

THESE ARE
THE WORK

VOLUNTEERS ARE AN ESSENTIAL
PIECE OF THE COMMUNITY



April 19 - 25, 2020

National
Volunteer
Week

presented by





BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING

- **2019 Estimated National Value of Each Volunteer Hour = \$25.43 an hour.**
- **Currently, 63 million Americans volunteer about 8 billion hours of their time and talent to help improve people's lives.**

There are many social, emotional, physical, and professional perks of volunteering.

Volunteering makes an impact on others, but we are also caring for ourselves and our immediate social networks.

- Volunteering reduces costs through their work for a company. Many organizations would cease to exist without volunteers.
- According to the Corporation for National & Community Service, **you strengthen your community and your social network when you volunteer. You make connections with the people you are helping, and you cultivate friendships with other volunteers.**

- The Cause Agency says that one of the most rewarding things about volunteering is the contact with the individuals you connect with while on the job, **directly seeing the benefits that your work produces. Seeing your actions makes a positive difference in motivation to continue serving.**
- Nonprofit Hub says that volunteering broadens your horizons and gives you the **opportunity to explore new skills and interests.**
- Social interaction improves **mental and physical health**, according to Psychology Today. The benefits of consistent socializing include better brain function and lower risk for depression and anxiety. You also improve your immune system.
- **Reduce stress and improve well-being.**
- Physical work from volunteering, whether carrying boxes, standing for extended periods of time, or solving problems for an organization can lead to **improved health.**
- **School-aged kids build social skills and develop awareness.**
- **Teens and young adults develop self-esteem, confidence, and feelings of self-worth.**
- **High school students can boost their college applications**

- **College students can improve their job search post-graduation.**
- Many Millennials are civic-minded and socially-aware employees who choose jobs that reflect their values and then continue to donate their money, time and skills. **70% of Millennials share their talents with charitable causes, but their volunteer hours also make them competitive in the job market.**
- Through corporate philanthropy, many big-name companies support local and national programs financially. These corporate volunteer programs give employees a chance to volunteer during work hours. Doing so increases the likelihood that people will volunteer, even during their personal time. **Companies that offer employee volunteer programs may attract more committed employees, as well.**

Sources:

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THANK YOU FOR GIVING YOUR TIME & EXPERTISE

United Way of Greater Stark County runs on volunteer power. Without the help of them, we could not help as many people in our community as we do.

Thank you to our board, council and committee members, and everyone who donates their time to create meals, finish service projects, put together literacy kits, assemble purse kits, read to children and more!

Thank you. You are the backbone of our community and you make it stronger with your contributions.

Thank you to our Corporate Champions who support United Way of Greater Stark County's Annual Campaign. Their gifts help keep our annual fundraising costs low, so more resources can go to individuals and families right here in our community.



We could not successfully achieve our goals without the efforts of our volunteer campaign cabinet. Thank you!

Mark & Tonya Wright, 2019 Campaign Co-Chairs, Aultman Health Foundation

Barbara Bennett, Higher Education Division Chair, Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce

Paul Bishop, Alexis de Tocqueville Society, H-P Products, Inc.

Jennifer Brackman, Non-Profit Division, Mercy Medical Center

Jason Dean, High Potential Division

Bob DeHoff, Alexis de Tocqueville Society, DeHoff Realtors

Dan DeHoff, Alexis de Tocqueville Society, DeHoff Development Company

Linda DeHoff, Alexis de Tocqueville Society, DeHoff Development Company

Kenneth Douglas, Direct Mail Division Chair, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Eric Dublikar, New Account Development Division, Employers Health

Victor Factora, At Risk Division, KeyBank

Philip Fracassa, Alexis de Tocqueville Society, Timken Company

Michael Gallina, Education Division Chair, Aultman Health Foundation

Joseph Gerzina, Cornerstone Division, Farmers National Bank

David & Laura Grabowsky, Alexis de Tocqueville Society Co-Chairs, Standard Plumbing & Heating Company

Maribeth Graham, Cornerstone Division

Cindy Hickey, Cornerstone Division, Mercy Medical Center

Geoff Karcher, New Account Development Division, The Karcher Group

Adam Luntz, New Account Development Division, Aultman Health Foundation

Jeffrey Moloney, High Potential Division, KeyBank

Eric Murray, At Risk Division Chair, TimkenSteel Corporation

Kyle Obendorf, New Account Development Division, The Karcher Group

Diane Pete, Leadership Division Chair

Kevin Pete, Non-Profit Division Chair, Aultman Health Foundation

Lucia Pileggi, Alexis de Tocqueville Society, Key Bank

Sandra Rapp, Cornerstone Division

Brian Ray, Cornerstone Division Chair, Timken Company

Christopher Remark, New Account Development Division, Aultman Health Foundation

David Schauer, Alexis de Tocqueville Society, Schauer Group, Inc.

