

# United Way



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United Way of Mason County

Volume 04, Fall Edition

## UPDATES from the Executive Director

As we kick-off our yearly fundraising campaign, I want to communicate to you that your United Way continues to be committed to finding long-term solutions to our community's most complex social issues. We do this work by bringing together people from all walks of life to turn those solutions into impact. We believe that we can be so much more effective when all of us can come together for the greater good of the Mason County community.



To be better aligned with this work and belief, the United Way of Mason County Board of Directors and staff revised the organization's mission, values and vision earlier this year and I'd love to share them with you.

**MISSION** - Bring people and resources together to address Mason County's most complex social issues and develop positive measurable long-term change.

**VALUES** - In pursuing our mission, the following principles guide our relationships with donors, volunteers, partners, employees, as well as the entire Mason County community:

- To be responsive to the needs of people.
- To be respectful to all.
- To be fiscally responsible.
- To act with integrity.
- To be creative in seeking solutions.
- To embrace the diversity and inclusion of all.
- To value partnerships - We are stronger together.

**VISION** - We will be valued partners in creating a community where every person has the opportunity to succeed and achieve their full potential. It is important to us that all:

- adults and families can be financially stable,
- adults and families live a healthy lifestyle, and
- children and youth can achieve their potential.

We realize that this is a heavy lift and know that it will take a lot of hard work, but we believe with your support and that of the community, it can be achieved!



## United Way 21/22 Campaign

United Way of Mason County will be kicking off their annual Campaign on September 29th, 2021 with the leadership of Campaign Co-Chairs Michael and Kelly Parker.

Kelly owns and operates Nader's Motel and Suites. She serves as a member of the Boards at Ludington Area Catholic School and Lincoln Hills Golf Club. Michael is a commercial pilot, real estate developer and assists in all operations at Nader's Motel and Suites. The Parker's have been married for 10 years and are parents to Pratt, a second grader at LAC.

The UWMC Campaign theme this year is **United Together, Stronger Together** which focuses on the impact UWMC is making throughout Mason County. The Parker's have set the 21/22

Campaign Goal at \$300,000, which was kick-started generously in August by Suds on the Shore Craft Beer and Wine Festival raising over \$105,000.

"We look forward to improving the lives of families and individuals through a partnership and involvement with United Way of Mason County," said Kelly.

UWMC funds local programs and agencies in UWMC's three focus areas: individuals and families becoming financially stable, individuals and families living healthy lifestyles and children and youth achieving their potential.

For information on how to support this year's campaign, please visit our website at [www.masoncountyuw.org](http://www.masoncountyuw.org) and click on Donate. You can also text LIVEUNITED to 269-89 and sign up to give.

## Highlights of the Quarter

01

### School Dental Clinics w/ MCFL

Mason County Family Link, in partnership with Northwest Michigan Health Services, is offering student dental clinics at LASD, MCC and MCE School Districts. Dental insurance is not necessary for the clinic and billing is done on a sliding fee scale. Additional information will be sent home with students in those school districts. For any questions, please text/call the MCFL Community School Coordinators. For LASD, please call Becky Erickson at (231) 233-6135 and for MCC/MCE, please call JoEllen Healy at (231) 233-6178.

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### Getting Ahead & Staying Ahead

Join us for Getting Ahead & Staying Ahead, a 16-week course for people who are struggling to make ends meet and want a better "future story" for themselves! Participants in this 6-12 member class will study conditions in Mason County and ways to build resources for a more stable, satisfying life. Participants must be at or below 200% of the federal poverty rate and able to attend each session (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.). If interested, call Kristi Zimmerman at 231-233-1409.