Dear Friends,

The past year once again has shown the resiliency of our great Capital Region communities. All of us have had to endure some level of crisis since the COVID-19 pandemic began but we have found inspiration in the power of our United Way community – over 20,000 people – coming together through advocacy, financial support and volunteerism. The true toll of the pandemic may never be fully measured. Many of our neighbors lost income and opportunities while many others faced more serious losses. Even in the face of these losses, the people of the Capital Region showed up for one another in inspiring ways. In this report you can read about just some of the amazing acts of generosity and kindness that helped get us through the year. We are ending the year inspired and empowered by these acts and are ready to Live United to build a more resilient region together.

Within the context of our work with United Way Worldwide, UWGCR operates using the Modern United Way model – leading with a growth mindset to engage the community in meeting immediate basic needs, advancing important outcomes, and developing compelling solutions. Like so many other individuals and organizations, UWGCR learned over the past year that, strategically, community-based organizations like ours and ones that we support are critical components of the social safety net in our region. We know that without the services provided during the pandemic, and without adequate support for these services, many individuals would have faced even greater hardships.

Your support enabled us to think strategically about how we could best serve our region at this time in its history. You’ll read more in this report, but here are a few things we were able to accomplish:

- 429,000 meals were served through the Summer Meals Collaborative, an 82% increase over 2019;
- We deliberately reimagined our funding process, maintaining long-standing partnerships with organizations with a broad reach while forming new partnerships with organizations that go deeper to bring about meaningful change;
- Our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program helped over 6,300 Capital Region residents file their taxes for free, which returned $15 million to our local economy and saved millions in tax preparation fees through the CA$H Coalition.
- We partnered with Alliance for Better Health to transform our Five to Watch initiative into the Changemakers Fund, which funded 13 Black, Indigenous, People of Color led organizations that are challenging systemic injustices and fostering greater equity and inclusivity in our Capital Region communities.
- We joined the Capital Region Vaccine Network led by our partners at Albany Med to develop a robust vaccination effort that ensured many barriers to equitable access to the vaccine were removed. Through this network, we remained committed to the Don't Hesitate, Vaccinate multimedia campaign to encourage folks to get vaccinated. It worked – the Capital Region was the first in the state to reach the 50% vaccinated mark for those 18 and older on April 28.

The extraordinary challenges of the last year can’t be understated, but thanks to the generous spirit of this caring community, the team at United Way of the Greater Capital Region was in a position to respond. Now, as we start to rebuild, your generosity is more important than ever. United, we can reimagine a more resilient Capital Region where we can unlock everyone’s potential, no matter what.

Sincerely,

Peter Gannon
President & CEO

Carm Basile
Chair, Board of Directors
2020-2021
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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SUNY Empire State College
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General Electric
Brian O’Grady
CDPHP
Roger Ramsammy, PhD
Hudson Valley Community College
Samuel Trimboli
Price Chopper Supermarkets/Market 32
Andrew Willette
Hannaford Supermarkets

United Way Staff as of print date
Peter Gannon
President & Chief Executive Officer
Samantha Adkisson
Donor Development Manager/Capital Region SEFA Coordinator
Nicki Brown
Community Relations Manager
Niamaya Canady
Community Impact Manager
Jenna Czarnecki
Donor Development Associate
Ben Diamond
Resource Development Assistant
Erin Napoleone
Women United Advisor
Katie Nelson
Director of Philanthropy
Alicia Otis
Statewide SEFA Director
Antonia Porcello
Data Processor
Angelique Powell
Community Manager, The Blake Annex
Claire Reid
Chief Impact Officer
Ashlee Romero
Data Processor
Amber Schiller
Chief Financial Officer
Heather Senecal
Director, Learning and Evaluation
Sarah Sheehan
Communications Manager
Roberta Singelton
Donor Experience Manager
Kelly Willsey
Finance Manager
Peyton Yourch
Assistant to President & Chief Executive Officer
Our Mission

United Way of the Greater Capital Region (United Way GCR) advances community wellbeing on a generational scale, meeting immediate basic needs all the while addressing the underlying causes that hold problems in place. United Way GCR mobilizes the caring power of donors, volunteers and community partners to give, volunteer and advocate for people within our region.

