

2021-2022



Leaders in Giving

UNITED WAY OF
GREATER STARK COUNTY



thank you

for making our community a brighter place for all



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We're proud to be standing in the gap with you, United Way's Leaders in Giving. We've been involved with United Way for over 40 years and have always been greatly impressed by the generosity of local organizations and individuals who give back. We believe United Way makes us a better community, and we feel fortunate to live and work in Stark County.

We thank you for contributing to the 2021 Campaign and making an impact on lives every day for our friends and neighbors here in Stark County. Thank you to the organizations who ran workplace campaigns, to those who made corporate gifts, and to you who made individual gifts – all to make our community a better place for all of us.

Dave and Laura Grabowsky
2021 Campaign Chairs





Maria Heege, Retired
President and CEO
United Way of Greater Stark County

After 41 years of service, I have stepped down as President and CEO of United Way. I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation of your continuous support! As I look back over the years, I am grateful for your generous partnership with us and for your trust in our work.

You are the leaders of our community, and together, we have made a difference in the areas of health, education, and financial stability for individuals and families who have needed our help during challenging times. You may not know their names, but please know they carry thanks in their hearts for your kindness and generosity.

We just celebrated 100 years of United Way in Stark County – 100 years resulting in thousands of stories of hope, safety, security, and success. United Way's work and the significant role it plays in this community will continue to bring people, organizations, and communities together around a common cause, vision, and path forward. Together, we are working hard every day to make real change happen. Thank you for joining us in advancing the common good by improving the quality of life in our communities, and thank you for Living UNITED!

MARIA HEEGE ENDOWMENT FUND

To honor Maria's retirement and 41 years of service to our community, the United Way of Greater Stark County Board of Directors created The Maria Heege Endowment Fund.

The following have made donations.

Terri and Pete Bate	Rev. Dr. David and Dr. Jane Hoyt-Oliver	Denise A. Seachrist, Ph.D.
Kathy and Bob Belden	H-P Products, Inc.	Gary and Linda Sirak
Tom and Vanessa Botzman	Vicki Jin	The Johnny and Susan Sirpilla Family
Thomas A. Burns and Sara E. Strattan	James and Louanne Kiko	Kevin and Linda Smith
Lettie May Clawson	Rich and Stacey Kyle	Randy and Leslee Snow
Carrie Clemens	William and Pearl Lemmon	Carl* and Sally Sorenson
William and Terry Cook	Stephanie and Erich Maier	Don Sultzbach
Jeff and Kathy Day	Michael and Amy Mast	Mr. and Mrs. Ted Swaldo
Bob and Linda DeHoff	Paula Mastroianni	The Swaldo/Blackerby Family
Rich and Anne Desrosiers	Don and Merrie McCord	Drs. Michael and Julie Thomas
Connie Drabick	Dr. John J. McGrath	Jean Tondola-Smith
Chuck and Debbie Ducey	Karen and Richard McQueen	Chuck Tyburski
Sarah Anne Efremoff	Cathy Mick-Jennings	Robert and Karen Vandervaart
Elizabeth Engels	Ronald C.* and Patricia A. Miller	Bill and Candy Wallace
Thomas V. Ferrero	Deanna and David Morris	Cathy and Patrick Wyatt
Mike and Kay Flood	Mary Ann Morrison	Scott and Kathy Zurakowski
Philip and Lynn Francis	Gina and Harry Myers	
Joseph French	Jim and Wrenn Nicodemo	Thirteen donors to the Maria Heege
Neil and Marie Genshaft	Fred and Virginia Olivieri	Endowment Fund wish to remain
Dan Gichevski	Dr. Adrienne O'Neill	anonymous
LaFlovia Ginanni	Angela Perisic	
Girl Scouts of North East Ohio	Diane and Kevin Pete	
Chris and Michele Goff	Sandy Phillips	
Derek Gordon	Rob Pierson	
David and Laura Grabowsky	Adrienne Price	
Rick and Vicki Haines	Sam and Teresa Purses	
Joe and Nancy Halter	Tim and Terry Regula	
Dr. Suzanne and Mr. Alan Harold	Christopher and Stacy Remark	
Chuck and Rosemarie Hoover	Terri and Ed Roth	
Larry and Nancy Hoover	Taylor and Kari Schauer	
Michael and Debra Howard	Cis and Gary Schumacher	

*Deceased



Angela Perisic
President and CEO
United Way of Greater Stark County

For 100 years, United Way has been serving the needs of the Greater Stark County community. Our commitment has not wavered, and as times have changed and needs have become more complex, we have evolved in our methods to address community needs. We now embark on our next 100 years, and we know that to be successful, we must adapt, become even more strategic, and take bold action.

As the new President and CEO of United Way of Greater Stark County, I am ready for the challenge and excited for the opportunity to take us into the future. I thank you for being Leaders in Giving and for continuing the journey with us. Thank you for believing in the future of this community. Most importantly, thank you for giving hope.

Top (l.-r.): Dave and Laura Grabowsky, Judge Michael Howard, Ret., Angela Perisic, and Maria Heege. Thank you, Dave and Laura, for hosting the 2021 Campaign wrap-up celebration.



