Annual Report

2021-22

United Way of Muscatine

Better Together Better Tomorrow

Live United

Letter from Executive Director and Board President

Despite the continued uncertainties with COVID-19, United Way had another productive year making a positive impact on the community. Volunteers logged over 16,000 volunteer hours on volunteermuscatine.org, valued at almost $400,000 for the year. Much of this work was done by providing a weekly grocery delivery to those who were homebound. But 2021 also saw the return of Day of Caring which saw 200 volunteers complete 45 community projects.

Over 1,000 area students received almost $30,000 in assistance through the Kids First Fund to help them participate in activities or have what they needed to succeed in the classroom. This included providing coats and snow boots to students, as well as hundreds of pairs of shoes to families who couldn't have otherwise afforded them. We also collected baby items, food, coats, and school supplies to help area agencies assist people in need. All of this has helped area families stretch their dollars and pay for things that they need.

Most notably, we invested well over half a million dollars in area programs that are making a difference by helping households towards self-sufficiency through education and housing. These last two years have highlighted the importance of organizations working together to address community needs. Through our collaborative work with Aligned Impact Muscatine County and members of the Muscatine Housing Cluster, it's exciting to see so many organizations working to make the community better.

We're excited about changes coming this year. A new data system will match program and school data to see which interventions are having the best impacts on area students. This information will help all our partners improve education outcomes in Muscatine. We're also expanding programs like Reading Buddies and Day of Caring to reach more people throughout Muscatine County.

While it was a challenging year, United Way never stopped mobilizing resources to empower the greater Muscatine community to improve the lives of people in need. As you look through this report and see the great things we accomplished over the last year, know that even bigger things are coming. You can be part of this and make a difference. We hope you'll join us.

Shane Orr
Executive Director

Jim Garrison
Board President

DIRECT SERVICE PROGRAMS

THE KIDS FIRST FUND

Started in 2009, the Kids First Fund helps Muscatine students be involved in activities by paying for activity registration fees or equipment. The fund also helps students be successful in the classroom by paying for anything that will eliminate barriers to learning. The Kids First Fund has paid for everything from softball and baseball registration and soccer equipment to school supplies, shoes, and testing fees. In 2021, the Kids First Fund provided $29,967 to help 1,104 students. The major fundraisers for this fund are an annual Vintner's Dinner and quarterly pancake breakfasts. Because of COVID-19 we were unable to host these events in-person. A letter campaign was done in place of the Vintner's Dinner.

IMAGINATION LIBRARY OF MUSCATINE COUNTY

The Imagination Library of Muscatine County is a project designed to develop a love of reading, improve literacy skills, strengthen family relationships and increase school readiness among children ages 0-5. Each month, children are mailed an age appropriate book, from the time of their enrollment through their fifth birthday. This is provided at no cost to the family. By mailing high quality, age appropriate books directly to home, we will help improve childhood literacy and children will have accessibility to books regardless of their family's income or situation. This proven successful program was established in 1996 by the Dolly Parton Foundation, who administers the program for a cost of approximately $25 per child per year. Since November 2015, Imagination Library has grown to 1,200 children receiving books with 1,909 children graduated.

ALIGNED IMPACT MUSCATINE

United Way of Muscatine serves as the fiscal agent and one of twelve partner organizations for AIM. AIM is an initiative that uses the collective impact framework to increase post-secondary attainment in our community. Aligned Impact Muscatine's Leadership Council and community partners have been hard at work evaluating community data, surveying local programs and collaborations, and building strategy networks. Based on community data, AIM is focusing on early education, academic success, post-secondary completion and the training of adults to meet workforce demands. For more information, please visit alignedimpactmuscatine.org.

ALMONER FUND

The Almoner Fund is a fund supported by local churches and private donors. It is used to pay for things that Muscatine County money can't assist with such as rent and utility deposits or work shoes. The main use of the fund is to help Muscatine County Community Services clients to be more self-sufficient by assisting them to obtain housing or items necessary for employment. Through United Way's administration of the Almoner Fund, the program provided $3,541 to assist 16 families in 2021.

