Impact Insight and Inspiration

June 2024

United Way

Our work is focused

on supporting families with young children, ages 0-8, who live in poverty and experience significant gaps in opportunities which leads to gaps in achievement.

Studies show that when students have their basic needs met, they can come to school ready to learn and be successful. When their parents have barriers reduced, they can help their children get to school and appreciate their learning experience.

1 IN 5 CHILDREN IN STARK COUNTY LIVE IN POVERTY

Report Card

Gibbs Students and Families



United Way of Greater Stark County builds our community's capacity to alleviate the impact of poverty and empower families to unleash their potential. Ultimately, we envision a community where all children realize their full potential.



In 2022, United Way of Greater Stark County began **Strong Neighborhoods, Strong Families** - a pilot program at Gibbs Elementary School, located near the Shorb Neighborhood. Through collaborations with local organizations, services were provided to help ensure children have a strong start in life, parents build resiliency, and families experience less stress and fewer barriers to economic ability.

This initiative has expanded to bring services to partner preschools and elementary schools in **Alliance**, **Canton**, and **Massillon**!

WHY GIVE?

Whether it's a financial gift or a donation drive, your support provides resources that make a difference!

A young Gibbs Elementary student showed up to school one day this past year wearing wet clothing. His mother did not want him to go to school in dirty clothes, but she didn't have transportation to go to the laundry mat. So, the night before she cleaned the clothes in the bathroom sink and hung them to dry. However, they were not fully dry when it was time to get ready for school the next day. With the support of people such as yourselves, and through collaborative efforts, this child was given a pair of sweatpants and a t-shirt upon arriving at school while his clothing was drying in the school's clothes dryer!

It takes a community to work together to alleviate the impacts of poverty on our children! Thanks to your generous support, we can remove barriers to learning, allowing children to focus on their education. Because of you, they have a better chance of growing up as strong contributors to our community.



When I grow up starts today!

THANK YOU for being a crucial part of this change!

Meet the Donor Relations Team



Carrie Clemens Vice President, Resource Development



Dinese Cramer
Director,
Annual Campaign



Alex Ickes
Director,
Individual & Planned Giving

The donor relations team is passionate about helping children and families obtain brighter futures. They collaborate to effectively convey the investment priorities to donors and community partners to secure the necessary resources for sustainable change.



Taylor Prelac Manager, Corporate Engagement



Jaret Cummins
Relationship
Coordinator



Robin Seemann
Donor Experience
Coordinator



Laura Prengaman Donor & Database Systems Specialist