagine the possibilities that are created when United Way of Central Missouri brings our entire community together to help those with disabilities, challenges and lost hope.

No matter the obstacles. No matter the odds. Together, we can help those who need our help to get an education, a path to wellness, a job. Those that can just use a hand. Our neighbors, our co-workers, our families and our friends. Those who need a voice and those whose names we do not know.

Imagine the positive changes made in a world where possibilities become a reality.

TOGETHER ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

2023 Campaign Goal
\$2.4 MILLION

\$.87
of every dollar donated goes
DIRECTLY TO SERVICES
1 IN 2
people are touched by a
UNITED WAY AGENCY

128,588
PEOPLE SERVED

United Way of Central Missouri has supported over 80 non-profit health and human service agencies that help the hungry, the homeless, the powerless... seniors, babies, adults with disabilities and families struggling to put food on the table or a roof over their heads.

At United Way, we bring individuals, businesses, nonprofits and decision makers together to have the tough conversations, mobilize the resources and make the smart investments so that every person and every family in our community thrives. We bring the community together in a way no other single organization can to develop, fund and execute solutions that address our community's most pressing issues at their roots.

We unite the community.
We mobilize resources.
We create change.

Southern Callaway 8,059

Moniteau 5,587

Cole 70,194

Morgan 4,276

Osage 2,811

Miller 9,775

Maries 1,467

Camden 17,372

Phelps 9,047

2023 United Way of Central Missouri Pacesetters

A Pacesetter is an organization who takes the lead and sets the standard of achievement for others. Pacesetters are a select group of exemplary businesses that take on the challenge to "jump start" the United Way of Central Missouri's annual campaign each year. They set the standard for leadership and community support and are critical to the success of the overall campaign. United Way of Central Missouri is proud to stand United with these extraordinary partners. In 2022, this incredible group raised an amazing \$1,162,172 -- or 50.5% of the \$2.3 million campaign goal!

- Bartlett & West
- Capital Region Medical Center
- Central Bank/Central Technology Services
- City of Jefferson
- Cole County Government
- Fechtel Beverage & Sales
- GFI Digital
- Genesis Company
- Hawthorn Bank
- Huber & Associates
- Jefferson Bank
- Jefferson City Autoplex
- Jefferson City Medical Group
- Joe Machens Capital City Ford
- Mid America Bank
- Midwest Independent BankersBank
- Missouri Auto Dealers Association

- Missouri Farm Bureau
- Missouri Hospital Association
- Modern Litho/Brown Printing
- Modine Manufacturing
- Osage Ambulances
- Rusty Drewing Chevrolet Buick GMC
- Cadillac Toyota
- Schnuck's
- Septagon Construction
- SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital
- Three Rivers Electric Cooperative
- United Parcel Service
- United Way & Member Agencies
- Wallstreet Group
- Williams-Keepers

No matter the obstacles. No matter the odds. Together, we can help those who need our help to get an education, a path to wellness, a job. Those that can just use a hand. Our neighbors, our co-workers, our families and our friends. Those who need a voice and those whose names we do not know.

Imagine the positive changes made in a world where possibilities become a reality.

Scan to learn more about how we are changing lives!

2023 Campaign Goal
\$2.4 MILLION

Last year because of your support...

- 28,304** individuals received **medical, dental & behavioral health services**
- 11,900** youth participated in programs to learn the **importance of staying drug & alcohol free**
- 2,500** children received **Conscious Discipline instruction**, a proven model of discipline to develop self-regulation skills
- 4,013** youth participated in **mentoring & leadership programs** that build skills to ensure a brighter future
- 263** children's families maintained employment by accessing **affordable child care**
- 13,224 bed nights and warm cots** were provided for men, women & children experiencing homelessness or abuse & neglect
- 1,242,072 pounds of food** distributed through mobile food pantries to those experiencing food insecurity
- 87 cents of ever dollar** donated goes directly to services

United Way of Central Missouri

573-636-4100
unitedwaycemo.org

@unitedwaycemo
#liveunitedmidmo

Our Agency Partners

4-H Youth Program	573-634-2824
ABLE	573-636-5558
American Red Cross	573-635-1132
Big Brothers Big Sisters	573-634-3290
Boy Scouts of America	573-449-2561
Boys & Girls Club	573-634-2582
Capital City CASA	573-893-2272
Capitol Projects	573-634-3660
Central Missouri Foster Care & Adoption Association	573-298-0258
Community Health Center	573-632-2777
Compass Health Network	573-634-3000
Council for Drug Free Youth	573-636-2411
Dreams to Reality	573-681-9675
Early Childhood Initiative	573-636-4100
Familywise Prescription Drug Program	573-636-4100
Girl Scouts	877-312-4764
Homemaker Health Care	573-635-6603
Jefferson City Area YMCA	573-635-6665
Child Development Center	
Little Explorers Discovery Center	573-636-6461
Osage County Community Living	573-897-0330
Rape and Abuse Crisis Service	573-634-8346
Salvation Army	573-635-1975
Senior Nutrition Council	573-634-8020
Special Learning Center	573-634-3070
The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri	573-474-1020
The Sneaker Project	573-619-5588
Tri-County YMCA	573-348-9230
United Way Missouri 2-1-1	211 or 800-427-4626

United Way of Central Missouri

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TOGETHER ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

LIVE UNITED

GIVE ADVOCATE VOLUNTEER