Jim and Cincy Camp

For 100 years, United Way has focused on building a better, equitable community where everyone has the potential for a healthier life, better education, and more financial stability. While our community continues to change, our mission and commitment to Stark and Carroll Counties remains the same. As we reflect on our past and look forward to our future, we know now more than ever, we must come together to positively impact our community's future for all.

Right now, tens of thousands of people in Stark County are struggling to stay afloat. These are real people, who need real help from generous people who are willing to give a lending hand. The harsh reality is poverty hurts us all – whether it directly affects you or not. As we step into the future, we know hard work needs to be done, and we're here to make our community a stronger, safer place for everyone.

Currently, one out of every five children in Stark County lives in poverty. Our team at United Way is dedicated to helping and supporting families and children in need of local, community resources that could be the key to helping get a family out of poverty for good and see a brighter future is within their reach. We know this is an urgent crisis and that it starts at homes in our neighborhoods with families most at risk of remaining or becoming poor.

To commemorate our Centennial year, we have launched the STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS, STRONG FAMILIES initiative to directly work with residents of neighborhoods in need and link them to our funded services. We will support single parent families – especially those headed by female heads of households where racial, gender, and income disparities exist – and meet them right at home. The first phase of this program will focus on the Shorb N.W. neighborhood in Canton, by partnering with Canton For All People and the neighborhood elementary school to offer more support to their students and families.

To make this initiative successful, we need passionate community members to collaborate and encourage both school and resident-driven feedback and planning. Together, we can create real change and brighter futures for every child. Together, we can help each and every child unleash their full potential.



Alexis de Tocqueville Society

This year, United Way celebrates its 100th anniversary of serving Greater Stark County. Much like 100 years ago, our community faces the aftermath of a pandemic and economic challenges. Despite these challenges, the generosity of our community allows for the needs of so many to not only be seen but met. United Way was founded on the principle that when we all work together we can accomplish great things. That principle still stands true today. We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to make a difference for our neighbors in need. We've always believed that the Greater Stark County community is generous and caring and each of you continues to prove that. **In 2021, the Alexis de Tocqueville network gave nearly \$1.4 million. We'd like to thank you for your generosity in making a difference. Thank you for reaching out your hand.**

Chris and Michele Goff
2021 Alexis de Tocqueville Society Chairs



✦ Only 26 when he toured America in 1831, Alexis de Tocqueville recognized, applauded and immortalized North American voluntary action on behalf of the common good. He wrote, "I must say that I have seen Americans make a great deal of real sacrifices to the public welfare; and have noticed a hundred instances in which they hardly ever failed to lend a faithful support to one another," eloquently capturing the essence of personal philanthropy that persists almost three centuries later.



Founded worldwide in 1984

The United Way Tocqueville Society is an opportunity for passionate individuals to become more deeply involved in United Way's mission. Currently, 400 societies have raised over \$529 million dollars from nearly 25,000 individuals. These leaders share a global spirit of philanthropy and engage locally, nationally, and globally to improve the lives of others.

Since 1996, the United Way of Greater Stark County Alexis de Tocqueville Society has recognized local philanthropic leaders and volunteer champions who have devoted time, talent, and funds to create long-lasting changes by tackling our communities' most serious issues.



Membership Gift Levels

- \$1 million+ – La Table Ronde de Millions de Dollars
- \$750,000 - \$999,999 – Ordre de Prospérité
- \$500,000 - \$749,999 – Ordre de Connaissance
- \$250,000 - \$499,999 – Ordre d'Indépendance
- \$100,000 - \$249,999 – La Société Nationale
- \$75,000 - \$99,999 – Ordre de Fraternité
- \$50,000 - \$74,999 – Ordre d'Égalité
- \$25,000 - \$49,999 – Ordre de Liberté
- \$15,000 - \$24,999 – Ordre de Généreux
- \$10,000 - \$14,999 – Membres de la Société



Step Up Program

Allows donors to begin giving at a \$5,000 level and be recognized as an Alexis de Tocqueville Society member while increasing gifts over a six-year period.

- \$5,000 – Year 1
- \$6,000 – Year 2
- \$7,000 – Year 3
- \$8,000 – Year 4
- \$9,000 – Year 5
- \$10,000 – Year 6

Alexis de Tocqueville Society Members

LA TABLE RONDE DE MILLIONS DE DOLLARS

Gifts of \$1 million+ over 5 years



Mark and Amy Sterling^W
The Beaver Excavating Company

ORDRE D'ÉGALITÉ

Gifts of \$50,000 - \$74,999



The W. Henry Hoover Fund⁺

ORDRE DE LIBERTÉ

Gifts of \$25,000 - \$49,999



Bob and Linda DeHoff^{W+}
DeHoff Development Company/
DeHoff Realtors



The Deuble Foundation



Geoff and Amy Karcher
The Karcher Group



Rich and Stacey Kyle^{W+}
The Timken Company



Jim and Evelyn Valentine
Valentine Contractors Inc.



Two Ordre de Liberté members wish to remain anonymous

ORDRE DE GÉNÉRÉUX *Gifts of \$15,000 - \$24,999*



Dr. Michael J. Bernard⁺



Dave and Candee Bishop^{W+}
H-P Products, Inc.



Paul and Jane Bishop^{W+}
H-P Products, Inc.