Gary Sirak, Alexis de Tocqueville Society, Sirak Financial Services

John Sirpilla, Alexis de Tocqueville Society, Encourage, LLC

Susan Steiner, High Potential Division Chair, Malone University

Mark Sterling, Alexis de Tocqueville Society, The Beaver Excavating Company

Timothy Teynor, Government Division Chair, Aultman Health Foundation

Katherine Wright, Non-Profit Division, Aultman Health Foundation



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

United Way volunteers are passionate about making positive change happen in our community. Individuals and workplaces donate their time and talent to make our community a better place to live and work. We wanted to share some of the volunteer opportunities since April 2019.

LITERACY KITS

79 volunteers created 250 fun, engaging literacy kits for children to take with them over winter break.

STONE SOUP

2,800 meals were created by more than 350 community members through workplaces or individuals during Stone Soup events. The meals were distributed to area shelters, housing and community centers.



2,800
Meals



79
Volunteers

PURSE KITS

320 purse kits were assembled by more than 100 volunteers at the Massillon Purse Project. The kits were filled with donated personal care items and distributed to local women in need.



320
Kits



732
Volunteers

EARLY LITERACY

32 volunteers promoted early literacy and Kindergarten readiness with three events over two days. They encouraged a love of reading with story times and family activities.



32
Volunteers



DAY OF CARING

732 volunteers, 42 service projects, 40 nonprofit or school locations and 39 workplaces participating in 12 cities = the largest Day of Caring ever on May 17, 2019. Day of Caring is an annual one-day event where non-profits submit service projects they need assistance completing and then workplace volunteer groups are matched up to complete them.

Thank you to our Aultman Volunteers

As we celebrate Volunteer Week – we honor you. Your time, talents and commitment to our employees, families and patients does not go unnoticed – now, more than ever.

Thank you for your dedication to the health and well-being of our patients and staff throughout the year – even today, tirelessly using your talents from home. We appreciate all you do. We thank you and look forward to your return.



OH781140

The best people bring out the best in people.

When an organization sets out to make our community better, we take notice. We're proud to support United Way of Greater Stark County for their work to make a difference. Thank you, from all of us at Huntington. Your efforts are inspirational.

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VOLUNTEERS ARE ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR This award recognizes an individual who has made an impact on our community that goes far beyond normal volunteering. Over the past several years this person has excelled at making a positive impact that has changed the course of our region for the better. This individual has exhibited exceptional involvement which could include outstanding service at a particular event, leadership in an initiative or project, increased involvement in a volunteer role or sustained, long-term commitment to a particular volunteer role that is worthy of recognition. This year, we have two amazing women who have won the award, Brook Harless and Laura Sams.



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR - BROOK HARLESS
Nominated by Steve Harless

“Even though Brook’s Army career was cut short due to injuries and endured 41 surgeries since her medical retirement, she does not let that deter her from helping others.”

She has had a tough life and yet still chooses to help others. Brook possesses determination, ambition, perseverance towards a goals and work ethic to see such goals accomplished.

She often tells me her volunteer work is her career and she wouldn’t have it any other way. Brook is always about putting her community first.

“She works tirelessly on behalf of her community as a Plain Township Board of Trustee member, Concerned Veterans of America’s Strike Team Leader, Serving Area Military board member, Rotary Club of Plain Township President-Elect, American Legion 44 Delegate and Board Membership Chair, Military Women Across the Nation Unit 21 Executive Board, American Red Cross Services to Armed Forces caseworker and Disaster Action Team member, Ohio Veterans Coalition Co-Chair and on the Stark County Veterans Task Force. Her volunteerism extends to the community at large through both the American Red Cross and Stark County Hunger Task Force Board of Directors, North Canton Chamber WIN Facilitator and Plain Township Historical Society.”