Our Vision

United Way GCR will be a recognized leader in the development and investment of philanthropic and volunteer resources in programs and initiatives that improve the quality of life for children, families, and seniors. We will accomplish this by investing resources in programs that address needs in the area of Basic Needs, Education, Income, and Health.

Diversity Equity & Inclusion

United Way GCR is committed to embracing and advancing diversity, equity, and inclusive excellence. As an organization and community partner, UWGCR seeks to work collaboratively with members of ethnically/racially minoritized, international, LGBTQIA+, and disability communities as well as diverse gender identities, socioeconomic backgrounds, religions, and political beliefs, to create equitable and inclusive spaces and opportunities through intentional and impactful practices. We achieve this goal by addressing and combating systemic, institutional, and historical barriers. Collectively, we acknowledge that diversity, equity, and inclusion can only be achieved when we recognize, create space, and listen attentively to individuals from historically excluded groups as equal partners. Additionally, we strive to develop and implement policies and systems grounded in antiracism. To this end, we commit to intentionally creating pathways for individuals of historically minoritized groups to be included in leadership, planning, and decision-making roles, including business opportunities with UWGCR and partnering institutions. We maintain that building, strengthening, and sustaining diversity, equity, and inclusion in our community and society requires an ongoing commitment that is fully expressed and supported in organizational culture, values, norms, policies, practices, and behaviors.
August 2020

Trinity Alliance hosts Nourish NY Food Distribution at United Way GCR, distributing agricultural food products to 10 local nonprofits, serving over 400 households.

Over 3,000 Community Members joined first round of the 21 Day Equity Challenge dedicating time and space to building effective social justice habits.

July 2020

United Way GCR, MVP Health Care and Jack Byrne provide food delivery van to Mechanicville Area Community Services Center to help meet increased food needs.

$10,000 grant to the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Capital Area for its Lyricism 101 Music Mobile program.

September 2020

Annual School Supplies Drive collected 21,064 essential school items that were distributed to seven local agencies.

October 2020

U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants win $10,000 grant at Women United’s Perfect Pitch.

United Way GCR presents The Presidential Election: A Close Look at the Political Landscape, a virtual, non-partisan discussion with pollster John Zogby.

Launch of 2020 ALICE Report.

RPI hosts the fourth annual Rensselaer Runs United 5K virtually in support of United Way GCR’s COVID-19 response.

November 2020

On Giving Tuesday, nine Emerging Leaders raised $16,000 as the Next Generation of Philanthropists in support of United Way GCR’s COVID-19 Response.

December 2020

United Way GCR was awarded a $5M donation from author and philanthropist MacKenzie Scott.

United Way GCR hosted a Holiday Toy Drive with SUNY Albany for Capital Region families in need.


January 2021

First year of Reimagined Focused Investments invests $575,000 into 47 organizations.

Emerging Leaders, a diverse group of engaged young professionals working to drive impact, launched.

Led by Albany Med, United Way GCR joined the Capital Region Vaccine Task Force.
**February 2021**

**Emerging Leaders** packed 700 meals with **Feed Albany** for at risk and in-need individuals across the Greater Capital Region.

**March 2021**

Marking the one year anniversary of the first COVID-19 death in the Capital Region, United Way GCR unveils the **tribute mural, “Still life with gratitude”** by local artist, Rachel Baxter, visiting seven counties in 14 days.

United Way GCR Community Impact team provides **The Black Nurses Coalition with a technology grant** for outreach work related to scheduling COVID-19 vaccination appointments.

**April 2021**

President & CEO Peter Gannon is recognized on City and State New York's **Upstate Power 100** alongside board members Jim Malatras, Ph.D., Roger Ramsammy, Ph.D., and Tocqueville Society member Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson.

**Women United’s first Link & Learn** hosts Jammella Anderson, Albany-based community activist and founder of Free Food Fridge Albany, who was recognized for her work combating food insecurity.

**May 2021**

518 Day, the single largest day of service in the Capital Region, convened more than **1,000 volunteers to complete 80+ virtual and in-person service projects**. Health and hygiene items were collected for Women United’s Premier Partner, the U.S. Committee of Refugees and Immigrants. United Way GCR volunteers prepared 5,000 blessing bags with toiletries, socks and more to be distributed to Capital Region agencies.

