

Grove City Area United Way 2023—2024 Annual Report April 2023—March 2024



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Grove City Area
United Way



2023—2024 Grove City Area United Way Year in Review

Jennifer Connelly, Board President

The Grove City United Way continues to be a strong presence and support in the Grove City community. Through our board members' dedication and our community members' generosity, we have once again met our fundraising goals, enabling us to support all nine agency requests fully. Each agency that asked for grant funding through the United Way helps to provide programming for various groups throughout Grove City. They help to feed people with food insecurities, provide programming for children, prepare meals for those in need, support people experiencing homelessness, and give financial assistance where needed. I am genuinely grateful to be part of such a compassionate organization that ensures others can be compassionate to those in need.

The Grove City Area United Way also supports the community through other endeavors. Last year, 255 people came out to help with the Day of Caring, and we are gearing up for another day this April 20, 2024. On this day, various projects are completed throughout the community for people who need assistance. During the Stuff the Bus Campaign, 114 backpacks loaded with school supplies were handed out to students in the Grove City Area School District. Since the inception of the program in 2008, the United Way, along with its many supporters, has given away 1,492 backpacks filled with supplies to help students get the strong start they deserve at the beginning of their school year. Along with this, currently 166 children from birth through age 5 receive books to jump-start early literacy through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Since the first books went out in May 2009, 26,923 have been distributed to children in the Grove City Community. This year, the Grove City United Way took over the fundraising efforts for the Food for Kids Backpack Program, which provides a meal on the weekend for approximately 70 students in the Grove City Area School District.

None of these programs would be possible without the support of the Grove City United Way and their dedicated volunteer board members or the leadership of Amy Foley, the Executive Director, and Kathy DiStasi, the Financial Administrator. These projects and fundraising efforts help us all live out the slogan of what it means to **LIVE UNITED!**



2023 Sponsors

Platinum \$500

Bonner Realty, LLC
Grove City County Market
Mars Bank
McNickle & Bonner, LLP
Northwestern Mutual—Gould Financial

Gold \$250

Anderson Insurance Agency
Bashlin Industries, Inc.
Hazy Construction, LLC
Mercer County State Bank
Morton-Moore Insurance Agency, Inc.

Silver \$100

Saxony House Furniture

Bronze \$50

Plain Jane Curtains

Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth.
~Muhammad Ali



The Grove City Area United Way is proud to be a sponsor of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (DPIL) in our community. The intention of this wonderful program is to instill the love of reading in every child in our school district and to increase early literacy skills to prepare our children for life-long learning. The DPIL sends an age appropriate book each month to children from birth until the age of five and has been shown to improve school readiness for children entering kindergarten. Dollywood Foundation founded Imagination Library in 1996. Grove City Area United Way brought the program to Grove City in May, 2009. Our United Way covers all costs of the program. All Good Things Thrift Shoppe has provided significant financial support to the Imagination Library program in Grove City. The Imagination Library is open to all children from birth to age 5 who reside in the Grove City Area School District. To date, **26,923** books have been sent to Grove City Area School District children.



Every child should have the tools they need to succeed at school. Stuff the Bus, a drive to obtain brand new backpacks and school supplies for Grove City Area School District students in need, began in Grove City in 2008. To date, **1,492** backpacks filled with new school supplies have been distributed. We received more requests for help (112) in 2023 than in any other year.

In 2023, we were assisted in our mission by Broad St. Grille, Grove City Federal Credit Union, AHN Grove City, Grove City YMCA, Church of the Beloved Disciple, North Liberty Presbyterian Church, Grove City Meals on Wheels, Grove City YMCA, Mars Bank, Grove City Alliance Church, Tower Presbyterian Church, Northwest Bank, Shiloh Ministries, Grace United Methodist Church, East Main Presbyterian Church, VFW Volant and Howe's.



HELP STARTS HERE

Similar to 911, 211 is a nationally recognized, easy-to-remember phone number that quickly and effectively connects people in need with resources. Every hour of every day, someone in Southwestern Pennsylvania searches for services, from substance abuse treatment to care for a child or an aging parent. By simply dialing 211 (or 888-553-5778) our trained Resource Navigators can assess your needs and then match you to the best and closest resources in your community. The 211 database contains information on over 6,000 health and human service agencies. Together with the Mercer County United Way, the Grove City Area United Way funds 211 in Mercer County. 117 calls were made to 211 from the 16127 zip code during the period of April 2023 to March 2024.



