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
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Care</td>
<td>$979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>$867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>$795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>$451</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MONTHLY**

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

---

United we break down barriers for struggling, working families. United we provide paths to financial stability. United we build hope and stronger communities.
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.


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.
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

Denise Conlon
Manager, Billing Exceptions / Cash Processing / Meter Processing
NIPSCO

Marijo Dluzak
President & Founder
Dluzak & Associates, Inc.

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Purdue University Northwest

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Aaron McDermott
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Tom McDermott, Sr.
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North Township Trustee

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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
Honorary Member

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Phil Taillon
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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

Staff

Lisa Daugherty
President/CEO

Brandi Adams
Relationship Manager

Linda Hazen
Director, Major Gifts

Erin Meisner
Relationship Manager

Megan Sikes
Community Engagement Manager

Rick Czyz
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENCY PARTNER</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Red Cross</td>
<td>Comprehensive Emergency Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Caring Place</td>
<td>Domestic Violence Shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Family Services</td>
<td>Comprehensive Emergency Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Hammond Community Services</td>
<td>Food Pantry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Hammond Community Services</td>
<td>Capes House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haven House, Inc.</td>
<td>Domestic Violence Shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals on Wheels</td>
<td>Home Delivered Meals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Salvation Army</td>
<td>Comprehensive Emergency Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Jude House</td>
<td>Domestic Violence Shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scouts of America, Calumet Council</td>
<td>ScoutReach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Clubs of NWI, Inc.</td>
<td>Youth Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Family Services</td>
<td>Counseling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossroads YMCA</td>
<td>Before &amp; After School Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis Center</td>
<td>Safe Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis Center</td>
<td>Teen Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Neighborhood Services</td>
<td>Neighborhood Building Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago &amp; NWI</td>
<td>Girl Space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hobart Family YMCA</td>
<td>School Age Child Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana Legal Services</td>
<td>Legal Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health America</td>
<td>Parents As Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tradewinds Rehabilitation Center Inc.</td>
<td>Child Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tradewinds Rehabilitation Center Inc.</td>
<td>Deaf Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Stability</td>
<td>Urban League of NWI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YWCA of NWI</td>
<td>Yes We Can!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Indiana Community Action</td>
<td>2-1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Enrichment for The Handicapped, Inc.</td>
<td>Summer Enrichment for Students with Disabilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 Bakhouche
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 Chioni
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 Fassett
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 LaBrol
Adam Lawson
Antonio Lopez
Penny Lubieniecki
Julian Marsh
Gayle Martinkus
Jennifer Marsonek
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 Tiggies
Luis Tovar
James Vadas
Virginia Tovar
Michael Verbancic
Darren Viola
Nicole Walker
Christopher White
Lawrence Whitford
Donna Worst
Russell Wysocki
Donald Zentz
James Zierdt
Sherri Ziller
Michael Zmierski