MUSCATINE HOUSING CLUSTER

State housing dollars are brought in to the Muscatine community each year through the Muscatine Housing Cluster to help with housing related needs for low-income residents. These funds are used to subsidize emergency home repair, provide first-time home buyers with down payment assistance or to help pay for staffing for housing related programs. As the fiscal agent for the Muscatine Housing Cluster, the United Way distributed $104,634 in 2021.

VOLUNTEER CENTER

CHILDREN & ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP)

In January of 2016, we started working with CACFP through the state to provide healthy snacks to enriched after-school programming at Sunset Park, The Salvation Army, and at Flickinger Learning Center sites.

#GIVINGTUESDAY

We have a day for giving thanks. We have two for getting deals. Now we have #GivingTuesday, a global day dedicated to giving back. Hygiene items were collected in November for the Cleaning Supply Closet.

FOOD RESCUE PROGRAM

The Food Rescue Program came out of the Blue Zones Project Food Policy Group and started at the end of April 2014. This program has volunteers pick food up from local grocery stores and restaurants and delivers to one of 3 local food pantries. The quality food they deliver was formerly being thrown away. In 2021, this program collected $584,573 worth of food. As of December 2021, the program had collected $3,682,386 worth of food.

THANKSGIVING IN JULY

Data shows that in Muscatine County we have 4,486 people who are food insecure and about 1/2 of those are children. We are working to reduce the number of people who don't know where they will find their next meal. To meet these needs, United Way of Muscatine worked with Chef Ron from Iowa City to help stock the shelves of The Salvation Army of Muscatine and Muscatine County Food Pantry by holding Thanksgiving in July.

COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

In April 2021 we held our 6th Annual Community Baby Shower. Baby items were collected and given to the Community Diaper Bank, Trinity Muscatine Public Health, Muscatine YMCA Family Services, LSI HOPES Program, The Salvation Army of Muscatine County and Muscatine Center for Social Action.

DAY OF CARING

As a result of the tremendous growth in participation the Day of Caring has seen, we have continued with separate Day of Caring events for students and adults. By hosting several annual events we are able to help more in our community and have more volunteers participate. We host one in the fall for adults, one in spring for students, and one in the summer for interns. In 2021, we were only able to hold a small fall event due to COVID-19. 196 people participated in 45 service projects across the Muscatine community. Volunteers worked with non-profit agencies, helped to clean up city parks and worked on many homes for seniors.

Grant Recipients

Education/Training

Flickinger Learning Center
- After School Program

Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois
- Leadership Development Program

Imagination Library Muscatine County

Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJag)

ISU Extension & Outreach
- Latinx Outreach/Salir Adelante

Lutheran Services in Iowa
- Hopes Program

Muscatine Community YMCA
- Character Development
- Family Program Services
- Special Olympics
- Big Brothers Big Sisters

The Salvation Army of Muscatine County
- Youth Programming

UnityPoint Health-Trinity Muscatine Public Health
- Adolescent Sexual Health Education
- Early Childhood Oral Health Programs

Housing

Crossroads Inc
- Senior Resources Chore
- Senior Resources Outreach Services
- Senior Resources Home Repair

Family Resources
- Survivor Services

Muscatine Center for Social Action
- Case Management Services
- Homeless Prevention Program