After her Army retirement, Brook graduated from several Leadership Academies, UMHB and CTC. She is an Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame inductee, a recipient of Stark County’s 20 under 40 award, 2019 Ohio’s Mother of the Year and National Military Mother of the Year and a 2019 YWCA Women’s Hall of Fame inductee. She works tirelessly on behalf of veterans as CVA’s Strike Team Leader, Serving Area Military VP, American Legion 44 Delegate and Board Membership Chair, Military Women Across the Nation Unit 21 Executive Board, ARC Services to Armed Forces caseworker, Disaster Action Team, Ohio Veterans Coalition Co-Chair, Veterans Task Force, creating and co-chairing the Veterans Stand Down. Her volunteerism extends to the community at large through the ARC and SCHTF Board of Directors, WIN Facilitator and the Rotary Club of Plain Township President-elect among other organizations.

Brook helped start the annual Stark County Veterans Stand Down (which helped 1300 veterans and gave 228 Vietnam Veterans their service pins) and helps veterans with housing, food, VA claims, financial advice, ID cards, flu shots and more. She fought for the local VA clinic to install Koala changing stations and advocated to have VA clinics in Ohio receive 3-day emergency food bags to help veterans, which has now expanded to 10 clinics - along with Wade Park Hospital. Brook is the Literacy Committee Chairperson for Ohio with First Lady Fran DeWine, developing and recommending policies related to the promotion of literacy; developing programs, educational opportunities and resources; raising awareness of literacy and encouraging younger generations about the importance of literacy.

She also ushers at the Palace or the Civic Center, visits pantries weekly, helps serve at Pancake Breakfasts or Taste of Plain, picks up canned goods for food drives, gets gifts for the Women Veterans Nursing Home in Sandusky, and more.

I don’t know many other people who do all she does daily and all for free. Her actions speak to her character and she continually demonstrates how one person can change lives.





VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR - LAURA SAMS

Nominated by Susan Zoky

"The best way to get your mind off your own problems is to help someone else," Sams said during a 2018 interview.

Laura started Respect Assist Minister (RAM) Ministries in 2013. It is a nonprofit organization focused on providing workshops, lunch programs, youth activities and more for people in need in the community of Alliance.

In 2018, she started Women of Courage. This program helps women rent an apartment, receive their GED, obtain a driver's license, find a job - whatever it takes to help them become independent.

"Most women have been referred to Laura from the courts in Alliance. Once it became known what she does, she was asked by the courts in Canton and Massillon to set up the same program there. Laura has some volunteers to assist her but does most of the work herself. She receives donations but often they do not cover all her expenses. She then will use her own money, even though she has little to spare. This woman has a huge heart and will help anyone in need."

Laura has helped feed, clothe, find shelter, find transportation for many. She has also helped many find a decent paying job so they can raise their children. Many women coming out of jail do not have any family support to get on their feet. That's when Laura steps in and helps them find a place to live, get furniture if needed, find a job, gives them bus tokens to get to work, finds someone to help get their children to school - whatever they need.



NO ONE CAN DO IT ALONE

COLLABORATION OF THE YEAR Any volunteering project, event or activity that has been organized by 2 or more groups that came together to make an impact. The nomination should demonstrate examples of effective teamwork, how each group contributed to the activity and shows how the project and community benefited from the collaboration. This year the award goes to Canton St. Baldrick's Foundation.



CANTON ST. BALDRICK'S FOUNDATION

Nominated by Joanel Shaffer

The St. Baldrick's event has been held in Canton for 18 years to raise money to fight childhood cancer.

This year's goal was \$250,000 and the one-day event raised \$320,240, with close to 700 shavees. A majority of these were students from area schools. The event is run by a team of 7 volunteers.

Everything for the event is donated. The collaboration includes the barbers and beauticians who donate their time, the North Canton Racquet Club that donates the venue, and Quaker Steak who has been a strong supporter for the food.

The Canton St. Baldrick's Event was started by the mother and aunt of Abbey Foltz.

"Abbey was first diagnosed with cancer in 1996 at the age of 14. Abbey was an incredible tap dancer. She had a smile that could light up a room and could make any situation fun. In her final days of August of 2000, she remained full of grace, faith-filled and was able to show those around her how to love hard, even if it hurt.

For all who lost Abbey, St. Baldrick's was a way of doing something, at a time when we felt so helpless. It became a way to remember Abbey, to take comfort in one another and to keep her wonderful memory alive."