Barbara Smith, lifelong activist for social justice and racial equality speaks about the Roots of Racism.

New partnership with Siena College provides dozens of **Americorps Summer Vistas** for Capital Region non-profit organizations on a multi-year scale.

**June 2021**

United Way GCR’s Chief Impact Officer, Claire Reid presented a “Fed Talk” about **ALICE at the New York State Food Summit**, hosted by The Food Pantries for the Capital District.

**VITA volunteers celebrate their work after tax season.** This year, 105 volunteers completed 6,363 tax returns, saving filers $1.2M in tax preparation fees and returning $1.2M to individuals through the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Additionally, this year **VITA helped return $859,993 in stimulus money** to filers who had not received it.
COMMUNITY IMPACT
Successfully changing the Capital Region for the better depends on **intentional, explicit, and sustained focus to addressing racial and gender disparities across the problems we are trying to solve.** This includes increasing our funding for and supporting the leadership of women, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, Asian American and Pacific Islanders, and LGBTQ+. **Such leaders often bring strategies that intimately understand the racialized and gendered experiences being faced.**

The **2020-21 Respond and Recover Focused Investments** were designed to support community-based organizations, realize their vision and build back a meaningfully inclusive and representative social impact sector.

To advance community wellbeing at a generational scale, we seek to understand and address inequities in the region, in particularly those related to education, health, and economic wellbeing. **We consider how we can make a difference through:**

**Program Solutions**
Strengthening direct service provisions to individuals & families to build a strong social safety net.

**Collaborations**
Integrated & collective goal-setting to increase efficiency & effectiveness around an issue, e.g., food security over summer, financial hardship.

**Systems Change Initiatives**
Broad-based, multi-sectoral efforts aimed at understanding root causes.

**40%** of United Way GCR’s grant funding went to BIPOC-led organizations, up from 5% in previous granting cycles.

**43%** of first-time applications from organizations across the region - a United Way GCR record.

**54%** of applications came from organizations with operating budgets less than $1M.

**65%** of grantees are women-led organizations.
Health

United Way has a deep commitment to improving nutrition equity. Currently, we live in a region with clear nutrition disparity. In most cases, the true problem inhibiting a healthy diet is poverty.

Launched in 2013 and led by United Way GCR, the Summer Meals Collaborative aims to increase the number of meal sites and begin alternate methods of meal delivery every year. Currently there are twelve organizations in our collaborative working across seven counties: Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Schoharie, and Saratoga.

In 2020 and 2021, United Way GCR invested $330,000 in various food security and food sovereignty initiatives, ranging from enhanced opportunities for those who are food insecure to purchase healthy food locally, harvest to home delivery for those with transportation and food security challenges.
Early Childhood & Youth Success

United Way GCR envisions a Capital Region in which evidence-based, culturally appropriate, and affordable early childhood development is available to all children.

United Way’s goal is bigger than improving high school graduation rates for youth in the Capital Region. Our goal for kids, teens, and young adults is that they have the ability and access to participate in high quality education and are set up for career success.

93% of families with young children cannot afford center-based care for their infants and toddlers.

80% cannot afford somewhat less expensive home-based care.

In the Capital Region, on average only 52% of children aged 3-4 attend preschool.

Childcare is only operating at 88% of its pre-pandemic capacity.

EARLY CHILDHOOD SUCCESS

$65,000
To strengthen affordable and educational early childhood development centers.

$58,000
To strengthen support for parents to enhance early childhood development.

37,000
Children helped to achieve developmental milestones.

YOUTH SUCCESS

$17,000
Invested in technology access to fight the digital divide.

3,980
Teens & young adults engaged in programs strengthening education and community support.