Cricket^W and Ted Boyd⁺



Chris and Teri Coughlin⁺
The Timken Company/
DeHoff Realtors



Scott and Karen Fitzpatrick^{W+}
Fitzpatrick Enterprises



Chris and Michele Goff^{W+}
Employers Health



Larry and Nancy Hoover^{W+}



**Mike and Holly Jeffries and
The Jeffries Family**
The Joseph A. Jeffries
Company



William and Pearl Lemmon
Brookwood Management Company



Larry⁺ and Pat⁺ Merriman
GBS Corp.



Ronald C.⁺ and Patricia A. Miller^{W+}



Dean and Grace Olivieri^{W+}
The Fred Olivieri Companies -
Fred Olivieri Construction/GRACO
Concrete/MRO Built



Fred and Virginia Olivieri^{W+}
The Fred Olivieri Companies -
Fred Olivieri Construction/GRACO
Concrete/MRO Built



Stephen A. and Sondra D. Perry^W



Gary and Linda Sirak^{W+}
Sirak Financial Services

ORDRE DE GÉNÉREUX *CONTINUED*



The Johnny and Susan Sirpilla^W Family⁺
Encourage, LLC



Kevin and Linda Smith^{W+}
PPI Graphics/Sirak Financial Services



Marlene and Joe Toot^{R+}
The Timken Company



Robert Vitale
Midwest Industrial Supply, Inc.



Howard and Sandy Wenger
Northstar Asphalt, Inc. / Stark Materials, Inc. / Massillon Materials, Inc.



Harold E. Ziegler, Jr.⁺
Ziegler Tire & Supply Company



One Ordre de Généreux member wishes to remain anonymous

Dick Nicely was an honored mentor in the 2020 Campaign. Pictured here with Laura and Dave Grabowsky.



MEMBERS DE LA SOCIÉTÉ *Gifts of \$10,000 - \$14,999*



David and Kristen Beck
Run To You Racing LLC



Mark and Beverly Belgya*



The Biery Family^W
Biery Cheese Company



Garrett and Megan Brown^{W+}
Employers Health



Steve and Lori Burger^{W+}
Employers Health/
Stark State College



Dr. and Mrs. ^W Anthony Codispoti⁺
Foundation Systems & Anchors,
Inc. / Canton Galvanizing



Michael and Dawn Conny
MAC Trailer Enterprises, Inc.



The Dan DeHoff Family
DeHoff Development Company



Greg DiNarda
Merrill Wealth Management



Mark and Michelle Fedor
Morgan Engineering Company



Russ and Evelyn Folger*



Philip and Joan Fracassa^W
The Timken Company



Ryan and Evrim Fulmer⁺



Mary Ann* and Art Garfield^R
FirstEnergy



Robert^R and Nancy Gessner
MCTV



David and Laura Grabowsky^{W+}

MEMBERS DE LA SOCIÉTÉ *CONTINUED*



Rick and Vicki Haines^{W+}
Aultman Health
Foundation



Chuck and Rosemarie Hoover⁺
Malone University:
Executive in Residence



Zach and Allie Hostetler^{W+}
Employers Health



The Kempthorn Family⁺
Kempthorn Motors, Inc.



William* and Sharon Luntz^{W+}



Dick and Kathi Maggiore^{W+}
Innis Maggiore



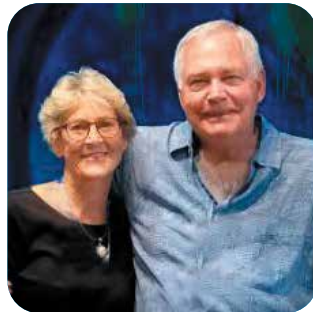
Michael and Amy Mast^{W+}



The Mastroianni Family
Alliance Ventures



Don and Merrie McCord^{R+}
Marathon Petroleum Company LP
Ohio Refining Division



Gary and Livvy Mull^{W+}



Lucia^W and Joe Pileggi⁺
KeyBank/Aramark



Susan^W and Larry Ray^R
Nationwide Insurance



Christopher and Stacy Remark^{W+}
Aultman Health Foundation/
North Canton Medical Foundation



Terri^W and Ed Roth^R
Retired President of
Aultman Health Foundation



Jim and Peggy Savage⁺
AultCare



David and Lisa Schauer^W
Schauer Group, Inc.

MEMBERS DE LA SOCIÉTÉ *CONTINUED*



Gerald Schroer, Jr.
The Schroer Group



Larry and Ginny Smerglia^W
UBS Financial Services, Inc



Carl^{*} and Sally Sorenson^{W+}



Mike Stull⁺
Employers Health



The Swaldo/Blackerby Family^{W+}
Gervasi Vineyard



Drs. Michael and Julie Thomas^{W+}
Thomas & Associates, DDS /
Julie M. Thomas, DDS



Jack and Joy Timken
Timken Foundation
of Canton



Jane^W and Tim Timken
The Ward J. Timken, Jr. Charitable Fund /
McKinley Strategies



Chris and Nicole Todaro
The J.M. Smucker Company



Harvey and Linda Wagner^W



Mike and Melanie Williams⁺
TimkenSteel Corporation



Mark and Tonya Wright^W
Aultman Health Foundation



Two Members de la
Société wish to remain
anonymous

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS:

Dr. Gregory and Carol Bonavita^W
Aultman Deuble Heart & Vascular Hospital LLC

Anonymous Gift In Memory of Peggy Cantwell⁺

Gene^R and Sally Little⁺
The Timken Company

Dane and Tracy Mayle⁺
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Geoff and Shawn Marie Nicely
R.G. Smith Company Inc.