Nearly forty-two percent of the students in the Grove City Area School District qualify for free or reduced-price school meals. While these students may receive two meals a day at school, many of them are going hungry at night or on the weekends. The Grove City Area United Way is proud to have partnered with the Grove City Area School District to operate the Food for Kids Program. This program provides registered students with a bag of easy to prepare meals, drinks and snacks every Friday during the school year. The bag of food is enough to sustain them through the weekend. County Market grocery store is a huge partner in this endeavor as well, packing all food bags for the students every week. During the 2023-2024 school year, Food for Kids has averaged **71** students each week. Every Thursday morning during the school year, George Junior Republic students and staff pick up the bags of food from County Market and deliver them to the Grove City Area School District school buildings where the bags are distributed to students enrolled in the program.

Community Service Award Recipients

2024.....Pastor Pam Schnelzer
2023.....Abbie Turner Michael
2023.....Kathy Leonard
2022.....David and Kathleen Cashdollar
2020.....Dorothy McMillen
2019.....Fern Torok
2017.....Gary and Jane Smith
2016.....Dave Poland
2015.....Cathy Chutz
2014.....Dr. Richard Jewell
2012.....Ruth and Dick Leo
2011.....Heather Baker
2010.....Mike Kearns
2009.....Brad Holmes
2008.....Ruth Magee
2006.....Becky May
2005.....Mike Orange
2004.....Darla Motta
2003.....Harry Lutton
2002.....Ruth and Parker Henry
2001.....Brenda McBride
2000.....Edward Berti
1999.....Jean Clinger
1998.....Andrea Isacco
1997.....Dr. William Menzies

Community Impact Award Recipients

2020.....Grove City Area School District
2019.....All Good Things Thrift Shoppe
2018.....Broad Street Yoga
2017.....Grove City Medical Center

The 2023-2024 Campaign in Review

\$185,734.41

Commercial Division	\$17,225.18
Community Division	\$11,849.51
Education	\$30,874.00
Financial	\$18,707.00
Government	\$1,808.26
Healthcare	\$9,775.90
Individual Leadership	\$56,475.00
Industrial	\$35,093.25
Professional Division	\$1,150.00
Unsolicited/Miscellaneous	\$2,776.31

LIVE UNITED.

It's a credo. A mission. A goal.

A constant reminder that when we reach out a hand to one, we influence the condition of all. We build the strength of our neighborhoods. We bolster the health of our communities. And we change the lives of those who walk by us every day.

Thank you to all of the recipients of the Community Service Award and Community Impact Award. You inspire hope in others, create opportunities for a better tomorrow and show us all what it means to

LIVE UNITED.

2023-2024 Individual Giving

Platinum \$10,000+

Mr. and Mrs. David and Kathleen Cashdollar
Ms. Sondra Zambino

Silver \$1,000+

Anonymous	Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Susan Dreves
Mr. and Mrs. Sam and Paula Anderson	Dr. and Mrs. David and Amy Foley
Mr. William Carney	Ms. Amy French
Dr. Alan Christman	Mr. and Mrs. Joe and Jodi Hines
Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Beth Clancey	Mr. Francis Jordan
Mrs. Jane Cleary	Mr. Daniel Kulp
Mr. and Mrs. Larry and Jennifer Connelly	Mr. and Mrs. Brad and Kathleen McGill
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew and Susan Cyphert	Dr. Joseph Meyn
Mr. and Mrs. Chris and Janell Danielson	Mr. and Mrs. Luke and Abbie Michael
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce and Debbie Denniston	Mr. Matthew Morris
Mr. Ralph DiLuigi	Dr. and Mr. Constance and Steven Nichols
Dr. and Mrs. Vincent and Kathleen DiStasi	Ms. Paige Pallini
Ms. Lynne Doolan	Mr. and Mrs. Mike and Rachael Renick
	Mr. Paul Rizza
	Mr. and Mrs. Don and Suzanne Rumbaugh
	Mrs. Wendy Turner
	Dr. and Mrs. Jeff and Katrina Wolinski