1,500
Youth learning about sustainable local food systems and urban agriculture, including job skill development, greater access to fresh and accessible food, and assisting with the distribution of fresh produce throughout local food systems.
United Way GCR’s Impact Agenda is developed with ALICE at the center. **ALICE - Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed** earns above the federal poverty level but does not earn enough to make ends meet. When we break down the ALICE data by race/ethnicity and gender, the disparities are glaring. In the Capital Region, **11% of households live at or under the federal poverty line, making less than $23,828 a year.**

76% of single-female headed households are ALICE. The most recent data from the ALICE report released in August 2020 is based on data collected from 2018. Every layer of disadvantage and inequity that ALICE households were living before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic are only intensified. **ALICE data provides the backstory for why the COVID-19 crisis is having such a devastating and disproportionate impact** now, and how important it is to pay attention to this as we rebuild.

The UA has been an active partner in the CA$H Coalition, investing $15 million in the local economy through the CA$H Coalition’s VITA program. The coalition has invested $63,000 in workforce development through education, training, and access to childcare and transportation. The UA has also invested $30,000 in digital literacy for refugees, people of color, and women. 6,363 tax returns were filed for free with the help of the CA$H Coalition’s IRS-certified VITA volunteers.

See the full ALICE Report at UnitedforALICE.org/New-York
United Way GCR mobilizes talented and passionate volunteers at [UnitedToVolunteer.org](http://UnitedToVolunteer.org), creating opportunities for families, corporate groups, and individuals to contribute time and talent to a social cause.

Volunteers provide **hands-on support** to bolster the existing work of our partner agencies, and the agencies contribute enormously to volunteers’ learning journeys and sense of community engagement. **Volunteering through United Way is reciprocity in action, creating and strengthening relationships**, and building a sense of shared purpose and collective vision for well-being.

In 2020, **2,000 volunteers** completed projects with **140 agencies** in the Capital Region.

Hundreds of community members donated over **21,000 essential school supply items** that were distributed to help local students at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Capital Area, Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady, Lansingburgh Boys and Girls Club, Mechanicville Area Community Services Center, Inc., CAPTAIN Community Human Services, Afghan PTA, and Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region.

Members from **Emerging Leaders** volunteered with Feed Albany and prepared and packaged **700 meals** in Albany and across the Greater Capital Region.

**Fidelis Care** donated and distributed **1,000 COVID-19 Care Packets** consisting of hand sanitizers, children’s masks, bleach wipes, and tissues to nine schools in Columbia and Greene Counties. The items were donated by Fidelis Care, Greene Medical Arts Pharmacy, United Way GCR, and local Walmart and Target stores.

Our partners at **Cummins SOFC in Malta** purchased and assembled **60 children’s bikes, complete with helmets and bike locks for each bike**. UWGCR connected them with Franklin Community Center and helped deliver the bikes to area youth through the Community Center’s Project Lift program.

"The support from our amazing community partners allows these children the ability to engage in safe, healthy, outdoor activities like bike riding. It’s important to their growth, and we are delighted to be able to provide that opportunity to so many children in our community with their support.” - Colleen O'Connor-Potter, Project Lift Director.
Family Neighborhood Resource Centers (FNRC) play a significant role in providing sustained support for families, including but not limited to direct service provisions.

FNRC’s are community-centered, community-based, and serve as vehicles for engaging residents and community organizations in identifying and resolving community concerns relating to raising healthy children.

In 2020-2021 $400,000 was invested in FNRCs supporting 32,000 children and their families.
In addition to bringing a racial and gender equity lens to our focused investments, UWGCR created a particular Fund, called Five to Watch, to **recognize and amplify BIPOC-led organizations**. Five to Watch brings together critical resources- funding, collaborative learning, and community connections. The program adopts a cohort model as a deliberate strategy to create shared space for mutual learning and the cultivation of personal and professional networks.

Five to Watch Leaders are proximate leaders- those that have a **meaningful relationship with groups whose identity, experience, or community are systemically stereotyped, feared, dismissed, or marginalized**. UWGCR believes that listening, learning, and amplifying voices who are most proximate is essential to unlocking sustainable and just solutions to enduring problems.

As the first year of Five to Watch came to close, grantees and UWGCR came together to collaboratively design its evolution into a collaborative fund with the Alliance for Better Health called Changemakers. **The Changemakers Fund provides unrestricted operational funding, technical support, and leadership development for the awardees.** Each of the Fund’s recipients received an initial grant of up to $25,000, with the opportunity for additional funding in the future.

