



Montcalm-Ionia Counties

PANDEMIC RESPONSE, RECOVERY AND REBUILDING Montcalm-Ionia Counties

It is in times of need that we discover
the full impact of a community UNITED.

LIVE



UNITED



**United Way
Montcalm-Ionia Counties**

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Dear Friends,

Like many other nonprofits and businesses, our United Way was severely impacted by the pandemic. Looking back, the General Motor strike that occurred in the fall of 2019, caused a **32% decline in our workplace campaigns** as many of our local tier II and tier III automotive suppliers were also on strike. Many of those companies were slated to go back to work just weeks before the state lock-down in March of 2020. The pandemic caused us a **loss of 64% in our annual campaign**. Even with two back-to-back devastating campaigns, our team responded quickly and was able to raise **\$568,000 in our COVID Crisis Fund**. We leveraged those dollars to **fund 67 mobile food trucks** which brought in just over **\$2 million dollars in nutritious food** to the community. **24 local schools** received approximately **\$186,000 each worth of personal protective equipment** (gloves, mask, hand sanitizer, etc.). Through the CERA (COVID Emergency Rental Assistance) Program we have processed just over **\$735,000 rent and utilities assistance to local ALICE families**.

This past year has shown us even more the importance of working together. Community organizations, businesses, groups, churches, and individuals **UNITED** more than ever before to help the community through the COVID-19 pandemic. Take a look at some of our team below.



Most Sincerely,

Terri Legg

Terri Legg,
Executive Director
United Way Montcalm - Ionia Counties



THANK YOU

FOR CHANGING LIVES

United Way Monctalm-Ionia Counties Team

UWMI Staff

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Fund Development Coordinator

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AmeriCorp Intern

Nathan Miller
CERA Specialist

Lori Malson
CERA Specialist

COVID-19 Crisis Advisory Board

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Terri Legg
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EightCAP, Inc.

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Laura Montoye
GAFC

John Johansen
Community Member

Board of Directors

Dan Mitchell - President
Vice President- Commercial
Lending Mercantile Bank

Lisa Brown
Branch Manager
Independent Bank

Dayna Ellis-Retired
Principal-Twin Rivers Elementary
Ionia Public Schools

Renea Osmolinski
Child Protective Services Supervisor
Michigan DHHS

Dave Seppala - Treasurer
Division President Isabella
Bank Greenville

Jeff Blanchard
Regional Director of Dist.
Wolverine Worldwide, Inc.

Christa Jerome
Manager of Self-Sufficiency Prog.
EightCap, Inc.

Kat Reed
Executive Director
Ionia Chamber of Commerce

Sharon McInnis - Secretary
Retired Accountant

Jim Chesley
Owner M-106.3
WGLM Radio

Justin Kessler
3rd shift Plant Superintendent
Cargill Kitchen Solutions

Julie Stafford
Regional Publisher
The Daily News

Therese Alt
Director of Clinical Nursing
Spectrum Health United and
Kelsey Hospitals

Lt. Chris Clute-Retired
Assistant Commander
Michigan State Police
Lakeview Post

Lisa Lund
Executive Director
MCC Foundation

Ben Wood
The Center-West Business
Development Specialist
The Right Place, Inc.



Our Impact Snapshots

United For Active Community Impact and COVID Response Grants



\$232,000.00 disbursed to our local non-profits, pantries and shelters.

United For Warmth



\$40,000.00 in new winter apparel went directly to those in need in our community.

United For Hunger



\$2 million dollars in healthy, nutritious food provided to local families.
1,258 volunteers stepped up to serve **6,000 households** in our community.

United For Soles



Over 3,000 pairs of shoes were distributed to those in need throughout Montcalm - Ionia Counties.

United For Kids



More than 3,000 brown bags decorated and collected to help support the **700 meals provided** every school day to local elementary children who are food insecure, through IM Kids 3rd Meal Program.

United For Seniors



2,400 rolls of toilet paper distributed to our senior shut-ins when none was available to purchase.

United For Healthy Schools



\$186,000.00 in PPE for 24 private, public, and one-room schools.

United For Families



\$735,000 in rent and utilities assistance to local ALICE families, processed by our CERA (COVID Emergency Rental Assistance) specialists.

GIVE

ADVOCATE

VOLUNTEER

BROADENING HORIZONS ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION



635 community members have already participated in our 21 Day Challenge. This 21-day self-guided, educational journey has been created to inspire change and solutions to ensure greater inclusivity and equality for every individual in our community. The next challenge will begin in January 2022. Information is coming soon on ways to sign up.



ALICE represents the men and women of all ages and races who get up each day to go to work. Nonetheless, they still face tough financial choices.

Poverty is a reality for many individuals and families in our community. However, unless you've experienced poverty, it's difficult to truly understand.

