



# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



**UNITED WAY**  
South Wood &  
Adams Counties

OUR MISSION: UNITED WE CHANGE AND STRENGTHEN LIVES BY  
INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY.

## **2024 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA**

### **WELCOME**

Dale Bikowski - 2024 Board President

### **2024 HIGHLIGHTS**

Tari Jahns - United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties' CEO

### **RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING DIRECTORS**

Shelly Mondeik - Mid-State Technical College

### **APPROVAL OF 2023 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

### **ELECTION OF 2025 OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT - Brian Dewitt

VICE PRESIDENT - Jason Deitz

SECRETARY - Heather Gehrt

TREASURER - Nathan Quinnell

### **NOMINATION & ELECTION OF INCOMING DIRECTORS**

#### **Three Year Term Ending in 2028**

Dale Bikowski - Community Member

Jason Deitz - WoodTrust

Brian Dewitt - ERCO Worldwide

Mandy Lang - Mid-State Technical College

Eric Preu - Ruder Ware

Nathan Quinnell - Prevail Bank

#### **Two Year Term Ending in 2027**

Brian Hanson - Community Member

#### **One Year Term Ending in 2026**

Jamey Lysne - Solarus

Dave Orcutt - Domtar

### **RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING PRESIDENT**

### **CLOSING**

Brian Dewitt - 2025 Board President



**Dale Bikowski, 2024 Board President**

Having grown up in this community and having lived here all my life, I've always felt that it is up to all of us to make our community a better place. Serving as President of the United Way Board of Directors for UWSWAC for the last year has reinforced this thought for me. I truly believe that we get more out of giving back than we give. It has been my honor to serve as President over the last year and it has been a great opportunity for me to learn more about our community's needs and those that are making a difference in addressing these needs. We can't do what we do without the support of many groups.

To our many donors - THANK YOU for investing in our community to make it a better place. We would not be able to do the work that we do without your financial support for our partner programs. No matter the size of the donation, every dollar counts to impact the thousands of community members we serve. THANK YOU also to the many community members that volunteer for UWSWAC and our partner programs. Undoubtedly there are thousands of hours given each year to make this happen.

To Tari Jahns and staff of UWSWAC - THANK YOU!! Your vast knowledge and professionalism are greatly appreciated in achieving our goals year after year. You all make this effort look far easier than I'm sure it really is.

To the board of directors of UWSWAC - your willingness to lead this organization and share your knowledge and experiences makes a huge impact for our community - THANK YOU!! And a special thank you also to Shalina Wollschlager for serving as our 2024 Campaign Chair - the many hours spent sharing the UWSWAC story and engaging with the various donor groups in the community has made a huge difference.

Through the efforts of these groups our community continues to help one another to thrive. Let's all continue to work toward making our community a better place for everyone into the future. Thanks again!!



**Shalina Wollschlager, 2024 Campaign Chair - Smurfit Westrock**

It was an incredible honor to serve as this year's Campaign Chair for United Way of South Wood and Adams Counties. From the moment I started serving on the Board, I knew everyone who was part of the Board and United Way wanted nothing but the best for our communities. I have been lucky enough to have created relationships with amazing people who all share a desire to improve our wonderful communities and do what they can to make a difference. I also was able to visit different places of employment that generously donate, as well as some of the agencies that use United Way funds. What an eye-opening experience!

I want to thank each and every one of you for your donations and volunteering in order to make our campaign successful. Once again everyone's hard work, determination and unwavering support have paid off. Looking back at this last year, I'm proud of what we've accomplished together and look forward to our next campaign.

Fun fact: Your gift helps 30 programs, 6 coalitions and 10 initiatives. All money stays right here in our community, and funding decisions are directed by a community panel to ensure all dollars are funded

appropriately. We have volunteers who review program applications, visit agencies and make all funding recommendations to our Board of Directors ensuring that your dollars are being spent wisely and efficiently. So, if you ever question whether you should give to United Way, I encourage you to donate and volunteer. You won't be disappointed!!

Thank you for your continued support of our United Way mission and for helping make hope happen every single day. United we change and strengthen lives by investing in our communities.



**Tari Jahns, CEO**

As we reflect on another remarkable year at United Way, I am filled with immense gratitude and pride for the incredible community that makes our work possible. This year, we have faced challenges and achieved milestones, all thanks to the unwavering support and dedication of our donors, partners, staff, and Board of Directors.

To our donors, your generosity is the cornerstone of our success. Your contributions have enabled us to fund critical programs and initiatives that make a difference in the lives of those we serve. Whether through financial gifts or volunteer hours, your commitment to our mission is truly inspiring. Thank you for believing in our vision and for investing in us.

To our partners, your collaboration and innovation have been instrumental in driving our impact. We are grateful for your partnership and look forward to continuing this journey together.

