Thanks to you, this past year highlighted the generosity of our donors and volunteers, and displayed the resilient commitment of our talented staff and funded partners to help those in our community most in need. United Way of Marathon County brought together resources at a most critical time and expanded our capacity to reach people in a variety of new ways. The Board of Directors and United Way staff also started a purposeful strategic planning process to ensure we can continue to build upon the impact of your donations.

Thank you for trusting us to invest your dollars to make the greatest impact in the community. We appreciate every dollar donated, every hour of volunteer service given, and every person who advocated on behalf of our mission. United Way and our partners are here because of YOU.

Chris Pfender,
2021 United Way of Marathon County Board President
Intercity State Bank
Unite people and organizations in Marathon County to build a stronger community and strategically invest in education, financial stability, and health priorities to improve lives now and into the future.

DID YOU KNOW?
While the annual campaign is the foundation of how we fund our work in the community, United Way also leverages other grants and revenue sources to meet community needs.

2021 REVENUE

Net Campaign ........................................... $2,650,065
Restricted Grants for Special Projects ........... $673,477
Other (Interest, Match, Endow, Misc) .............. $258,696
Use of Reserves ........................................ ($281,996)
Total Revenue ............................................. $3,300,242

YOUR MONEY AT WORK

- Education .............................................. $672,000
- Financial Stability .................................. $405,500
- Health ................................................... $520,000
- 211/Volunteer Connection ......................... $408,388
- Mission Focused Community Service
  Work/Restricted Grant Projects .............. $666,578

Total Community Investments ...................... $2,672,466
Campaign, Communications & Administration .... $627,776

TOTAL EXPENSES ..................................... $3,300,242
In 2021, United Way’s 211 answered 5,193 requests for help from Marathon County residents, providing 11,881 referrals to community resources.

1,792 were COVID-19 related calls

167 inquires for the Wisconsin Addiction and Recovery Helpline

*Nikki* and her family were under quarantine for COVID-19, and their family’s income had taken a big hit. They needed assistance with food, diapers, utilities, and phone payments. She called 211 and spoke with a call specialist who provided her with resources to address all of her concerns. When 211 followed up with Nikki, she shared she had immediately gotten help with diapers and food, and was working on getting help in the other areas. She was very grateful to 211 for the help.

*Name changed for confidentiality of client and her children.*

211 is a free, confidential information and referral service that connects people from all communities to the essential health and human services they need, 24 hours a day, seven days a week through phone, email, text, web, and chat.

There is always a friendly voice available to answer the call and caring help at no cost.

211 received national accreditation and answered the call 24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, without fail.
United Way of Marathon County was created in the summer of 1930, by a group of Wausau businessmen and civic leaders to meet community needs. We are committed to investing your donations to serve the greatest needs in our community. United Way’s work has expanded to include coalitions, task force members, committees, volunteers, Affinity Groups and people like you who work collaboratively with traditional funded partners to get results on important issues in our community.

This year United We Can collected more than 5,000 lbs of food and donated this to nine area food pantries. Food insecurity is defined as a lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life. United Way is committed to making sustainable change in our community and did this with the help of 15 companies donating nonperishable foods. For the second year in a row, the Peoples Choice Award, with the most votes went to Healthfirst Network.

United Way Community Closets are volunteer-run, donation-driven projects of Emerging Leaders and Women United. They are housed in the same building as the United Way office, in space donated by Ghidorzi Companies.

The goals of the two Closets are similar – to help low-income individuals and families overcome barriers that stand in the way of their success. For many who are struggling financially, a little help with clothing can make a big difference.

In 2021, 8,644 children’s clothing items were distributed through Rebecca’s Closet to ensure children were prepared for school, weather, and seasonal changes. 86 individuals received new or gently used steel toed boots and 159 individuals utilized the Career Closet to obtain business professional clothing.

639 volunteer hours were recorded by volunteers in 2021 to fulfill orders in the Career Closet and Rebecca’s Closet.
Thank you to all the companies who supported United Way with a company workplace campaign in 2021. The Circle of Excellence Awards recognize corporate and employee giving.

We would like to recognize Greenheck, our top Platinum Award Winning Company for 2021. They have been a Platinum Award Winner since 2017 and their dedication to philanthropy is shown throughout the community. Greenheck’s financial giving and employee volunteerism have created lasting positive change in our community. Our employees have given back to this area with donations, volunteer hours, special events, supply drives, and corporate gifts.