The Changemakers Fund is an example of collaborative pooled funding, designed to increase the impact and scale of giving.
COVID-19 RESPONSE
When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March of 2020, United Way GCR responded immediately, convening donors, partners, and volunteers to address the most urgent needs of our neighbors.

The Capital Region Community COVID-19 Response Fund, in partnership with the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region, deployed emergency resources to community-based organizations that were addressing the emergency needs of our neighbors.

Thanks to the contributions of 40 corporate and philanthropic partners and hundreds of community donors, the Fund deployed $1.1 million to over 100 organizations throughout 11 counties, which helped meet the needs of over 500,000 local neighbors in need.

$1.1M Raised & deployed to frontline organizations meeting emergency needs through the pandemic.

500,000 People helped by organizations that received COVID-19 emergency funding.

$254,900 In six-month emergency grants to 22 United Way Community Partners.

$75,000 Invested in essential PPE and COVID-19 testing resources.

$25,000 Invested to support vaccine distribution.

$10,000 Raised in support of local creatives out of work through the Creative Impact Fund.

3,800 Hours of volunteer service completed during the shutdown.

1,000 COVID-19 care packs were distributed to nine schools in Columbia and Green Counties.

100% 211 call volume increase from people seeking help for basic needs and COVID-19 related concerns.

United Way GCR helped support a Capital Region multimedia campaign funded by Albany Med, CDPHP, MVP Health Care, Irving Tissue, and Community Care Physicians, encouraging people to get vaccinated.

On April 28, 2021, the Capital Region was the first to reach the 50% vaccinated mark for those 18 and older.

United Way GCR hosted a vaccine clinic at Joe Bruno Stadium on 518 Day, the single largest day of community impact.
On March 23, 2021, the one-year anniversary of the passing of Walter Robb, longtime General Electric executive and local philanthropist and the first Capital Region resident lost to COVID-19, United Way GCR launched the traveling tribute mural as a gift to the Capital Region.

“Still life, With Gratitude,” an original work of art in the form of a movable mural by Rachel Baxter, served as a visual tribute traveling across Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, and Schoharie counties to honor the over 1,000+ Capital Region residents who passed from COVID-19.

Community members had the opportunity to visit the mural and pay tribute to loved ones lost, those who have recovered, and our frontline workers who have gotten us through the past year.

What we have now

The before is gone.
What I mean is it left
without a goodbye or a handshake or a see you later
It left in a rage, an admonition,
a wave of tears & it went off with our stuff
packed in a messy suitcase
without saying a word
& now the house, emptier than before, burns.

Today, there is a number that counts for us,
names we hold in our hearts,
the unclaimed & anonymous.
What we have now rests in their stories
What we have now is the earth holding
our breath while we assemble the pieces,
count the phases of the moon
until we touch again,
watch the soil for a new growth of flowers
we never planned on planting
to remember where we’ve been & where we need to go

What we have now is what we’ve learned
that before, gaping holes held our systems hostage
people on the edge of survival already
our most vulnerable
delivered into our hands
to hold them close, to do better
What we have now appreciates the under appreciated,
fights for what is right,
measures the human spirit to rise
one day at a time

By D. Colin
Capital Region Poet, Artist and Activist

Capital Region Poet, Artist, and Activist D. Colin traveled with the mural reading her original poem titled “What we have now” written during the shutdown of the pandemic.

“Still life, With Gratitude” now resides in the New York State Museum in Albany, NY.
Still Life, With Gratitude
COVID-19 tribute mural by local artist, Rachel Baxter

YELLOW MULLEIN & EUCALYPTUS for healing.

FORGET-ME-NOTS for remembrance.

ECHINACEA for strength.

TULIPS are the official flower of Albany. Orange signifies spiritual & emotional connection as well as appreciation.

ZINNIA for endurance.

LILAC for remembrance.

TWELVE MOON PHASES representing the passage of time.

This piece is in honor of those we lost during the pandemic, and to show gratitude for the essential workers who continue to get us through it. It is an offering to anyone and everyone who needs a moment of peace and reflection.
United Way’s 518 Day provides opportunities for individuals, families, and groups to be part of solutions to building a more resilient Capital Region through volunteerism and community impact. #518Day is the single largest day of collective community impact in the Capital Region, thanks to our generous volunteers, sponsors, and all who LIVE UNITED.

