TO LIVE BETTER, WE MUST

LIVE UNITED®

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2016

United Way Fox Cities
uniTed way Fox CiTies

| 2016 report to the community |

Peter Kelly,
President and CEO,
United Way Fox Cities

and Layton Kaufman
At United Way Fox Cities, we fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in our community. We volunteer for the tough jobs.

United, we fight for babies like Layton to grow up healthy, with clean diapers from the Fox Cities Diaper Bank, an initiative of United Way Fox Cities. We fight teen suicide through our school-based mental health program, United Way’s PATH for Students. We fight for Joe, who needed help finding housing. Our United Way 2-1-1 answered Joe’s call, as part of a nationwide network connecting people to health and human services. We fight for Tom, who would not be able to keep his new job without transportation services through The Connector, a United Way Fox Cities regional partnership with Valley Transit.

We fight for those who need a voice and for those whose names we do not know.

**By the Numbers**

Your gift to United Way Fox Cities makes a difference in the lives of **1 in 3** people in our community.
We fight to make sure our little ones succeed to their fullest potential from day one. That’s why we are committed to improving early learning opportunities for young children and fostering healthy youth development.

United Way Fox Cities is a member of the Fox Valley Early Childhood Coalition, which in 2016, published The State of the Fox Valley Child: Birth to Five study. The study highlights that, “In Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago counties, 72% of children under five years of age spend time in child care outside of the home.” We believe it is crucial to support access to affordable, quality child care and early learning experiences, so all children enter kindergarten ready to learn. Learn more at http://bit.ly/stateofchild.

By the Numbers  Children and Youth

Because of your gift to United Way Fox Cities, 94% of children in United Way-funded early childhood programs increased their language and communication skills.
We fight to make sure families can meet their daily needs. That’s why we are committed to supporting programs that improve employment opportunities and financial management skills, and provide food, shelter, and transportation.

At any given moment in the Fox Cities, more than 350 individuals are homeless. What this number doesn’t tell us is how many individuals and families are on the edge of homelessness. Project RUSH (Research to Understand and Solve Homelessness) was commissioned by the Fox Cities Housing Coalition, a collaboration of more than 30 organizations, including United Way Fox Cities. Our United Way also provided a grant to fund the research. Project RUSH revealed housing is not affordable for 40% of renters in Outagamie County and that an hourly wage of $12.68 is needed in Appleton to afford a two-bedroom apartment. We are offering support along the way as families strive to reach self-sufficiency. Learn more at www.fchc.net.

Because of your gift to United Way Fox Cities, 72% of clients in United Way-funded programs increased their level of income or employment and were able to move into affordable, permanent housing.
We fight to make sure people of all ages have support to live healthy lives. That’s why we are working to ensure medical, dental, and mental health care is available for all residents, regardless of ability to pay, and that victims of domestic violence and sexual assault get the care they need.

In 2016, United Way 2-1-1 answered nearly 12,000 calls. People needing health care and mental health or substance abuse services landed in the top of identified needs, just after housing/shelter. We know, when people are healthy, both mentally and physically, they can continue to participate in normal daily activities, like attending school, going to work, and caring for themselves and their families. Learn more about the community needs tracked through 2-1-1 at http://bit.ly/211snapshot.

Because of your gift to United Way Fox Cities, 86% of those participating in United Way-funded programs were offered an initial appointment for mental health services within five business days.
We fight to make sure children grow up free from abuse and neglect. That’s why we support programs that give families the tools to succeed, whether they are young families with children, older adults, or persons with disabilities.

We know, encountering Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) or traumatic events during childhood can have a significant negative impact later in life. The 2016 LIFE Study produced by United Way Fox Cities, the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region, and the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce, found that while child abuse and neglect rates decreased locally, they still exceed the state average in Outagamie County and Winnebago County. Making sure children grow up in safe, healthy homes means a brighter future for our whole community. Learn more at www.foxcitieslifestudy.org.

Because of your gift to United Way Fox Cities, 94% of parents participating in United Way-funded programs reported using more positive discipline techniques.
Change doesn’t happen alone. Because of the generosity of donors in the Fox Cities who gave more than $8.6 million in 2016, we are able to continue to address our community’s most critical problems.

We know there are many people in our community who are one medical diagnosis, one car accident, or one home repair away from being tossed into a spiral of poverty. In 2016, United Ways in Wisconsin commissioned the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) study to quantify those in our state who are struggling financially. According to the ALICE study, 42% of Wisconsin households can’t afford the basics of housing, food, health care, child care, and transportation, despite being employed.

It takes all of us to house the homeless, care for the elderly, prepare our children for the future, and ultimately, build a stronger, more caring community for everyone. Learn more at http://bit.ly/alicewi.
WILL YOU JOIN THE FIGHT?

Kristina Schaldach,
Emerging Leader
Mission Statement
United Way Fox Cities improves lives by bringing diverse people together to build a stronger, more caring community for everyone.

Vision
The Fox Cities is a diverse and dynamic community, where people willingly share the responsibility of ensuring a safe and healthy community for all.

We gratefully thank the following for their generous in-kind donations in the production of this report.
Photographs by Shane Van Boxtel, Image Studios • Design by A2Z Design, LLC • Printing by EnvisionInk

Like us, watch us, and get our news.
United Way Fox Cities | 1455 Midway Road | Menasha, WI 54952
Phone: 920-954-7210 | Fax: 920-954-7209 | www.unitedwayfoxcities.org