

Grove City Area United Way 2024—2025 Annual Report April 2024—March 2025



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Grove City Area
United Way



2024—2025 Grove City Area United Way Year in Review

Michael Hazy, Board President

While maintaining a long-standing presence as a leading non-profit organization in Grove City, the Grove City Area United Way is evolving and growing to meet the ever-changing needs of its community. Through the tireless, compassionate efforts of our staff, board of directors, and volunteers, the United Way has been able to provide much needed financial support to its affiliate organizations who step up to support families, help children and youth thrive, attend to the needs of the elderly, assist people in crisis situations, allow safe-haven for victims of domestic abuse, and provide resources for our community's most vulnerable populations.

In addition to supporting our grant-funded agencies, this year the United Way provided backpacks and school supplies to 129 students during the Stuff the Bus campaign and fed over 100 kids per week through the Food for Kids program. We partnered with over 400 volunteers to help our community by completing 36 service projects during the Day of Caring event and continued distributing books to Grove City kids through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, this year reaching 28,623 books that have been sent out since the program started in 2009.

We have accomplished all of this while maintaining the highest standards for program efficiency and financial scrutiny of the agencies, organizations, and programs that we fund. When one of our donors gives of their hard-earned money, they can rest assured that those contributions are staying right here in our community and being distributed only to the most worthy and effective programs and organizations who are committed to instituting and maintaining high levels of integrity and efficiency in their financial standards.

Despite our many successes, our organization faces unprecedented challenges. The income gap is growing and the juxtaposition between the wealthy and impoverished has grown increasingly stark. As our agencies and partners in the community report extraordinary needs it has also become more difficult for our organization to raise the funds necessary to meet those needs. Budgets are tightening in most households, and there are fewer and fewer middle and high-income workplaces in the Grove City area, who historically have been able to support our organization through corporate donations and workplace campaigns. We are profoundly grateful for your donor dollars. But considering these challenges, we have found ourselves needing to reshape and rethink our fundraising efforts and to pursue new and expanded partnerships with institutions and organizations. Now, more than ever we need your help.

Sincere thanks is due to my 14 fellow dedicated board members and the members and volunteers of our grant funded agencies for your tireless work. Foremost, thank you to our Executive Director Amy Foley and Financial Administrator Kathy DiStasi. The impact of the Grove City Area United Way would not be possible without you.

Summarizing a year of tremendous work and looking forward to a new one, we have been blessed to raise \$200,000 as part of our 2024 campaign. But as I mentioned, the needs of our community have expanded. This year we will need to step up even more to help fulfill the mission and purpose of the United Way. As a child, my parents taught me that servanthood is our duty; a way of life. I am grateful to join with my community in living united.



2024 Sponsors

Platinum \$500

Anderson Insurance Agency
Bonner Realty, LLC
Grove City County Market
McNickle & Bonner, LLP
Northwestern Mutual, Gould Financial

Gold \$250

Bashlin Industries, Inc.
Mercer County State Bank

Silver \$100

Saxony House Furniture

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 and the Grove City Classic Croozers have 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, **28,623** 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, **1,845** backpacks filled with new school supplies have been distributed. We received more requests for help (129) in 2024 than in any other year.

In 2024, we were assisted in our mission by Broad St. Grille, Grove City Area Federal Credit Union, AHN Grove City, Grove City YMCA, Church of the Beloved Disciple, North Liberty Presbyterian Church, Grove City Area Meals on Wheels, NexTier Bank, Grove City Alliance Church, Northwest Bank, Shiloh Ministries, Days for Girls Grove City Team, Grace United Methodist Church, and numerous individuals who donated supplies and their time to volunteer.



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.



Forty-six 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 2024-2025 school year, Food for Kids has averaged **107** 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

2025.....Sonni Zambino
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 2024-2025 Campaign in Review

\$200,007.72

Commercial Division	\$12,375.15
Community Division	\$20,294.19
Education	\$30,606.80
Financial	\$21,842.41
Government	\$997.82
Healthcare	\$8,310.92
Individual Leadership	\$67,912.36
Industrial	\$33,774.59
Professional Division	\$1,050.00
Unsolicited/Miscellaneous	\$2,843.48

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.