More than 1,000 volunteers completed 80+ virtual and in-person service projects

4,000 hours of impact by local businesses, groups, families and individuals

$222,033 Invested into our community on 518 Day through donations and volunteer time

35 Community Agencies served throughout the Greater Capital Region

5,000 Blessing Bags were packed with essential care items and distributed to local agencies
Women United Health & Hygiene Drive

See page 31 for more information on Women United.

Donated Items

Over 17,000 items were donated through our Stuff the CDTA Bus Drive from community members and organizations including:

- Linens
- Kitchenware
- Toiletries
- Household Products
- Baby Food
- Gift Cards

Items Distributed to USCRI

U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) was the Women United Premier Partner of 2021 and recipient of items from the 518 Day Stuff The Bus Drive.

USCRI helps newly arrived refugees receive a comprehensive set of services including housing placement, cultural orientation, school enrollment, coordination of initial health appointments, referrals to assist with English as an additional language, and employment preparation and placement.

Thank you to our 5.18 Day Sponsors
OUR PARTNERS
“This transformational gift from MacKenzie Scott is an opportunity to think strategically about the social impact we want to have as an organization and as a region. At United Way we fight for the health, education and financial stability of every person in our community, and this year our work was more meaningful than ever as we supported our neighbors through the COVID-19 crisis. It is an honor to be recognized by Ms. Scott for our impactful work – and this is only the beginning. This donation will help us drive innovative solutions to deep-rooted social issues and advance community well-being for years to come.”

Peter Gannon, President & CEO

In December of 2020, United Way GCR was awarded a $5 million donation from author and philanthropist MacKenzie Scott, one of the world’s most powerful women.

In 2019 MacKenzie Scott signed a ‘Giving Pledge,’ committing to donating half of her fortune. In July of 2020, Scott announced $1.6 billion had been donated to 116 charitable organizations that support a wide variety of social causes.

United Way GCR was selected as one of 384 non-profits across the country recognized for their effective response and recovery work including both filling basic needs and addressing systemic inequities.

In her announcement on Medium, Scott said,

“These 384 carefully selected teams have dedicated their lives to helping others, working and volunteering and serving real people face-to-face at bedsides and tables, in prisons and courtrooms and classrooms, on streets and hospital wards and hotlines and frontlines of all types and sizes, day after day after day. They help by delivering vital services, and also through the profound encouragement felt each time a person is seen, valued, and trusted by another human being.”

THANK YOU, MACKENZIE SCOTT!
United Way’s Annual Awards celebrates our Campaign Champions, organizations, and individuals who invested more than $4.5M to support the health, education, and financial stability of every person in our community.

INSPIRATIONAL GIVING ($200,000 TO $499,999)
- Bank of America
- General Electric
- Golub Corporation/Price Chopper
- Supermarkets/Market 32
- Hannaford Supermarkets
- Naval Nuclear Laboratory

LEADERS IN GIVING ($100,000 TO $199,999)
- Anthem, Inc.
- Capital District Transportation Authority
- UPS

PARTNER IN GIVING ($25,000 TO $99,999)
- American National Insurance Company
- Bobrick Washroom Equipment, Inc.
- Capital District Physicians’ Health Plan
- CSEA
- Enterprise Holdings
- Environment One Corporation
- Fidelis Care
- KeyBank
- MVP Health Care
- National Grid
- New York Independent System Operator (NYISO)
- Pearl Companies
- Plug Power
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- SABIC

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING PER CAPITA GIVING

PLATINUM AWARDS
- Barton & Loguidice
- Bechtel Plant Machinery, Inc.
- Bobrick Washroom Equipment, Inc.
- Capital District Physicians’ Health Plan
- CSEA
- Enterprise Holdings
- Environment One Corporation
- Fidelis Care
- KeyBank
- MVP Health Care
- National Grid
- New York Independent System Operator (NYISO)
- Pearl Companies
- Plug Power
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- SABIC
- Wabtec Corporation