Rebuilding Together Muscatine County
- Safe at Home

Household Stability

American Red Cross
- Disaster Services

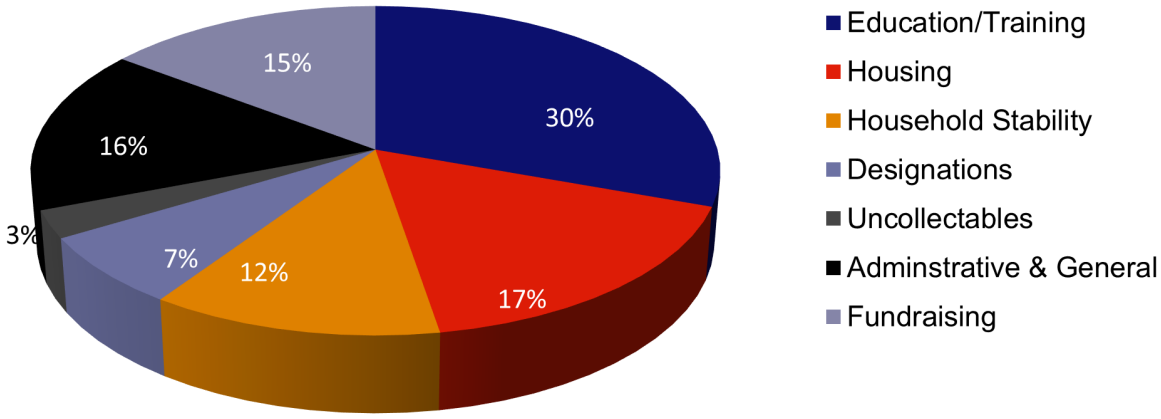
Family Resources
- Survivor Resources
- Counseling & Therapy

Muscatine Center for Social Action (MCSA)
- Domestic Violence Shelter Operations
- Food Pantry
- MCSA Shelter Operations

Muscatine Legal Service
- Crisis Legal Aid

2021 Annual Campaign

2021 Budget Overview



United Way of Muscatine takes seriously our commitment to be accountable for the dollars you entrust in us.

WHERE DONATIONS GO

Did you know...

Community Volunteers review local grant applications, determine funding levels and hold agencies accountable.

INVESTMENT IN HOUSING	INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION & TRAINING	INVESTMENT IN HOUSEHOLD STABILITY
$154,400	$279,000	$111,100

Investment in...

Education

*Students went up an average of 1 grade level in reading
*285 Individuals enjoyed Teen Center Programming
*88.5% graduation rate of iJag program participants
*93% of children received needed follow-up dental care

Housing

*88 seniors receive snow removal services, 66 receive lawn care
*409 people received assistance with Medicaid paperwork
*14 people who had been trafficked in Muscatine County are now Survivors
*271 Muscatine households remained or became stably housed
*20 Muscatine County residents received help to feel safe at home by receiving a wheelchair ramp or other accessibility needs

Household Stability

*14 families were provided support after disaster struck their homes
*298 clients received counseling and therapy services
*The food pantry gave out 11,174 bags of food
*115 abuse clients were legally represented

A Real Impact

Funded Program Story
Flickinger Learning Center

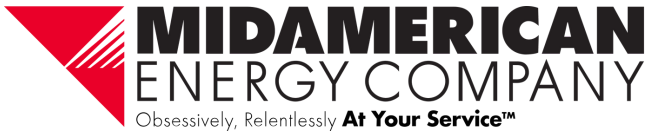
In January, a first-grader STAR tested and scored as a non-reader. After conferring with his teacher, she confirmed that he could not read, and as a result, his FAST test scores were very low. We started by focusing on site words. As we worked with him, we found that he could read the words but lacked confidence in reading. When faced with a text with many words, he would become anxious and shut down. To accommodate this, we had him use index cards to hide the l words around the word he focused on. Later we expanded to hiding everything but the sentence or line he worked on. We spent months encouraging him by celebrating small victories while reminding him that he knew these words and to take them one step at a time. By the end of April, he tested at a 1.2 A.R. level and no longer needed that level of intensive support. We later found out from a school staff member that this student had passed his FAST test goal!

Funded Program Story
Senior Resources Outreach Program

Norma was searching for a long-term care option for her husband that had progressed in care needs beyond her ability. In her search for long-term care Norma received a stack of paperwork to qualify for Medicaid, which was the only way she and her family would be able to afford her husband's growing healthcare needs. Norma and her daughters felt lost in the paperwork and struggled to understand the stack of papers and what documentation was required. Norma was connected with Laura who walked her through the paperwork, clearly explained required documentation and even sent paperwork to the nursing home to begin the acceptance process. Within 2 weeks Norma had funding and had her husband placed in a safe environment to meet his healthcare needs. Norma states "We don't know what we would have done without Laura." Norma now has money for their home as well as needed healthcare.