Bronze \$500+

Anonymous	Mr. Mitch Pagni
Mr. Edward Berti	Mrs. Mary Ann Palmer
Ms. Missy Davies	Mr. Scott Patton
Mr. David Gold	Mr. and Mrs. Dave and Kristi Poland
Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Alexis Johnson	Mr. and Mrs. Dan and Melanie Ritenour
Mr. and Mrs. Ernie and Becky May	Mr. Mark Schaeffer
Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Brenda McNulty	Mr. Larry Shipton
Mr. Stephen Miller	Mrs. Diane Sidwell Jones
Dr. Tim Mohr	Dr. and Mrs. Ed and Leann Smith
	Mr. and Mrs. Roger and Deb Towle

2023-2024 Corporate Giving

Platinum \$10,000+

Grove City College Employees and Retirees
Pine Instrument Company
Pine Instrument Employees

Gold \$5,000+

Bashlin Industries
Environmental Risk Advisory, Inc.
George Junior Republic
Grove City Area School District Employees
Grove City College
Highmark Health

Silver \$1,000+

Acrisure, LLC dba Davevic Benefit Consultants
Anonymous
Blackout Burger Bar, LLC
Community Counseling Center of Mercer County
Community Foundation of Western PA & Eastern OH
F.N.B. Employees
Highmark Foundation
Landscape Design LLC
Mercer County State Bank
Peoples Gas
PNC Foundation
Renick Brothers
State Employee Combined Appeals Campaign
Wabtec Employees

Bronze \$500+

AHN Grove City Employees
All Season Temporaries, Inc.
Classic Croozers
Eat'n Park Hospitality Group
F.N.B. Community Foundation
Grove City Area Federal Credit Union
Hazy Construction LLC
Instron Employees
Molloy Law, LLC
Wabtec

2024 Grant Awardees

AWARE

Brandi Montgomery House \$6,000.00

Christian Assistance Network

Crisis Support to Grove City Residents \$30,000.00

Community Counseling Center of Mercer County

Outpatient Counseling \$7,290.00

Possible additional funding \$7,290.00

Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania

Leadership Experience \$2,500.00

Grove City Area Meals on Wheels

Daily Senior Citizen Meal Delivery Program \$4,255.00

Grove City Community Food Pantry

Grove City Area Food Pantry General Program \$6,000.00

Grove City YMCA

After School Programming \$30,000.00

Mercer County Adult Education Center

GED Preparation and Testing \$6,000.00

Salvation Army, Grove City Service Unit

Community Welfare Program \$10,000.00

Designations made to non-Grove City Area United Way grant funded agencies \$1,573.28

Catholic Charities

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Food for Kids

Grove City Community Library

Lakeview Area Helping Hands Center

2023–2024 Board of Directors

Officers

President: Jennifer Connelly, Grove City Area School District

Vice President: Mike Hazy, Hazy Construction

Treasurer: Dave Poland, Retired, Grove City Medical Center

Secretary: Erin Persch, Grove City Area School District

Directors

Paula Anderson, AHN Grove City Hospital

Brady Beech, Northwestern Mutual, Gould Financial

Thomas Biro, Grove City College

Alex DeGross, Wendell August Forge

Debbie Denniston, Retired, Grove City Area School District

Nate Gressel, George Junior Republic

Jeremy Hedegore, Komatsu Mining Corporation

Mike Johnson, Davevic Benefit Consultants

Constance Nichols, Grove City College

Kim Saltrick, Community Member

Sonni Zambino, Community Member

Incoming Board Members

Lindsey Crevar, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh

Marisa Jackson, Operational Business Concepts

Mitch McFeely, NexTier Bank

Stephanie Saylor, Wabtec

Staff

Amy Foley, Executive Director

Kathy DiStasi, Program Director/Financial Administrator

Lisa Pritchard, Social Media Director

All of us, at some time or other, need help. Whether we're giving or receiving help, each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world. That's one of the things that connects us as neighbors—in our own way, each one of us is a giver and a receiver.

~Fred Rogers

HOW TO LIVE UNITED:

JOIN HANDS. OPEN YOUR HEART.
LEND YOUR MUSCLE. FIND YOUR VOICE.

GIVE 10% GIVE 100% GIVE 110%

GIVE AN HOUR. GIVE A SATURDAY.

THINK OF *WE* BEFORE *ME*.

REACH OUT A HAND TO ONE AND

INFLUENCE

THE CONDITION OF ALL.

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

LIVE UNITED 

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

LIVE UNITED 

www.grovecityunitedway.org

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Instagram: @gcareunitedway