GOLD AWARDS
- Arrow Family of Companies
- Central Hudson Gas & Electric
- Cummins SOFC
- Electric Boat
- Environment One Corporation
- Fidelis Care
- Hinman Straub
- James D. Warren and Son, Inc.
- Milliman
- National Grid
- Pearl Companies
- SABIC
- Wabtec Corporation

SPECIAL AWARDS
- Campaign of Distinction
  - Hannaford Supermarkets
- Community Impact
  - Bank of America
- Labor Appreciation
  - Local 97, IBEW
- Campaign Champion of the Year
  - Joanne Colosi, NYISO
- The President’s Award
  - MTX Group, Inc.
- United Way Newcomer
  - Callanan Industries, Inc.
United Way’s Leadership donors contribute $750-$9,999 and are a driving force for positive lasting change in the Capital Region. Our Leadership donors are made up of individuals and families who are passionate about changing lives, committed to creating action, and dedicated to bringing together the expertise and resources that get results. They take on the biggest challenges of our region and recognize that it takes a commitment of resources to provide our neighbors the help they need to improve their overall well-being. Thank you for your generous support and commitment to our community.
Community Empowerment
United Way's Annual Awards not only recognize the companies, organizations, and individuals who invest in supporting the health, education, and economic wellbeing of every person in our community. The night also pays tribute to our region's most generous philanthropists with the induction of a renowned community member to the 2021 Class of the Capital Region Philanthropy Hall of Fame, as well as honoring this year's Capital Region Philanthropist of the Year.

Capital Region Philanthropy Hall of Fame

The Capital Region Philanthropy Hall of Fame is a tribute to the citizens who have given so much to improve the quality of life for others. This year's inductee is the late Father Peter G. Young, a pioneer in substance abuse treatment who devoted his life to helping people and turning their lives around. His work saved many lives and was transformative to our region. His legacy will never be forgotten.

Capital Region Philanthropist of the Year

Jammella Anderson, Founder of Free Food Fridge Albany, was named the 2021 Capital Region Philanthropist of the Year. Her initiative places refrigerators in Albany's most active communities providing fresh produce, yogurt, milk alternatives, frozen items, and more. “Through this program, I hope to inspire people to take a chance, to know that every single person can make a difference.”

TOUCHEVILLE SOCIETY

The Tocqueville Society recognizes local philanthropic leaders and volunteer champions who have devoted time, talent, and funds to create long-lasting positive changes by tackling our communities’ most serious issues.

Wallace and Jane Altes  
Bob Belber  
Robert M. Curley  
Robert and Susanne Doyle  
Alan P. Goldberg  

Neil and Jane* Golub  
Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson and Dr. Morris A. Washington  
Morris and Esther Massry*  
Norman and Micki Massry  

John J. Nigro  
Das and Nipa Nobel  
Brian and Beth O'Grady  
Percy Waller Foundation

*of blessed memory
The Blake Annex is evolving the way nonprofits work in our state-of-the-art, 25,000-square-foot shared office space and coworking community located in the heart of downtown at 1 Steuben Place, Albany, NY.


Our private office suites and inclusive community in Albany, NY, were designed to take the burden of standard office operations off nonprofits so they can truly focus on their mission and outcomes while our staff takes care of the rest.

“The Blake Annex provides nonprofit tenants and their partners who serve communities across the Capital Region a designated space to come together to share services and ideas to innovate within and across sectors. This open and inspiring work environment will ultimately break down silos, increase efficiency and capacity, inspire thought leadership and elevate the critical role that non-profit organizations and grassroots movements play in creating communities in which all can thrive.”

Peter Gannon, President and CEO, United Way of the Greater Capital Region
The Blake Annex is named after Adam Blake, Jr., a successful 19th century entrepreneur from Albany, NY. There is a natural synergy between the work we strive to accomplish at The Blake Annex and the legacy of Adam Blake, Jr. and his wife, Catherine.

Adam Blake, Jr. built the Kenmore Hotel, which opened its doors in November of 1878. The Kenmore Hotel was the ultimate dream of Adam Blake, Jr. and was called “the most elegant structure on the finest street in Albany.” Both the convenience of the amenities and the level of hospitality you could expect to receive at the hotel made it a success.