The Tolerton Family^W

Alexis de Tocqueville Society Mentors

The following individuals have been honored for their contributions to Greater Stark County and their impact on the lives of people close to them. Those affecting change in either the personal or public realm have done so by example – their unselfish commitment to giving back is a shining beacon in our community.

An additional \$10,000 was donated in their names to United Way as a way of recognizing the mark they made on the individuals paying tribute to them, and on Stark County as a whole. If you are interested in honoring someone who has impacted your life with a gift to United Way in their name, please contact: Terri Bate, Director of Philanthropy, 330-491-9969, terri.bate@uwstark.org.



Guy Cecchini

Known all around Stark County as “Mr. McDonald’s,” Guy Cecchini was much more than just a McDonald’s owner/operator. A key component of Guy’s business was his commitment to give back to the community and to the many people who helped make him so successful. Guy Cecchini was honored by members of the Board of Directors of United Way of Greater Stark County.



E.L. (Al) Cutler

E. L. (Al) Cutler, founder of Cutler Real Estate, was a leader and a driving force in his business, the Board of REALTORS and the community. Al was giving of his time and knowledge and was responsible for the careers of many outstanding local REALTORS. E. L. Cutler was honored by Jim Bray, Jim Camp, and Jay Cutler from Cutler Real Estate.



Paul David

Paul David, founder of Camelot Records and the Paul and Carol David Foundation, made a lasting impression on many in Stark County through his generous works. Paul David was honored by the United Way Board of Trustees for his community vision, commitment to children, and community service in Stark County.



Ardis and Glenn DeHoff

True leaders in every sense, Ardis and Glenn DeHoff set the standards for their family and community. Founders in 1962 of what is now DeHoff Realtors and DeHoff Development Company, Ardis and Glenn began implementing their legacy of community vision, business leadership, and family values. Ardis and Glenn DeHoff were honored by Bob and Linda DeHoff.



Lynn and Robert Grabowsky

Lynn was known for her talents as a great cook, pianist, putting family first, and for her work in the community. For Robert ‘Bob’ Grabowsky, hard work and dedication to his family were core values. The Canton native was known as a kind businessman who always gave back to the community that he felt had given him so much. Lynn and Bob Grabowsky were honored by Standard Plumbing and Heating, Inc. and the Grabowsky Family.



Richard and Marilyn Kempthorn

Richard “Dick” and Marilyn “Lynn” Kempthorn were lifetime residents of Canton, Ohio. Dick became the CEO of Kempthorn Motors in 1964 when he bought the dealership from his father. Lynn was the strong and silent type giving of her time freely to many civic causes. Dick and Lynn taught the family, “To whom much is given, much is expected.” Dick and Lynn were honored by their sons, Eric and Jim Kempthorn, their daughter Dana Parker, and the Kempthorn Motors Employees.



William “Bill” Luntz

William “Bill” Luntz grew up in a home where giving was considered more important than receiving. That became a strong influence on him, and Bill said, “My father always told me when you derive your livelihood from a community, you have an obligation to give back.” Learning that lesson at a young age shaped Bill’s life in the Stark County community. Bill dedicated his life to his community, which is evidenced by his long-time commitments to numerous organizations. Bill was honored by his wife, Sharon Luntz.



Nancy Markley

Nancy Markley will be remembered for her love of Ohio history, her passion for teaching children, and her famous Dutch apple pie. Nancy served on the board of the Stark County Historical Society for 20 years and was the founding president of the Auxiliary for the William McKinley Presidential Library and Museum. Nancy volunteered for many years for the United Way Fund Drive, often presenting at workplace rallies. Nancy was honored by the Markley Family.



Ronald Carl (R.C.) Miller

Ronald Carl (R.C.) Miller Sr. left a legacy as a philanthropist and business leader in the greater Stark County community. As founder of R. C. Miller Refuse Service, Inc., his company was rated in the top 100 waste-hauling companies in the USA for four years, reaching all the way to #42 before the sale of the company in 1998. R.C. Miller was honored by members of the Alexis de Tocqueville Society of Greater Stark County.



Richard (Dick) Nicely

Richard (Dick) Nicely, is the CEO of R.G. Smith Company, having purchased it from his father. Dick says being a mentor is something you just evolve into. “I’ve had many business friends that I would consider mentors.” It is a relationship that develops through daily interactions like watching someone solve issues. Dick was honored by Geoff and Shawn Marie Nicely, his son and daughter-in-law, who say, “Our father has, and continues to be, an inspiration when it comes to philanthropy and his love of this community.”



Fred and Virginia Olivieri

Born in Canton to fathers who emigrated from Italy in 1920, Fred and Virginia put their personalities and talents together to make a dynamic impact in the community in which they grew up and have loved. Together, they founded the Fred Olivieri Construction Company over 60 years ago in the basement of their home. Fred and Virginia have been blessed by their family, but the children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren have enjoyed the gift of unconditional love and true mentorship from them. Fred and Virginia Olivieri were honored by Dean and Grace Olivieri, Christine Olivieri Hackett, and the Olivieri Family.