2021 CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE

PLATINUM AWARD $500,000+

GREENHECK GROUP

GOLD AWARD $200,000 - $500,000

ASPIRUS

SILVER AWARD $100,000 - $200,000

MARATHON CHEESE CORPORATION

BRONZE AWARD $25,000 - $100,000

EO Johnson Business Technologies
Footlocker.com/Eastbay
J & D Tube Benders
Liberty Mutual
Linetec

Marshall Clinic
Nationwide
North Central Health Care
Peoples State Bank
Regal Rexnord
Ruder Ware

UnitedHealth Group
UPS
Wausau Chemical Corporation
Wausau Window and Wall Systems

PARTNER AWARD $10,000 - $25,000

Aqua Finance
Coldwell Banker Action Realty
D C Everest School District
Ghidorzi
Graphic Packaging International
Green Bay Packaging
Herb Kohl Philanthropies
L&S Electric
Menzner Hardwoods
Mid-Wisconsin Beverage
Miron Construction
Northcentral Technical College
Rocket Industrial
Van Ert Electric
Wausau Homes Inc
Wausau School District
Wipfli
Wisconsin Public Service

ASSOCIATE AWARD $2,500 - $10,000

Bone & Joint Clinic
Bricker's of Wausau
Bridge Community Health Clinic
CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP)
Cloverbelt Credit Union
Domtar
Intercity State Bank
M3 Insurance
Maple Ridge Farms
Marathon County Government
Medical College of Wisconsin
Merrill Steel
Mosinee School District
MPPL Financial
News 9 WAOW
O’Malley Autos
Target
The Dirks Group
The Women’s Community
Thrivent Financial
United Way of Marathon County
Wausau City Government
Wausau MedMal Services
Wausau Supply Company
WPS Health Insurance
WSAW Channel 7
These donors continue to impact our community with their endowment gifts through our Legacy Circle, enriching our community not just now, but forever. Planned giving is a way to maximize your philanthropic goals.
John & Mary Tubbs
Craig & Melissa Uhlenbrauck
Michael Van Order
Jerry Viste
Jim & Ava Waldron
Pat & Jeanne Wallschlaeger
Jerry Viste
Michael Van Order

Anonymous (11)

Steven & Anna Mae Zeinemann
Jerry & Jeannie Worden
Scott & Janet Williams
Jeff & Amy Wicklander
Ernest Wayde
Pat & Jeanne Wallschlaeger
Jim & Ava Waldron
Jerry Viste
Michael Van Order
Craig & Melissa Uhlenbrauck

Kirk & Patti Howard
Brian & Tricia Hoover
Stan & Susan Hoffert
Chad & Ann Hoesly
Peter & Nancy Hertting
Lisa & Kevin Hertting
Dwight & Sandy Hertting

Kamp Two: $750-$999

David Andraschko
Richard & Cynthia Aucutt
Jen Auner
Corey & Lisa Barnes
Dick & Dianne Bartig
Andrew Benedetto & Donna Seidel
Ciera Bonheimer
Randi Bortz
Derek & Christy Boyd
Kyle Brandt
Linda Britten-Smith
Tom & Lynn Brunner
Tom & Susan Bugni
Tim & Dana Buschman
Paul & Lori Bychinski
Gary & Diane Christianson
Pete Daniel
Steve & Mary Coates
Edward & Darlene Coldwell
Dennis Creyer
Bryan Crownover
Bruce & Wendy Czech
Corey & Dawn Dobbs
Lee & Kathy Drengler
Allen & Michelle Ebermerich
Curtis & Mari Faber
Jon & Katie Felch
Chris Ferrante
Jon & Annette Fuchs
Bill & Julianne Franzen
Jeff & Linda Frese
Trinity Gelhar
Marliss Gissel
Barbara Gollata
Scott & Valerie Gorichs
Kelli Guay
David Gusman
Mark & Melinda Haase
David & Kathy Hall
Thomas & Charlene Hamar
Troy Hartwig
Tom & Sue Weimerskirch
Jason & Mary Welker
Ron & Mark Wernher
Brad West
Chuck Wirsbinski
Dan & Gale Wolff
Scott Wright
Wulf Family Charitable Fund
Gary & Jan Yonе
Jeff & Cindy Zriny

Anonymous (22)