To our staff, every day you go above and beyond to serve our community with compassion, professionalism, and dedication. Thank you for your efforts and for making a difference in the lives of so many. We experienced

some turnover of staff this year; Amy Fluno and Taylor Miller have pursued other opportunities and we wish them the best. We also welcome Danie Schalk and Ana Larson to our team!

To our Board of Directors, your leadership and guidance have been invaluable. Your commitment to our mission and your belief in our potential helps drive our achievements. Thank you for your wisdom, dedication, support and love for the community.

Together, we have accomplished so much, and I am excited about the future. Thank you for being a part of the United Way family and for your continued support as we strive to create a thriving community for all. With heartfelt gratitude, Tari Jahns-CEO

# 2024 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## 2024 ASSETS



ASSETS	2024*	2023
Cash & Investments	1,125,381	1,110,376
Net Pledges Receivable	215,120	211,294
Other Assets	54,284	42,966
Trust Accounts	5,179,116	4,615,693
Net Property & Equipment	77,427	78,531
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>6,651,328</b>	<b>6,058,860</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>		
Allocations Payable	-	-
Other Current Liabilities	9,589	19,115
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>9,589</b>	<b>19,115</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	3,147,691	2,545,697
Temporarily Restricted	3,494,048	3,494,048
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>6,641,739</b>	<b>6,039,745</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>6,651,328</b>	<b>6,058,860</b>

[\*2024 unaudited]

## 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Dale Bikowski, Community Member

Vice President - Brian Dewitt, ERCO Worldwide

Secretary - Heather Gehrt, Wood County

Treasurer - Nathan Quinnell, Prevail Bank

Daryl Castona, Community Member

Jason Deitz, WoodTrust

Jessica Fox, Aspirus Health

Brian Hanson, Community Member

Greg Hartjes, E-Con Electric

Shawn Johnston, Mead Witter Foundation

Jada McDougall, Smurfit Westrock

Shelly Mondeik, Mid-State Technical College

Dave Orcutt, Domtar

Julanne Ranek-Stoltz, Community Member

Ron Rasmussen, Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools

Brian Slinkman, NextHome Partners

Emily Weiler, Paper City Savings Bank

Shalina Wollschlager, Smurfit Westrock

## UNITED WAY OF SOUTH WOOD & ADAMS COUNTIES STAFF

Tari Jahns, CEO

Stefanie Drexler, Office Operations Director

Ben Eberlein, Community Engagement Director

Ana Larson, Marketing & Communications Coordinator

Lynn McGrath, 211 Resource Specialist

Danie Schalk, 211 Director

# 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

**\$108,000**

invested in local EDUCATION programs

**\$72,500**

invested in local FINANCIAL STABILITY programs

**\$148,850**

invested in local HEALTH programs

**\$156,650**

invested in local SAFETY NET SERVICES programs

**\$575,115\***

2024 TOTAL CAMPAIGN VALUE

**4,970 BOOKS**

Were mailed to children in South Wood & Adams Counties through Women United and Dolly Parton Imagination Library



**5,110 CALLS**

Were answered by our local 211 Contact Center

**TOP NEEDS OF 2024**

1. Housing & Shelter
2. Mental Health & Addiction
3. Employment & Income

**89 LOCAL STUDENTS**

participated in the Finance & Investment Challenge Bowl event, hosted by the Financial Stability Coalition

**202 CALLS**

Were answered by our local 211 Contact Center for mental health resources

**\$48,396 WERE SAVED**

on prescription cost by residents using SingleCare in 2024

**14,961**

diapers, wipes and creams were distributed to families in need during our first Diaper Drive

**410 CALLS**

Were answered by our local 211 Contact Center for Wisconsin Addiction Recovery Helpline

**\$56,354**

New Dollars Were Raised In Our \$1,000 Sweepstakes! Thank You To This Year's Sponsors!



UNITED WAY South Wood & Adams Counties

# 20 OPPORTUNITIES 25 TO ENGAGE WITH US

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE EVENTS!

### POWER OF THE PURSE

**March 11, 2025, 5:00pm at Bullseye Golf Club**

Event will feature a silent purse auction, raffle, pasta buffet, a cash bar and networking.

### DIAPER DRIVE

**May 12 - June 16, 2025**

We will be collecting unopened diapers, wipes and creams between Mother's Day and Father's Day.

### GREAT BOOK GIVEAWAY

**June 9 - 13, 2025**

We will be giving away FREE children's books during the 14th annual Great Book Giveaway. Volunteers will read books to children at several locations. Afterward each child can select a book to keep.

### UNITED WE CAN

**June 17, 2025, 10am - 4pm Construction; Rafter Game, 6:35pm at Witter Field**

Local organizations will sponsor and construct sculptures made of non-perishable food items. The sculptures will be on display during the Rafters game at 6:35pm. Afterward, all food items are distributed to area food programs. Community donations accepted.