Dr. James Pagano

Dr. Pagano, a surgeon, graduated from St. Louis University, interned at Mercy Medical Center, and married Dr. James F. King’s aunt, who was also a registered nurse. Pagano helped Dr. King with his schooling at the University of Notre Dame and medical school at St. Louis University. Because of Dr. Pagano’s help early in his life, Dr. King became a respected and very successful gastroenterologist in the community. Dr. James F. King and his wife Charlene – an R.N. – decided to honor his mentor, Dr. James Pagano, with a gift in his name to the United Way Foundation. Their gift was the first Alexis de Tocqueville Mentor gift.



Congressman Ralph and Mary Regula

Education was always a top priority for the Congressman. He was integral in the creation of NEOUCOM Medical School and Stark State College of Technology. Mary was an avid speaker on women’s issues, U.S. history, and First Ladies. She founded the First Ladies’ Library on Market Street in downtown Canton. Congressman Ralph and Mary Regula were honored by Bob and Linda DeHoff.



Herbert Schalmo

Herbert Schalmo was admired for his high moral principles. He was a devoted Catholic, a great American patriot and a successful businessman who believed in service above self. Herbert Schalmo was honored by the Schalmo family.



John B. Sirpilla

The son of Italian immigrants, John B. Sirpilla lived the American dream to the fullest. He was hard working, dedicated to his family, and a steward of service and philanthropy in the community. John Sirpilla was honored by staff, volunteers, and members of the Board of Directors of United Way of Greater Stark County.



William "Don" Sterling

William "Don" Sterling started Beaver Excavating in 1953 when he took out a \$4,000 mortgage on his house to purchase a small backhoe and bulldozer. William "Don" Sterling was honored during Beaver’s 50th anniversary by his sons Mark, Jeff, and Greg Sterling, and daughter Jill Givens for his entrepreneurial leadership and community service in Stark County.



J. Babe Stearn

Close to 70 of J. Babe Stearn’s 90 years were spent giving back to the Stark County community, particularly to the young people. J. Babe Stearn was honored by the Friends of J. Babe Stearn for his commitment to the children of Stark County.



A Tribute to Women's Work with United Way

In 2006, Mrs. Herbert E. Markley paid tribute to the work that women have done for the United Way throughout the years. Women dedicated to bettering the community have fulfilled the roles of policy makers, allocators, fundraisers, donors, and volunteers for over 100 years in Greater Stark County.



Mildred Urbach

Mildred Urbach was the first woman to lead the United Way of Central Stark County (United Fund) campaign, raising more than \$1 million in 1968. Mildred Urbach was honored by Dr. John and Dr. Arysol Niffenegger. Mildred was John's grandmother.



Dr. Ralph T. Warburton

Ralph Warburton, M.D. was known as someone who not only dreamed the impossible dream, but enthusiastically set out to make it happen. Dr. Warburton was one of the founders of the North Canton Medical Foundation, a not-for-profit foundation. Dr. Ralph Warburton was honored by the staff, patients, volunteers, and members of the Board of Directors of the North Canton Medical Foundation.



MENTOR



WILLIAM L. "BILL" LUNTZ

"If I can bring a smile to a child's face, make a lonely senior feel a little less lonely or help make my community a little better, then I know that I have served a good purpose - perhaps even a divine purpose."

William "Bill" Luntz grew up in a home where giving was considered more important than receiving. That became a strong influence on him, and Bill says, "My father always told me when you derive your livelihood from a community, you have an obligation to give back." Learning that lesson at a young age shaped Bill's life in the Stark County community.

Born at Mercy Hospital, and attending Belle Stone Elementary School, Bill is a true native of Canton. His family moved to Cleveland during his youth and after graduating from University School he joined the Army Air Corps, serving in Europe as a Corporal. He met his first wife, Denise Guyot, in France and they were married in 1948.

Shortly after their marriage, Bill left college to join the Luntz Corporation, saying, "Frankly, I wasn't prepared for anything else." His story of success and building the corporation would inspire anyone. Bill calls himself a life-long learner and surrounded himself with knowledgeable people from whom he learned. He was VP of Luntz Corp. by the age of 45, and President by age 50. Unfortunately for the community, Denise died of cancer in 1971.

By enhancing their work ethic and improving self-esteem, the students were successfully prepared for their future. It was named Project Wheelbarrow because his grandfather started the family business with only a wheelbarrow. A wheelbarrow was the vehicle out of poverty for his family, and Bill believes education is the vehicle and road to success for our youth.

Bill says, "If I can bring a smile to a child's face, make a lonely senior feel a little less lonely or help make my community a little better, then I know that I have served a good purpose - perhaps even a divine purpose."

Bill has dedicated his life to his community, which is evidenced by his long-term commitments to Canton Palace Theatre, the earned their first Lifetime Achievement Award for his leadership in saving the theater for generations to enjoy, Arts in Stark, Walsh University, Stark State College, YMCA, The Stark Community Foundation, and United Way of Greater Stark County. He served as the United Fund Campaign Chair in 1971 and has been a Leader in Giving for countless decades.