2024-2025 Individual Giving

Platinum \$10,000+

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

Silver \$1,000+

Anonymous	Mr. and Mrs. Mike and Alexis Johnson
Mr. David Brautigam	Mr. and Mrs. Karen and Adam Kettler
Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Beth Clancey	Mr. Daniel Kulp
Mr. and Mrs. Mike and Jane Cleary	Mr. and Mrs. Brad and Kathleen McGill
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce and Debbie Denniston	Mr. and Mrs. Luke and Abbie Michael
Mr. Ralph DiLuigi	Mr. Matthew Morris
Dr. and Mrs. Vincent and Kathleen DiStasi	Mr. Willard Morse
Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Susan Dreves	Dr. and Mr. Constance and Steven Nichols
Dr. and Mrs. David and Amy Foley	Mr. Brendan Noone
Ms. Amy French	Mr. and Mrs. Mike and Rachael Renick
Mr. Nathan Gressel	Mr. Paul Rizza
	Mr. and Mrs. Keith and Kim Saltrick
	Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Richelle Schell

Bronze \$500+

Anonymous	Mr. Stephen Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Brady and Sydney Beech	Mrs. Carolyn Patterson
Ms. Marie Benedetto	Mr. Scott Patton
Mr. Edward Berti	Mr. and Mrs. Dave and Kristi Poland
Mr. James Budnik	Mr. and Mrs. Bill and Lisa Pritchard
Mr. and Mrs. Larry and Jennifer Connelly	Mr. and Mrs. Dan and Melanie Ritenour
Mr. Joseph Douds	Mr. Mark Schaeffer
Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Mikki Giordano	Mr. Larry Shipton
Mr. Robert Grega	Mrs. Diane Sidwell Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Mike and Ashley Hazy	Dr. and Mrs. Ed and Leann Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Ernie and Becky May	Mrs. Susan Stamm
	Mr. and Mrs. Roger and Deb Towle

2024-2025 Corporate Giving

Platinum \$10,000+

Grove City College Employees and Retirees
Pine Instrument Company

Gold \$5,000+

Bashlin Industries
Beloved Mercy Ministries
Community Foundation of Western PA & Eastern Ohio
George Junior Republic
Grove City Area School District Employees
Grove City College
Highmark Health
Pine Instrument Company Employees

Silver \$1,000+

Acrisure, LLC dba Davevic Benefit Consultants
Bluebell Foundation/Pittsburgh Foundation
F.N.B. Employees
Hazy Construction
Highmark Foundation
Landscape Design LLC
Maker Construction
Mercer County State Bank
NexTier Bank
Northwestern Mutual, Gould Financial
PNC Foundation
Renick Brothers
Wabtec

Bronze \$500+

All Seasons Temporaries, Inc.
Anderson Insurance
Broad Street Yoga
Eat'n Park Hospitality Group
F.N.B. Community Foundation
Grove City Area Federal Credit Union
Molloy Law, LLC
State Employee Combined Appeals Campaign
Wabtec Employees

2025 Grant Awardees

AWARE

Brandi Montgomery House	\$6,000.00
Christian Assistance Network	
Crisis Support to Grove City Residents	\$40,000.00
Days for Girls–Grove City Team	
Menstrual Products and Education	\$8,000.00
Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania	
Leadership Experience	\$1,000.00
Grove City Area Meals on Wheels	
Daily Senior Citizen Meal Delivery Program	\$12,819.00
Grove City Community Food Pantry	
Grove City Area Food Pantry General Program	\$6,000.00
Grove City Community Library	
Technology Support for Low Income Residents	\$1,100.00
Grove City YMCA	
After School Programming	\$40,000.00
Mercer County Adult Education Center	
GED Preparation and Testing	\$6,000.00
Salvation Army, Grove City Service Unit	
Community Welfare Program	\$10,000.00
<i>Designations made to non-Grove City Area United Way grant funded agencies</i>	\$1,628.72
Catholic Charities	
Community Counseling Center of Mercer County	
Food for Kids	
Lakeview Area Helping Hands Center	

2024–2025 Board of Directors

Officers

President: Mike Hazy, Hazy Construction

Vice President: Nate Gressel, George Junior Republic

Treasurer: Brady Beech, Northwestern Mutual, Gould Financial

Secretary: Mike Johnson, Davevic Benefit Consultants

Directors

Thomas Biro, Grove City College

Stephanie Como, Wabtec

Jennifer Connelly, Grove City Area School District

Lindsey Crevar, Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh

Adam Critchlow, AHN Grove City

Alex DeGross, Wendell August Forge

Jeremy Hedegore, Komatsu Mining Corporation

Marisa Jackson, Operational Business Concepts

Mitch McFeely, NexTier Bank

Constance Nichols, Grove City College

Sonni Zambino, Community Member

Incoming Board Members

Shane Crevar, PA Office of Attorney General

Karen Ketler, Operational Business Concepts

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