CHRIS GOFF
2020 United Way of Greater Stark County Campaign Chair

Chris Goff will chair this year's United Way of Greater Stark County's campaign. Goff, CEO & General Counsel of Employers Health, has been an avid supporter of United Way corporately and personally for many years. Chris and his wife Michele, a pharmacist at Absolute Healthcare, are members of the Alexis de Tocqueville Society; Michele is a member of United Way's Women United and Chris joined the Board of Directors in 2019.

Goff was asked to lead this year's campaign in early January shortly before Mark and Tonya Wright wrapped up their campaign leadership for the past year. The Goffs and the Wrights had a chance to have dinner together in late February to talk about what it's like to lead a major United Way campaign, not realizing our community

would need the services of United Way in an unprecedented manner weeks later. Prior to Governor DeWine's "stay at home" order, Goff built a cabinet of community leaders to build on the success of the Wrights' campaign; the first meeting was set to kick off on March 31 but by that time, face-to-face meetings were being cancelled or postponed. While the cabinet has been established, it will utilize virtual meetings to launch its efforts. Goff stated, "while the public generally sees the campaign as a September to December event, much methodical and strategic planning begins in earnest by April and continues into the first quarter of 2021."

Goff plans to begin meeting with his cabinet in the next few weeks. According to Goff, "this year's campaign will be challenging given the economic crisis our nation currently faces with record unemployment and critical needs such as food, rent and mortgage payments. However, we stand ready to meet the challenge as United Way's success is critical to provide necessities for our most vulnerable populations' needs."

United Way's impact areas of health, education and financial stability are a good match for Goff's personal and corporate philanthropic initiatives. Having led Employers Health for the last twenty-five years, Goff attributes the company's success to the talented, dedicated team at Employers Health who have consistently

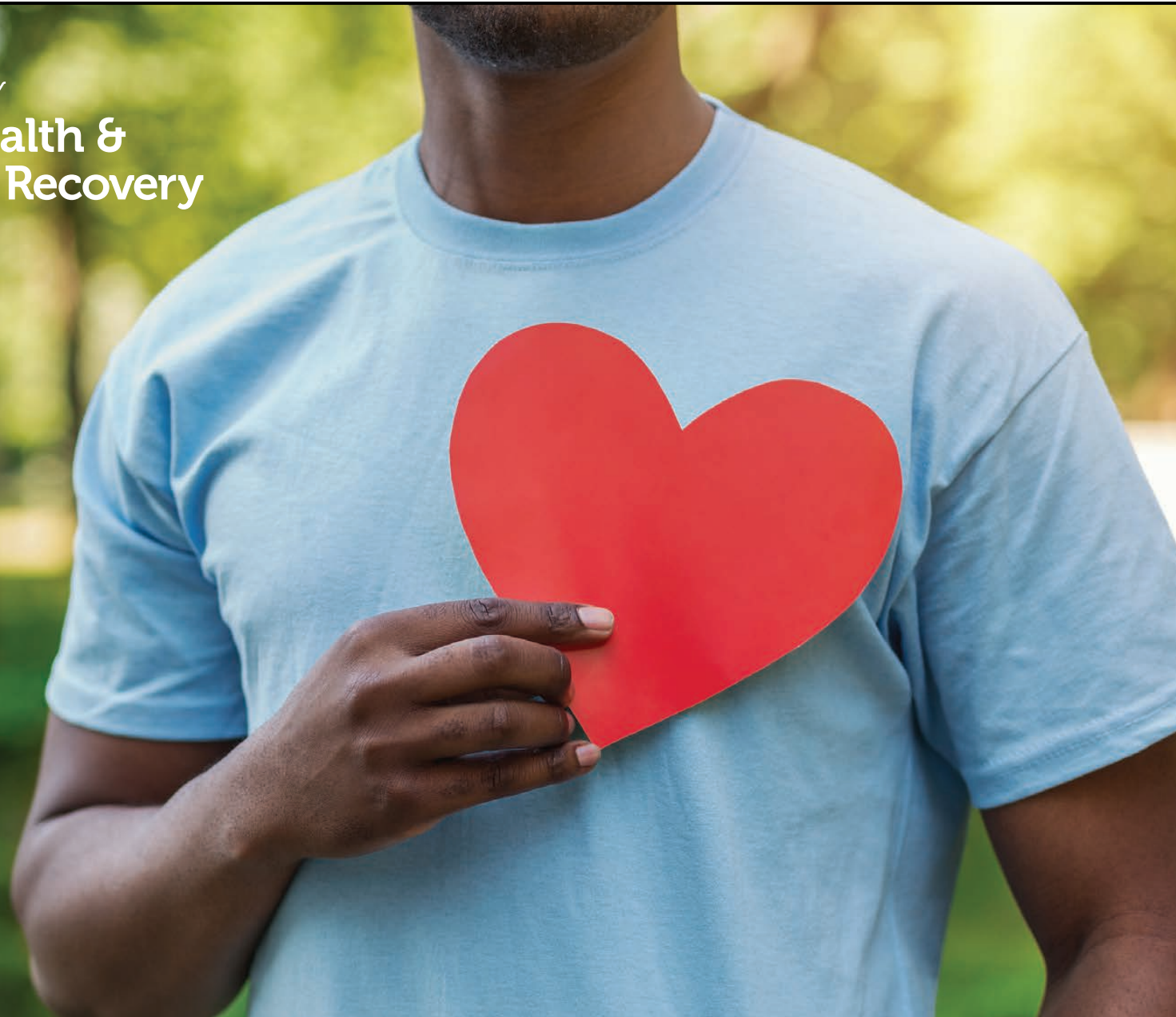
donated to United Way as part of a workplace campaign. Goff said, "my colleagues understand the importance of giving to the community by sharing their compensation and their talent." The company observes "First Friday," a day of volunteering at non-profit organizations or team building experiences on the first Friday of every month as a mechanism to strengthen our community and our team.