Bill has four children, seven grandchildren...

Above: Sharon Luntz, (l.) is pictured with Janet and Greg Luntz. Sharon honored her husband, Bill Luntz, in the 2020 Campaign. Sadly, Bill passed away January 1, 2022. **Greg Luntz will be the chair of the 2023 United Way Campaign.**



MENTOR

Jack Peters

*Bloom where you
are planted*

Madge and Jack



“Bloom where you are planted” is quoted often, and Jack Peters lived these words every day of his 96 years. After an amazing life giving back to the community he loved, Jack Peters passed away on November 28, 2021. Aside from his four years spent earning a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Finance in 1947, he lived his entire life in Alliance. Jack even told his college sweetheart, Madge Patterson, that he was from Alliance, the “Garden Spot of Ohio.” Much to her surprise, when she stepped off the train when visiting Alliance for the first time she exclaimed, “Is this the garden spot?” Apparently, Alliance was as Jack described because Madge never left.

Jack was a true visionary who saw the good in people and wanted to find ways to, as he described, “give them a little boost” so they could achieve their goals. Of course, when you are a visionary like Jack, you think BIG. Thus, came the birth of the Greater Alliance Foundation, a community foundation dedicated to improving the lives of Alliance residents.

Through his humble example, a truly remarkable legacy was left for the community; countless partnerships, initiatives, scholarships, and ideas were born in the city he loved. Jack led by example when he asked people to “join me.” Jack was a past president of United Way of Alliance and led the United Way Fund to success. Jack and Madge were members of United Way of Greater Stark County’s Alexis de Tocqueville Society for nearly 15 years, and they passed that spirit of giving and making a difference onto their community.

If there’s one word that keeps popping up when describing Jack, it’s the word “mentor.” To call him a friend was to call him a mentor. To know him was to love him.

Jack Peters is being honored by the Greater Alliance Foundation Board of Trustees



MENTOR

Tom Schervish

Count your blessings

Tom is pictured with his wife, Angela, and his four grandchildren, (l. to r). Liam, Tommy, Isla, and Anna



Tom Schervish spent the majority of his life emphasizing the importance of giving back to your community. Whether it was speaking to a group of fellow business owners or volunteering with young kids, Tom made it a priority to share his knowledge, time, and talents with others.

Growing up in Detroit, Tom spent his days organizing neighborhood games of sandlot baseball and pond hockey. While in high school, he coached his younger brother's baseball teams and developed a love for mentoring others that went far beyond the diamond. Through the Army's ROTC program, Tom received his BA in marketing from The University of Detroit. Shortly after graduating, 22-year-old Tom was stationed in South Korea, where he was charged with managing a supply depot and 200 soldiers. As a Quartermaster Corps Officer, Tom dutifully served his country and whole-heartedly believed in the values learned during his service. Eventually, he left Michigan to relocate to Stark County. While working as a salesperson for Elum Music, he discovered the Burger King restaurant franchise and immediately knew the Whopper® had immense potential. He then traveled to Miami, where he graduated first in his class from Whopper® College (yes, that's a real thing!). Burger King recognized Tom's potential and assigned him a large territory in Ohio and Michigan to develop over 40 restaurants. Through his dozens of successful business ventures, Tom found what he loved most was empowering people and helping them fulfill their potential. When not working, Tom could be found going above and beyond for his community by investing a significant amount of time and energy in Stark County's nonprofit and Catholic charities. He led countless fundraisers and served on boards for over 20 local nonprofits. In 2002, as a testament to his support of the Catholic church, Walsh University awarded him an Honorary Doctor of Human Services and had The Schervish Dining Hall named in his honor.

Despite his accomplishments, he never lost sight of his priorities as a loving husband and father. Married to Angela (Brio) for 50 years, it was important to him that his family attend church on Sundays and sit down together for dinner when possible. He went to great lengths to bring his family together and lit up with joy when with his four grandchildren. Tom's Catholic faith was a major influence in his life and was reflected in his continuous generosity and support for others. He truly felt blessed because of his faith, family, and work endeavors. Throughout his life, he always advised everyone to "count your blessings," a statement Tom emulated every day.

Tom Schervish is being honored by the Schervish Family



Leaders in Giving

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*Denotes corporate match donations



Volunteer Service Awards

Thank you to the workplaces and individuals that make a difference every day in the lives of their neighbors. We are honored to recognize community leaders and volunteers for the positive impact they make in our community.

THE DEHOFF EMERGING PHILANTHROPIST AWARD

The DeHoff Emerging Philanthropist Award was established in 2010 by Bob and Linda DeHoff to recognize a Stark County resident age 45 and under who impacts Stark County through direct service and volunteer work. The recipient receives \$5,000 from the DeHoffs to be donated to a health and human service 501(c) 3 organization of choice.

✘ **Taylor Schauer** is the 2021-2022 emerging philanthropist. He serves on the board of directors for the Builders Exchange, the Ohio Contractors Association (Akron/Canton chapter), the Early Childhood Resource Center, United Way of Greater Stark County, Stark County Mental Health & Addiction Recovery, and Goodwill Industries of Greater Cleveland and East Central Ohio. Schauer is the past president of TWI and the Surety Association of Ohio and was a 2014 recipient of the ystark! Twenty under 40! award.