CAMP FOUR: $1,000-$1,599

Dewey & Cheryl Allen
Pam Anderson
Dr. Vicky Baker
Ellen Baldwin
Randy & Sara Bangs
David Bauers
Arden & Barbara Baumgardt
Rick & Melissa Beese
Peter Shank & Pam Behrens
Mark & Kelly Belke
Michael & Susan Berens
Dave & Kristen Berg
Gerald & Kay Bizjak
Kathryn Binks
Barbara Bradley & Allen Limgberg
Brian & Lori Brehmer
Lisa Bryan
Denis Burgess & Linda Kocourek
Robert Burish
Jeff & Karen Casey
Scott & Amy Cattanach
Jeff Cezakowski
Judy Cherwinka
Damon Childers
Paul & Debra Chittum
Leif & Vickie Christianson
Scott Clark
Michael & Nicole Clark
Art & Deb Corallo
Drs. Mark & Barbara Crapster-Pregont
Alex Belke & Pam Nielsen
Tricia Nielsen-Zoromski
Emalyn Nikstad, In Memory of Jim Nikstad
Don & Kathy Oakland
Craig & Marty Olafson
Mark Munson
Nicole Nauer
David Nelson
Jen Nelson
Scott & Diane Nelson
Marc & Ann Nguyen
Jay & Sara Nickel
Larry Niederhofer
Scott & Pam Nielsen

Jen Nelson

CMAG THREE: $1,000-$1,599

Kirk & Patti Howard
Brian & Tricia Hoover
Kirk & Patti Howard
Scott Howells & Lori Shepherd
Greg Huber
Mark & Sarah Hull
Paul & Coleen Hunsanger
Kevin & Andrea Ingvalson
Chuck & Kathy Jonas
George & Maureen Jorgensen
Jim & Audrey Kavanagh
Tim & Patty Kilgore
Robin & Melissa Kladke
Rebecca Klessig
DeAnn Kmosena
Jeff & Julie Kobil
Rick & Tara Koch
Diane Konnella
Keith Koszarek
Kris Kubnick
Monica Kummerfeldt
Al Lai
Lori Lang
CAMP TWO: $750-$999

Nathan Gallant
Noel Sonnek
Jack & Lisa Sondergard
Rick Socha
Tristan Shier
Steve & Tina Seidell
Fred Schwalbach
Clark & Kathy Schuette
Tim Schotz
Dale & Kris Schirmacher
Joy Schilling
Dan & Carolyn Schaut
Joy Scilling
Rae & Kris Schirmacher
Tim Schotz
Claire & Kathy Scudder
Fred Schwabach
Anton Seering
Scott & Jeni Seidel
Steve & Tina Sedl
Andrew & Alina Shallow
Tristan Shier
Margo & Jack Smith
Rick Socha
Kari Solomonson
Jack & Lisa Sondergard
Noel Sonnek
Matt & Bernadette Spink
William Statler
Ivan & Anna Stanko
Donna Staples
Bob & Linda Stasney
Jeanne Steineke
Jeff Stoecker
Mike Stuermer
George & Peggy Tanner
Joseph & Denise Tazzelaar
Bill & Jean Tihan
Joseph Thimm
Tim & Candy Thurs
John & Sandy Townsend
Bryan & Jane Troyer
Jay & Sara True
Dave & Nancy Tuman
Vicki Tikya
Sean & Sara Valiska
Mike & Julie Vesel
Tom Vollstedt
Tom & Sue Weimerskirch
Jason & Mary Welker
Ron & Mark Wernher
Brad West
Chuck Wirsbinski
Dan & Gale Wolff
Scott Wright
Wulf Family Charitable Fund
Gary & Jan Yonе
Jeff & Cindy Zriny