### STUFF THE SCHOOL BUS

**August 7, 2025, 11:30am - 1:00pm**

**Lunch by the River at Veteran's Memorial Park**  
Donate school supplies that will be distributed to students in need.

### CAMPAIGN VOLUNTEER TRAINING

**Coming August 2025**

During our training you will have the opportunity to learn about programs, coalitions and initiatives that we support to change the lives of those who struggle in our community. This experience will help you run an even more successful workplace campaign.

### 2025 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN

**September 1, 2025 - October 31, 2025**

Make an investment by donating through your company's workplace campaign or give as an individual. You could win \$1,000!

### DAY OF CARING

**October 25, 2025, 8:00am**

**Grand Rapids Lion's Club**

We will be raking yards for our local elderly and disabled neighbors.

### SPONSOR A CHILD IN IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Visit [uwsvac.org](http://uwsvac.org) and click on "Women United" Imagination Library is a book gifting program that mails free books to children from birth until the age of 5 in south Wood and Adams Counties. You can sponsor a child for only \$35 per year!





United Way of South  
Wood & Adams Counties

# 2025 PARTNER PROGRAMS COALITIONS AND INITIATIVES

KEY: AC = Adams County SWC = South Wood County

## EDUCATION

**Early Years - Goal: Children are ready to learn by start of school.**

- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (AC & SWC)
- Parent Cafe: Childcaring, Inc. – Partner Program (AC)
- Provider Recruitment/Retention: Childcaring, Inc. – Partner Program (SWC)

**Youth Success - Goal: Youth have access to mentors, role models and enrichments outside of the school day in a safe environment which enhances: personal growth, character development and academic achievement.**

- Before, After, and Summer School Programs: Boys & Girls Club of the Wisconsin Rapids Area – Partner Program (SWC)
- Community Learning Center – After School Programs: Adams-Friendship Area School District – Partner Program (AC)
- Great Book Giveaway (AC & SWC)
- Help Making Our Next Generation: Hmong American Center – Partner Program (SWC)
- Learning for Life Reading Mentor Program (SWC)
- Leadership Experience: Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes - Partner Program (AC & SWC)
- Scouting Program: Samoset Council Boy Scouts of America – Partner Program (AC & SWC)
- Stuff the Bus (SWC)

## INCOME

**Financial Stability - Goal: Community members learn skills to become financially independent.**

- ALICE Report (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) (AC & SWC)
- EnTouch Wireless (AC & SWC)
- Finance and Investment Challenge Bowl (SWC)
- Good Start Grants: Childcaring, Inc.- Partner Program (SWC)
- MyFreeTaxes (AC & SWC)

## HEALTH

**Supportive Community Health Services - Goal: Improving quality of life for a specific population with an identified need.**

- Adams County Transportation Today: Faith in Action – Partner Program (AC)
- Association for All Handicapped Citizens – Partner Program (SWC)
- Career Closet of Wisconsin Rapids, Inc. – Partner Program (SWC)
- Faith in Action Adams County – Partner Program (AC)
- Help Guide (AC & SWC)
- Membership For All: South Wood County YMCA – Partner Program (AC & SWC)
- Nekoosa Senior Citizens Club – Partner Program (SWC)
- Opportunity for Hope, Access for All: Opportunity Development Center, Inc.– Partner Program (SWC)
- Park Place Adult Day Services – Partner Program (SWC)
- Rudolph Senior Citizens – Partner Program (SWC)
- SingleCare Prescription Discount Card (AC & SWC)

## SAFETY NET SERVICES

**Emergency Shelter - Goal: Community members have access to shelter.**

- 2-1-1 (AC & SWC)
- Emergency Housing Assistance Program: North Central Community Action Program – Partner Program (SWC)
- Emergency Rental Assistance: Central Wisconsin Community Action Council – Partner Program (AC)
- Shelter Services: The Family Center – Partner Program (SWC)

**Food - Goal: Community members have access to food.**

- 2-1-1 (AC & SWC)
- Backpack for Kids: Nekoosa School District – Partner Program (SWC)
- Family Backpacks: FOCUS – Partner Program (SWC)
- Food Pantry: Central Wisconsin Community Action Council – Partner Program (AC)
- Food Pantry: FOCUS – Partner Program (SWC)
- Neighborhood Meals: FOCUS – Partner Program (SWC)

Your United Way donation will support all of these programs in 2025.  
For more information visit [uwswac.org](http://uwswac.org)

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

**[uwsvac.org](http://uwsvac.org)**

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR:  
CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION AWARDS  
COMMUNITY CORNERSTONE PARTNERS  
LEADERSHIP GIVERS  
LOYAL CONTRIBUTORS  
365 SMALL BUSINESS CIRCLE  
UNITED FOREVER GUILD  
WOMEN UNITED**

Stay connect year-round on social media :



351 Oak Street, Wisconsin Rapids | 715-421-0390 | [uwsvac.org](http://uwsvac.org)



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