“I was honored to nominate and then learn Taylor Schauer is the recipient of the DeHoff Emerging Philanthropist Award,” says his nominator, Kevin Smith, President of PPI Graphics. “Having worked with Taylor on the United Way Board, Finance and CEO Search Committees, I have found him to be soft spoken but with a knowledge and confidence in his actions and words that makes one feel part of the team and assured that the decisions, in any of the roles he plays, are always positive. He is successful in all parts of his life and will gladly lend his talents to those who ask. My sincere congratulations to him and his family. This honor is well deserved.”



Right: Taylor Schauer with Angela Perisic, United Way President and CEO

THE GOLD KEY SERVICE AWARD

The Gold Key Service Award was established by United Way of Greater Stark County in 1961 to recognize individuals who have continually demonstrated the highest degree of personal dedication and service in a voluntary capacity. Their contribution of time and talent supports United Way's Investment Priorities of health, education, and financial stability. There were three recipients this year: Betty Smith, Phil Francis, and Chris Goff.



*Betty Smith with nominator
Derek Gordon*

❖ **Betty Smith** has founded and served on numerous community organizations. In 2012, Betty co-founded and became the Executive Director of EN-RICH-MENT. Smith is the author of "Unexpected Blessings in the Midst of my Pain", and "Bishop Arthur M. Brazier, Man with a Vision." "I don't believe there is anyone else in Stark County who has provided more kids with free access to the arts than Betty," says her nominator, Derek Gordon, Deputy Director of Stark County Parks District. "Through her EN-RICH-MENT program, she has been incredibly resourceful and does a remarkable job of letting kids find their passion regardless of costs. Her success can be contributed to her genuine passion and selfless commitment to the students."

❖ **Phil Francis** is a Vice President, Trust Officer and Client Advisor for Huntington Private Bank and has been a part of the bank for almost 27 years. He has served in many capacities for countless organizations and has been a big part of United Way over the past 16+ years. He has served on the Board of Directors since 2006, and has participated in every Day of Caring since. "Phil is a true leader who has given so much back to our community and deserves to be recognized for his many contributions of time and effort," says his nominator, Bill Cook, Vice-President and Senior Commercial Lender at Premier Bank, serving the NE Ohio market. "I appreciate the strength of his calm nature and humor, they help people navigate through tense situations and bring balance to difficult times."



*Chris Goff with Carrie Clemens,
VP Resource Development*

❖ **Chris Goff** is the CEO and General Counsel at Employers Health and the co-director of the health law program at The University of Akron School of Law, where he also serves as an adjunct professor of law. In 2020, he was the United Way of Greater Stark County Annual Campaign Chair and in 2021 served as the Chair of the Alexis de Tocqueville Society. "Chris is not only a member of the Alexis de Tocqueville Society, he is also an invaluable volunteer," says his nominator, Michael Howard, retired Judge of Stark County Family Court. "As board chair, I have asked for his help on several occasions, and he has never said no. Chris cares deeply about improving our community, and he has been very generous with his time and talent toward achieving that goal."



Volunteer Opportunities

United Way of Greater Stark County depends on the work of our passionate volunteers to make a difference. We offer a variety of volunteer opportunities for individuals and businesses to donate their time and talent to make our community a better place to live and work. Whether it's preparing hot meals or reading stories to children, there are a variety of ways to get involved.

DAY OF CARING DRIVE AND DROP

Day of Caring is a service day to bring local businesses, organizations, service groups, and individuals together to make an impact in the community. This year, the event featured a Drive and Drop format to collect basic necessities that anyone can use. Volunteers from Huntington Bank assisted in collecting items from those donating so they could stay in their cars. The curbside collection brought in 1,112 pairs of underwear and 2,122 pairs of socks and was distributed through numerous community partners.





WORKPLACE COLLECTIONS

Many generous workplaces helped us continue to meet the needs of individuals and agencies in our community during the pandemic. We were fortunate to receive donations of school supplies, PPE, and hygiene items which we distributed back into the community. Throughout the year we received over 7,500 items including face masks, hand sanitizer, food, crayons, gloves, and so much more.



STONE SOUP

Kicking off our Centennial Celebrations, nearly 100 volunteers gathered in February for a family-friendly Stone Soup event. Volunteers brought ingredients with them and assembled meals to feed around 500 people. Stone Soup is a perfect example of how many people coming together from the community can make a larger impact than working alone.



Women United

Communities need champions who understand their challenges, see their potential, and offer solutions to make a difference. Thank you, United Way of Greater Stark County's Women United, for stepping up to the plate as champions. Women United is a group of female donors who annually donate \$1,000 or more to United Way of Greater Stark County. Women United comes together to create opportunities that support the emotional and intellectual growth of women and children, with the focus to move families out of poverty.

FOCUS ON FAMILY FRIENDLY WORKPLACES

In 2017, United Way of Greater Stark County's Women United began honoring workplaces in Stark and Carroll Counties for creating family-friendly workplace environments. These workplaces have established policies that help employees more easily fulfill both family and work obligations. The 2021 award winners were Pathway Caring for Children, H-P Products, and Kent State University-Stark.