Anonymous (22)
Wade Carroll
Jon & Kathy Creisher
Jeffrey & Gina Crispell
Nicholas Crociere
Doug Croft
Clare Cullen
Sean & Tami Cummings
Bill Danuser
Tonya Damer
Paul & Patty Davis
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Tere Deininger
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John Enzenroth
Joseph Falstad
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Brian & Cheri Focks
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Greg & Joy Foye
Gary & Nancy France
Brian Freberg
Craig & Amanda Gadke
Peter & Jessica Gaffaney Family Foundation
Troy & Carmel Galster
Nick Ganglano
Jon & Karyn Gelhaus
Thomas Giguere
Russell Gilbertson
Dr. Kristine & James Gilmore
Lane & Kris Gresen
Jeremy Grimm
Sara Gross
Scott & Linda Hackbarth
Travis Haggenbucher
Lennie Hammont
Derek & Ashley Hawley
Raymond & Robin Heg
Sheryl Hemp
Tim & Jennifer Holcomb
Doug & Cec Holmberg
Tom & Audrey Huflet
Jesse Jensen
Jennifer Johnson
Jeff & Keri Johnson
Jay & Kristine Kamrath
Chad Kane
Dr. Robert Kaupie
Brian Kennedy
Karen Kenton
Thomas & Nola Kipp
Robert & Christy Kirkley
Gerard & Michelle Klein
Lisa Krause
Aaron Kremin
Mark Krunos
Mollie Ksionsk
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Steve & Jamie Mangels
Timothy & Amy Marquardt
Greg & Jessica Mattmiller
Heather Maves
Hang Mc Donald
Karla McGowan
Chris & Theresa Menard
Robert Mentzer & Laura Scudiere
Kathy Messier
Julie Miehe
Jenna Miller
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Korina Mohr
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Sonja Petermann
Gregory & Kathy Peterson
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Jon & Kim Powell
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Neil Printz
Timothy & Judy Ranke
Heidi Rausch
Robert Reinertson & Sally Scinto-Reinertson
Cindy Reinke
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Ryan Richardson
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John Schmidt
Kara Schmidt
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Brad Schulz
Chad Schwantes
Jim & Angie Servi
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Lonnie Smith
Tammie Smith
Michael Soehl & Sarah Trimmer
Marc Sorge
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Bob & Maria Spring
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Scott & Tammy Steckling
Bonnie Stieber
Shelley Stokosa
Tim & Kathy Strasser
Chad Strelew
Rick & Mary Swanson
Scott Swanson
Nan & Pete Taylor
Scott & Janel Thonne
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Karen Tomaszewski
John & Jennifer Trucco
Ryan & Jamie Trzebiatowski
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James & Diane VanEycz
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Jordyn Wadie-Leff
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Laura Walther
Alan & Marie Wardall
Dylan Warnecke
Scott Wegner
Doug & Jen Welsh
Carl Westberg
Dustijn & Jacqueline White
Elzbieta Wierzejkowski
Mike & Sue Williams
Travis Wimmer
Karen Winters
Linda Woloscheck-Greenberg
Ian Woods
Megan Wunrow
Andy & Rachel Yacht
Tou Yang & Maier Goua
Kelly Zagrazbski
David Zastrow & Shannon Keough
Mikko Zuchner & Cecilia Stroede
Anonymous (45)
United Way of Marathon County Connects organizations and volunteers to opportunities.

The Marathon Hunger Coalition executed a successful 2021 Turkey Trot with more than 1,550 runners and $53,000 raised. This was the 12th Annual Turkey Trot, in which 100% of the proceeds benefit the Marathon County Hunger Coalition which distributed 2.1 million pounds of food across Marathon County in 2021.

The race took place on Thanksgiving morning when the temperatures dipped to 20 degrees and snowflakes fell, while families cheered on their loved ones. Volunteers, children, dogs, walkers, and fast runners participated in this family-friendly run. In 2022 the race will be moving locations and beginning at the 400 Block and Great Hall. Save the date for November 24, 2022.

The Marathon County Hunger Coalition partners with 17 food pantries, 7 local grocers, and numerous community partners to ensure food is widely distributed in Marathon County.

500 + volunteers raked 130 yards to support community members who are elderly or physically unable to carry out their yard work alone during Make a Difference Week.

3,000 books were donated during the Community Book Drive, cleaned, and distributed to our Ready to Read bookshelves and community agencies supporting literacy.

134 volunteers completed projects for 22 partner agencies during Week of Action.

370 volunteers used the Get Connected website.

FIGHTING HUNGER

The Marathon Hunger Coalition executed a successful 2021 Turkey Trot with more than 1,550 runners and $53,000 raised.

This was the 12th Annual Turkey Trot, in which 100% of the proceeds benefit the Marathon County Hunger Coalition which distributed 2.1 million pounds of food across Marathon County in 2021.
The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) served 29,340 hours of volunteer time in 2021. 307 volunteers served in unique jobs. RSVP provided eight virtual education programs this year.

8,000+ books were distributed to children age birth to five through the Ready to Read Program.

The Marathon County Early Years Coalition hosted a virtual session for people titled, “Helping Transition Children, Youth, and Their Families to the Next Normal” with seven guest experts.

240 Calm Kits were created by volunteers and distributed to students to encourage positive social emotional learning skills.

20 students received the book, A Green Green Garden and learned about healthy eating during the Adopt a Classroom project.

1,145 students received the book, A Green Green Garden and learned about healthy eating during the Adopt a Classroom project.

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) served 29,340 hours of volunteer time in 2021. 307 volunteers served in unique jobs. RSVP provided eight virtual education programs this year.