In addition to United Way, Goff serves on other community boards, among them the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, Arts in Stark, Jackson Local Board of Education, Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges, Health Foundation of Greater Massillon, University of Akron School of Law Alumni Association and University of Akron President's Advisory Council; Goff also serves on the faculty of the law school where he teaches health law. The Goffs reside in Jackson Township, have been married for thirty-one years and have three adult children.





STARK COUNTY
**Mental Health &
Addiction Recovery**



Many thanks to all Stark County volunteers for giving your time and talents to make our community a better place to live and work.

With special recognition and sincere gratitude to coalition members
of these StarkMHAR-affiliated community organizations who volunteer to
make a positive difference in the health of our neighbors:



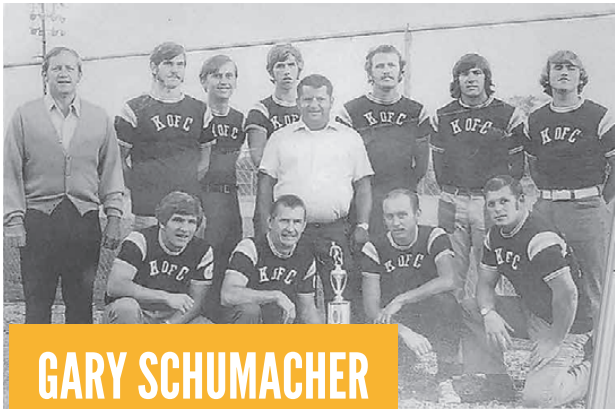
STARK COUNTY
**Suicide Prevention
Coalition**



**Drug Free
Stark County**



STARK COUNTY
**Opiate & Addiction
Task Force**



GARY SCHUMACHER

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

How did you get started in volunteering?

My dad. He was very big into volunteering when I was young. He was involved in Louisville Knights of Columbus, Junior Achievement (JA) advisor, Chaired Louisville Bi-centennial-Silverama Celebration and helped organized building Louisville football fields.

Tell us about your volunteering career.

I started volunteering as a JA Company Advisor in 1980 and have been involved ever since. I currently serve on the JA Board and have served as past Board President and Program Committee Chair. In 1998, I became a member of the United Way (UW) Community Investment Council for several years. In 2017, I joined the UW Financial Stability Council and am now currently chair of the council, member of the UW Community Investment Council and UW Board member. During my career at Synchrony, I was fortunate to be engaged and/or lead many volunteer events like Habitat, Akron Canton Food Bank drive, UW Day of Caring, JA Bowl-a-thon, YMCA Corporate Challenge, Red Cross Disaster Relief, Veterans events, lead LGBTQ Network, initiated JA in-a-day Financial Literacy program for high school Juniors at Walsh, etc.