TOP CORPORATE PARTNERS

United Way of Muscatine is proud to partner with over 100 corporations and businesses committed to supporting their local communities. Our Top Corporate Partners recognizes organizations that exemplify the spirit of philanthropy in our area.



LEADERSHIP GIVERS

PRICELESS PEARLS
$10,000 +

1 Anonymous

CULTURED PEARLS
$5,000-$9,999

Jay Brady & Alyce Spoto
Jim & Tammy Stein
Dennis & Micki Tripp
1 Anonymous

MAABE PEARLS
$3,750-$4,999

Nathan & Heather Brewer
2 Anonymous

BAROQUE PEARLS
$2,500-$3,749

Bishop "Brandon" Bullock
Jason Heredia
Greg & Sue Kistler
Shane & Lupe Orr
Kevin & Coralie Voss

KESHIE PEARLS
$1,750-$2,499

Kevin Hoban
Thomas & Cynthia Kautz
Michael Kramer
John & Kathleen Kuhl
Lora Morgan & Stephen Dunham
Sean & Brandy Olson
Yvonne Orr
James & Janet Sichterman
Randy & Janelle Spies
Scott & Kimberly Warren
1 Anonymous

SEED PEARLS
$1,000-$1,749

Julie & Jason Abramowski
Harvey Jr. & Jo Ann Allbee
Kathie Anderson-Noel
David M Bizak
Steven Bradford
Marshall Bridges
Robert Cook
Renee Cooley
Erika Cox
Christopher Day
Barth & Rachel Donald
Drs. Daniel & Jo Drahos
Mark Dunsmore
Kyle & Toni Eller
Nancy Etnier
Michael Eversmeyer
Jeff Foltz
Jim & Sara Foster
Tiarr Fridley
Dave & Judene Gardner
Jason Gregory
Danny Hagberg
Jason Hagedorn
Ryan Hein
Bobbie Holliday
Janet Homewood
Patrick Homoelle
Bob & Tanya Howard
Foundation Howe
Kyle Jensen
Angie Johnson
Robert Kemper
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Carlin Lawhead, DDS
Caroline Lee
Bill and Suzanne Liegois
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Brandon Smith
Jeremy Smith
Edward & Michelle Spellman
Kurt & Kristyn Tjaden
Kimberly Uecker
Margie Wigans
Christine Wilder
Richard & Alice Witter
Jeffrey & Jody Young
Kevin & Mary Zeimet
Eric M Zillig
David Zorich
5 Anonymous

BOARD & STAFF

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathie Anderson-Noel, President	Retired Community Member
Brenda Arthur-Miller	West Liberty Community School District
Josh Blair	Allsteel
Rosy Eichelberger	Community Bank & Trust
Kyle Fry	Kent Corporation
Jim Garrison	Muscatine Power & Water
Phil Jerzyk	Bridgestone Bandag
Rayne Krambeer	CBI Bank & Trust
Tony Loconsole	Muscatine Community School District
Chris Nienhaus	Muscatine Community School District
Erick Recinos	UnityPoint Health-Trinity
Michelle Roos	Realtor
Jodi Royal-Goodwin	City of Muscatine
Craig Rubemeyer	SSAB Iowa Inc.
Daniel Salazar	LULAC
Amber Schulte	First National Bank

CURRENT STAFF

Shane Orr	Executive Director
Allison Eagle	Office Manager
Hilary Henke	Community Engagement Manager
Michele Rhoades	Communications Manager

ALIGNED IMPACT MUSCATINE COUNTY STAFF

Kim Warren	Director
Mindy Hoon	Data Manager
Claudia Artola	Student Success Facilitator

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