RETIRE UNITED members read 41 hours during a virtual reading buddy program called Vello. Nine volunteers met virtually, one-on-one, with 20 children at Marathon Elementary School. Thank you to Peoples State Bank, Woodtrust Bank, Ruder Ware, EO Johnson, Marathon Cheese, IncredibleBank, Connexus Cares, Nationwide, and Greenheck for your support.
Stuart Randall- CLA- $7,000.00 cash
Greg Framke- Peoples State Bank- $2,500.00 cash
Dan Rutten- Greenheck- $1,000.00 cash
Paul Hunsanger- $500.00 gift card to Jim Kryshak Jewelers
Charles Marvin- Crystal Finishing- $500.00 gift card to Crossroads County Market
Donna Steckling- Eastbay/Footlocker- $500.00 gift card to Kwik Trip
Connie Koppa- Greenheck- $500.00 gift card to Grebes
Ryan Kellenberger- Peoples State Bank- $500.00 gift card to Greater Wausau Chamber of Commerce
Dawn O’Polka- Aspirus – $500.00 gift card to Shepherd & Schaller
Marsha Sipple – gift cards to Janke Bookstore, Sam’s Pizza, Evolutions In Design, The Milk Merchant & Briq’s Soft Serve

Thank you to our Sweepstakes Sponsors!

Stephanie Daniels, Volunteer of the Year
(Right) Ruder Ware has played an active role in supporting our community for years.
(Left) Stephanie Daniels exemplifies volunteerism at its best through the Marathon County Hunger Coalition.

Pam Knowles, DC Everest School District
(Above) Staff from DC Everest with Pam, accepting the Workplace Campaigner of the Year Award.

La’Tanya Campbell
(Right) Dedication to Service Award for demonstrating outstanding achievement and service to our community and a lifetime of advocacy.

Carol Pasnecker, Office Volunteer of the Year
(Right) Tony has been a mentor for Retire United's mentorship program this year. Tony was instrumental in securing the RSVP program for Marathon County and has also been committed to issues affecting old adults for years.
(Left) Fred and Carol Pasnecker. Award named after Carol, in memory of her life and dedication to service at United Way.

Tony Omernik, Retired Volunteer of the Year
(July 19, 1947 – November 4, 2021)
2021 created opportunities for dollars to be invested in our community to help individuals achieve financial stability and increase access to healthy foods. 10,896 nights of shelter were provided by United Way funded programs and 2,163 individuals were able to move into, or remain in a safe and permanent house.

Because of the dollars invested in United Way of Marathon County, 13,100 individuals were assisted with food access and they didn’t have to choose between food and other basic necessities.

We continue to advocate for affordable housing and educate the community on financial stability one-step at a time while our partner agencies provide services for our community. 4,472 individuals received mental health services from a United Way funded program and 3,714 clients gained knowledge about safe and healthy relationships.

*Kelly* has two children and no permanent home. She ended up in the Wausau area to get help from family. Shortly after arriving, her family asked her to leave. Most of her savings was spent on getting to Wisconsin. Some nights she and her children stayed in the car and others hopping around between homes of people she barely knew. A funded partner was able to help support Kelly in finding an apartment, rental assistance, and filled her pantry full of fresh foods. They were connected to public schools and established a medical provider in the community. While Kelly still has a long way to go towards stability, her children are finding support within their school network and new home.

In Marathon County, individuals saved $37,824 using the SingleCare Prescription Savings Card.
Emerging Leaders is a dedicated group of young professionals representing nearly every industry in Marathon County who have a passion for social impact and an interest in professional development.

Members kept connected in creative ways by participating in virtual trainings such as Cook and Connect Lunch and Learns. Members were invited to discussions with local leaders, volunteered at the Warming Center, and provided 2,550 snack packs to area schools.

They also had fun networking activities such as blanket making, sign painting, book clubs, and informational sessions, Off the Record.

This year, members had the opportunity to be paired with a Mentor from Retire United. These unique relationships created ongoing education, new friendships, and professional development for young professionals.
Women United is a philanthropic and fun group of women leaders who care deeply about our community by creating a better place for females facing various hardships in their life. They raise dollars and awareness to increase the self-sufficiency of women to improve their lives, the lives of their family, and the community as a whole. This year, members participated in a variety of engagement opportunities such as book clubs, volunteering and on-line events. Some of the best friendships and connections have been made through this energetic group of women. They ran together for Turkey Trot, painted for Rise Up, prepared freezer meals, and raked yards during Make a Difference Week. Members raised money through their signature event, Power of the Purse, a virtual auction event of purses, accessories, and unique experiences.