I'm also on the Board at St. Joseph Senior Living Center in Louisville and currently chair the Personnel Committee. I'm currently co-teaching three Career Success classes at McKinley HS for 9th graders with Tim Kelly, recently retired from Synchrony. I am also actively involved on the St. Thomas Aquinas 50th year alumni reunion planning committee.

Why is volunteering so important?

Simply, it's the right thing to do. I have been very blessed with a great family, friends, good health and a passion to get involved from my dad. There is a lot of need in our community and getting involved makes me feel that I'm making a small difference in someone's life and in our community. Our community needs volunteers and I strongly believe that people need to volunteer because basically people are very compassionate and want to help others that are less fortunate. If we are able to build and sustain a model that shows people how to get involved, and their impact, will only lead to a better, healthier, and prosperous community.



Why is financial literacy so important to you?

Kids don't know, what they don't know. They finish school and/or college and are expected to know about careers, budgeting, credit choices, savings, etc. And they don't. My current involvement with JA and UW continues to validate my commitment to volunteering to help improve financial literacy to our youth, adults and families. Financial stability, in my opinion, is one of the biggest areas of opportunity facing our community. We need to break the cycle of poverty. We need to start reaching out to our youth and share with them the various career opportunities, and explain to them the importance to start developing habits that businesses are looking for like communication skills, creativity, critical thinking and collaboration. I strongly believe it starts with our grade school, middle school and high school students. I'm extremely excited about the UW Get Connected program for High School students with a focus on one-on-one mentoring opportunities. However, at the same time, we also need to work with adults and families to focus on social capital through strengthening our relationships with individuals and connecting them to resources that will help them achieve their goals: long-term stable employment, access to income boosting benefits, credit score enhancement and asset building.



You are such a crusader for volunteering. Tell us about why you recruit.

Every day, people make choices on what they do that day: go to work, go to school, take care of a love one, stay home with their children, etc. If I can show individuals how they can impact people in our community and how to get involved, I believe more people will make an informed decision on what they can do. My current involvement with JA and UW continues to validate my commitment to volunteer to help improve financial literacy to our youth, adults and families. We can only do this if we are able to collectively work together to get engaged in creating a value-add proposition that includes volunteering to meet the needs of our community. There are many retired people in the community who would like to volunteer, and I am trying to increase awareness of the opportunities available to them. You need a purpose when you retire. Some people are retiring at 60-61 and they are staying healthier, living longer. I want retirees to be engaged. They don't know where to reach out or what they want to do - their passion. I am

working with UW to help offer them volunteer opportunities, to get people out and give back a little bit.

What have you done recently that really opened your eyes?

I just completed several agency reviews of funded UW partner programs. I was able to visit after-school programs in Massillon and Alliance that provide activities, enrichment, learning opportunities, quality programs, etc. There was one that stood out to me in Alliance. This program was very engaging, provided enriched activities for students and assisted them with daily homework. These students rotated between activities in their gymnasium – music, schoolwork, arts and crafts, or gaming. **They were engaged and involved. This partnership with the schools, families and community are helping to empower and prepare our youth.**

Is there something you would like people to know about United Way?

Each time I visit a UW funded partner agency, I'm always impressed with the level of engagement, passion, commitment and enthusiasm of each of the staff members at these agencies. I wish there was a way to illustrate the impact that UW has on the partner programs they help fund. Many people in our community may not know the UW services that are available to them. Also, some people may not even realize that they are using UW funded programs. Until you need the services, it's something you don't pay much attention to. UW is there for you. It's a blanket, it's support.

United Way – I'm blessed to be here, participating. I love getting involved. The staff here is great, which makes

it enjoyable. I'll continue as all as I'm able and passionate about it.

Individuals can figure out what they are passionate about and get involved. If anyone is bored or has nothing to do, shame on them. Many individuals really don't know how to get involved.

After all, we are a family, we are a community. We are only as good as the people around us.

Learn more about Gary and other amazing volunteers at uwstark.org/volunteer-stories

"I just enjoy what I do. Find what you are passionate about. I always tell my boys find out what you like to do and then do it. You know

simple. Money is great to make but it doesn't do it all. It wears out very quickly. You can have both; it's just you being able to do what you do."





TEAM WORK



No organization or individual can do it alone. You are an essential piece of our community.
Thank you.

United Way
of Greater Stark County



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