COLLECTION TO HELP YWCA

The Women United Collection Event was held in August 2021, which collected over 50 baskets of cleaning supplies that were provided to YWCA to assist families getting ready to exit shelters. The baskets were filled with cleaning supplies and basic household goods to help families get their new home ready for moving in.

Thank you for
volunteering and for
the difference you
make every day!

Contact Laura Prengaman, Resource Development Project Manager at laura.prengaman@uwstark.org, for more information on volunteer opportunities.



Above: (l. to r.) Megan Conkle - YWCA Director of Housing & Supportive Services, Shana Smith - YWCA CEO, Megan Wyrzyszcwski - YWCA Shelter Manager, Amy Mast - Chair, Women United, Linda Smith - Women United Member (past chair), Diane Pete - Women United Member



Women United Steering Committee

Amy Mast, Chair	Laura Kessel
Nancy Bundy	Wendy Lichtenwalter
Elsa Cave	Amanda Ott
Lisa Johnson	Diane Pete



United Way of Greater Stark County Retiree Volunteer Program

Years ago, the word “retirement” might have evoked images of white-haired couples sitting in rocking chairs on their front porches. But with men and women living longer and enjoying better health into their later years, retirement has become an extremely active phase of life where retirees are able to channel their passions into purpose.

While many who are retiring and retired aren’t aware of the wide variety of volunteer opportunities available in greater Stark County, many organizations needing volunteers are also not prepared for the army of skilled retirees on the horizon. United Way of Greater Stark County recognized that our community needs a program that connects these two needs.

United Way was excited to launch Give 5 in the spring. Thanks to the program sponsors, this program is available at no-cost to individuals in the community and works to not only bring skilled volunteers to local nonprofits but also helps fight one of the largest health risks for this demographic – isolation.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, VISIT WWW.UWSTARK.ORG/GIVE-5



“I think the Give 5 program is a great opportunity for everybody. As employees, we have been running 150 miles an hour until you retire and suddenly are down to zero. We’ve got wisdom, knowledge, and specific skills that these agencies told us they need. The program helps to offer a purpose for a retiree; something that is meaningful, and that supports the community.”

Presenting sponsor is United Healthcare. Additional sponsors include: silver sponsor - Sirak Financial Services, supporting sponsor - Cutler Real Estate, in-kind sponsor - SARTA.





Board of Directors

United Way of Greater Stark County's Board of Directors establishes policies, sets strategic objectives, and ensures the availability of adequate financial resources. Board members evaluate data and funding recommendations submitted from the Impact Council to help determine which local programs receive funding and make final funding decisions. The Board of Directors ensures that every dollar donated is invested wisely. Thank you for the hours of counsel that each of you volunteers so willingly.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Kenneth Douglas

Retired CPA
Treasurer
Chair, Finance Committee

Christopher Goff

Employers Health
2nd Vice Chair

Michael L. Howard

Retired Judge, Stark County Family Court
Past Chair

Geoff Karcher

The Karcher Group
Chair

Joseph Schauer

Schauer Group, Inc.
2022 Campaign Co-Chair

Taylor Schauer

Schauer Group, Inc.
2022 Campaign Co-Chair
Corresponding Secretary

Dr. Denise Seachrist

Kent State University at Stark
First Vice-Chair

Kevin Smith

PPI Graphics
Chair, Community Impact Council

Dr. Thomas Botzman

University of Mount Union

Kay Conley

Stark County Health Department

William R. Cook*

Premier Bank

Linda DeHoff*

DeHoff Realtors

Matthew Eckels

The Timken Company

Elizabeth Edmunds, DNP, RN

Aultman Health Foundation

David Grabowsky

Community Volunteer Leader

Laura Grabowsky

Community Volunteer Leader

Christopher Henson

SunSource

Cindy Hickey

Cleveland Clinic Mercy Hospital

Ann Marie Hunt

Lifecare Family Health & Dental Center

Matthew Kreitzer

Stark County Family Court

Janelle Lee

MAGNET

Stephanie Maier

TimkenSteel Corporation

Tracie McCall

Marathon Petroleum Company LP
Ohio Refining Division

Lucia Pileggi

Key Private Bank

B. Louis Poppovich

Huntington National Bank

Todd Pugh

Enviroscapes

DeAnn Riley

PNC Bank

Ryan Schmidt

SKYCATCHFIRE

William Sherer II

Iron Workers Local 550/
Canton City Council

Sara Strattan

Community Volunteer Leader

Jeffrey Talbert

Canton City School District

Fonda Williams

The Economic & Community Development Institute, Inc.

RETIRED MEMBERS

We would like to recognize the following Board members whose terms ended March 31, 2022:

Elsa Cave

Philip L. Francis

Donald McCord

Gary Schumacher



Thank You

We could not accomplish our goals without the support, involvement, and enthusiasm of our thousands of donors. Thank you for investing in the health, education, and financial stability of our community.

A special thank you to PPI Graphics, Inc. for generously donating the printing of our 2021-2022 Leaders In Giving book to United Way of Greater Stark County.

PPI Graphics
It's more than ink on paper.





United Way
of Greater Stark County
Serving Stark and Carroll Counties

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