In 2019 43% of Montcalm County and 37% of Ionia County were ALICE and Poverty households struggling to make ends meet.

UWMI now offers an ALICE Simulator. It is not a game but based on real-life scenarios that exist and are of greater consequence to ALICE families.

It is United Way's aim that this simulator will:

- ✓ Promote Poverty Awareness
- ✓ Bridge The Gap From Misconception To Understanding
- ✓ Transform Perspectives & Encourage Greater Empathy
- ✓ Inspire Local Change

YOUTH COMMUNITY NEEDS



UWMI's Youth Community Needs Survey is targeted for Middle School and High School aged students.

It is our hope that it will help us, as well as the schools and organizations in our area, better understand and address the needs of our youth, their classmates, and our future leaders.



Homelessness is one of these unfortunate and very real issues facing our youth today.

UWMI recently brought on board a Homeless Youth Coordinator. She works directly with the schools in our communities to identify these youths, advocating for them and connecting them to vital community resources.



Thank You For Your Support!

Workplace Campaigns

AT&T	Greenville Area Community Foundation	Mid Michigan Industries	State Employee Charitable Campaign
ADAC Automotive	Greenville Public Schools	Montcalm Care Network	Steelcase
Aggressive Tooling	Greenville Tool & Die	Montcalm County	The Right Door
Belding Area Schools	Hungerford Nichols CPAs + Advisors	Montcalm Community College	Tri-County Public Schools
Bissell	Huntington National Bank	Montabella Community Schools Montcalm Area	UPS (United Parcel Service)
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Independent Bank	Intermediate School District	Ventra, Ionia LLC.
Cargill Kitchen Solutions	Ionia County	Paragon Die and Engineering	Vestaburg Community Schools
Chemical Bank	Ionia Public Schools	Parker Hannifin Corporation	Walker, Fluke, & Sheldon, PLC
Cherry Health	Isabella Bank	Portland Federal Credit Union	Wal-Mart-Greenville
City of Belding	Kellogg Company Fund Marvel	Relief After Violent Encounter	Wal-Mart-Ionia
City of Ionia	Refrigeration	Sidney State Bank	Wolverine Worldwide, Inc.
Commercial Bank	Meijer-Greenville	Sparrow Health System	
Consumers Energy	Meijer-Ionia	SpartanNash	
Custer, Inc.	Mercantile Bank of Michigan	Spectrum Health United & Kelsey Hospitals	
DTE Energy	Michigan One Credit Union	Sparrow Hospital Ionia	
EightCap, Inc.	Michigan Works!	Sparrow Hospital Carson City	
Fifth-Third Bank	Mid-Michigan District Health Department		
General Motors			

COVID-19 Response Donors

Cara Lindemood	Fidelity Charitable	Kerschen Family Fund	Michigan 1 Credit Union
Cargill	Greenville Area Community Foundation	Kimberly & Mark Peck	Mizcan
Caswell & Co.	Gerald Ritter	Kimberly Essenburg	Mr & Mrs Smucker
Cheryl Granzo	Grace Peterson	Kristi Zuverink	Randall Tower
Cindy Hill	Greenville Youth Advisory Council	Laurie Tissue	Roger & Cheryl Thelen
Clifford Bedore	Hungerford Nichols	Linda McKnight	Sandra Miller
Consumer's Energy	Ionia Community Foundation	Linda Stafford	Steven & Susan Fish
David and Mary Malicki	Ionia Rotary	Linda VanHouten	Suzanne Hoseth-Kreeger
Deb Koepke	Jan Wheelock	Lions Club	Teresa Boike
Delta Dental Foundation	Janine Nierenberger	Mary Miel	Toni Wenger
Donald Lenneman	Jeff Blanchard	Mary Schoenborn	
Donald & Deanna Veitengruber	Jennifer Stauffer	Michigan Association of United Ways	
Eightcap, Inc.	Joyce Zimmer	Meijer	
Eric Linder	Kelly Dewald	Melanie Steiner	
Faith & Kim Peterson	Kenny Schoenborn	Mercantile Bank of Michigan	

COVID-19 Response Partners

Barrie's House	First Congregational Church	Ionia Fairgrounds	Saranac Community Schools Shiloh Community Church
Belding Area Schools	Greenville First Church of God Greenville Area	Ionia Intermediate School District	The YMCA
Biggby Coffee	Community Foundation	Jorgi's Marketplace	Tri County Area Schools Wesco
EightCap, Inc	Greenville Public Schools	Leppinks Food Centers Mercantile Bank of Michigan	Zion Community Food Pantry
Endeavor Center	Helping Hands	Montcalm Intermediate School District	
Feeding America West Michigan		Saranac Community Church	