

NEWS RELEASE

United Way Fox Cities

April 21, 2018

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United Way Report to the Community

Appleton, Wis. – Steve Jones, the nationally recognized, award winning head football coach at Kimberly High School was the keynote speaker for the United Way Report to the Community. Coach Jones teaches leadership courses at Kimberely High School and servant leadership is the foundation of both the courses and the Kimberly football program. Intentionally creating and growing a “winning” culture by developing leaders within an organization and community were the focus of his remarks.

United Way Board Chair, Laurie Butz, senior vice president of Community First Credit Union, noted the accomplishments of 2017:

- United Way’s PATH for students has now provided school-based mental health counseling for 1500 students since it began in 2008. The program has expanded to ten school systems in the Fox Cities.
- The Fox Cities Diaper Bank, an initiative of United Way, is giving diapers to 850 babies each month.
- The Connector program, done in partnership with Valley Transit, is providing an average of 50 rides per day to get people to jobs. Over 19,000 rides were provided for the year.
- United Way’s 2-1-1 Call Center answered 12,000 calls for help. More than 3,300 of those calls were for assistance with finding housing and shelter.
- The annual community campaign was successful in meeting the \$8.75 million dollar goal, the largest amount the organization has ever raised.

- In 2017, more than one million dollars was invested in innovative grants that address an underlying cause of an identified community need.

Butz said, “The United Way continues to evolve to ensure that we remain relevant, while collaborating and connecting to provide innovative solutions to drive and achieve the mission of building a stronger more caring community for everyone.

We know that we cannot do this work alone. We are grateful for the support of the Fox Cities community and extend our thanks to each and every one of you who have invested in building a better life for all of us.”

Wes Urch Volunteer Service Award Recipients

United Way Fox Cities' most prestigious award is given annually to volunteers who have demonstrated dedication and commitment to building a better community through his/her work with United Way Fox Cities. The award is named in honor of Wes Urch, the first executive director of United Way of Neenah/Menasha. Wes was the face of United Way for over twenty years, leading the organization through tremendous growth and change. The 2017 Wes Urch recipients are:

Julie Merritt: Julie is an employee of Kimberly-Clark Corporation. She has organized the Kimberly-Clark product auction for more than a decade. The auction proceeds are donated to United Way. This project has been a labor of love for her, requiring many hours of volunteer service outside of her regular job responsibilities.

Sue VandenBroek: Sue has been a volunteer with the Developing Children and Youth Impact Area since 2006 and has served as the Chair since 2012. Sue has provided visionary leadership throughout the past two years in developing community level goals for United Way Fox Cities. Sue is employed by Guardian Life.

New Board Members:

- Imran Andrabi, president and CEO, ThedaCare
- Kim Bassett, president and CEO, Bassett Mechanical
- Mike Koel, president, US Gain, a division of US Venture
- John Krause, partner, CPA, Baker Tilly
- Mark Thibeault, vice president and general manager, Miller Electric Mfg. Co.
- Larry Wright, vice president, SECURA Insurance Companies

Nominated for a one year, Special Appointment:

- Jim Kotek, president and CEO, Menasha Corporation

Second three year term:

- Dave Morton, president, Morton Long Term Care
- Tom Riordan, president and CEO, Neenah Enterprises
- Jason Schulist, president, Generative Local Community Institute

Officers and Committee Chairs

- Chair – Laurie Butz, Community First Credit Union
- Vice Chair – Jeff Curtin, Kimberly-Clark Corporation
- Treasurer & Finance Chair – Christopher Lee, Lawrence University
- Community Impact – Mike Hochholzer, Associated Bank & Dave Morton, Morton Long Term Care
- Campaign – Dustin McClone, McClone and Jim Kotek, Menasha Corporation

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