Sadly passing in 1881, Adam’s widow Catherine Blake went on to take over the business and was exceedingly successful. She managed the Kenmore Hotel for seven years, and her business acumen was as strong as her late husband’s.

The Blake’s were innovators, changemakers, and thought-leaders and their vision and legacy live on here at the Blake Annex.

Nonprofits tackle some of society’s most difficult issues. The Blake Annex is designed to help community-based organizations increase their capacity by eliminating the need to focus on daily operations like facilities management.

United Way GCR has always thought about a better way to do things in the nonprofit sector. A better way to make the nonprofit workplace a more creative, more collaborative, more powerful and more inclusive place.

Our private offices, dedicated desks, and open coworking space give nonprofit leaders and staff an opportunity to work in a modern, flexible environment fully managed by our dedicated team of community crew members.

Angelique Powell, Community Manager at The Blake Annex
Women United is a group of energetic, passionate, and philanthropic women empowered by United Way GCR who, as volunteers support United Way’s mission to advocate rights for gender equity. Members mobilize change by investing in, advocating for, and creating programs with a mission to drive equity and excellence for all women and children.

**Leadership Committee**

- **Amanda Goyer, Chair** KeyBank
- **Mary Lynn Bradley**, M&T Bank
- **Cornelia Cahill Esq.**, Barclay Damon, LLP
- **Yolanda Caldwell**, The College of Saint Rose Women’s Leadership Institute
- **Katrina Consiglio**, Wells Fargo Advisors
- **Becky Daniels**, CAP COM Federal Credit Union
- **Kate Doran**, Teal, Becker & Chairamonte, CPAs, PC
- **Kristen Doyle**, Wealth Advisory Group, LLC
- **Christina Farinacci-Roberts**, Head Heart and Hand Consulting, LLC
- **Fatin Haddad**, Greenberg Traurig, LLP
- **Regina LaGatta**, Hudson Valley Community College
- **Brandi Landy**, Capital Region Chamber of Commerce
- **Kate Manley**, Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce
- **Erin Napoleone**, Choice Physical Therapy
- **Kate Otis**, Saratoga National Bank & Trust Co.
- **Camerine Robinson**, VQuest Consulting
- **Paige Rueckert**, CAP COM Federal Credit Union
- **Audrey Stone**, Sunmark Credit Union

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**Women United Perfect Pitch**

**October 1, 2020**

After an inspiring evening, U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) received a $10,000 grant supporting their Women Connect program, a peer support group for refugee women. In addition to this grant, USCRI served as the Women United Premier Partner for all of 2021, receiving ongoing support from Women United for various initiatives and programs throughout the year.

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**International Women’s Day**

**March 8-12, 2021**

Women United served as the convener for a week-long virtual event series kicking off on International Women’s Day. Capital Region women-led networking organizations were encouraged to participate.

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**Link & Learn**

**April 29, 2021**

Launched their first Link & Learn series, creating opportunities for women to network and be inspired by prominent voices doing great work in our community.
Launched in January of 2021, **Emerging Leaders UNITED** is a diverse group of engaged **young professionals working to drive impact in the Capital Region.**

Members use their unique skills, passion, and creativity to dive into our community’s social issue areas and create sustainable change. Emerging Leaders leverage the power of United Way to **show the strength and collective impact of the next generation of philanthropists.**

**Connect**
Make lasting connections with other young professionals and community leaders at social networking events.

**Serve**
Enhance your community impact and meet your philanthropic goals by participating in hands-on volunteer opportunities.

**Lead**
Strengthen your leadership skills through a variety of opportunities for networking, leadership development and educational events.

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**Leadership Committee**

Kate Bender, Co-Chair
Nicole’s Special Events & Catering Co.

Gershom Keith, Co-Chair
CommerceHub

Annie Berder
BARE Blends

Joe Bonilla
Relentless

Whitney Closson
Mental Health Association in NYS

Jared Paul
Capable Wealth

Todd Stevens
CRESA

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On Giving Tuesday, nine emerging leaders in the Capital Region **collectively raised $16,000** to support United Way GCR’s continuing efforts to Respond, Recover, Reimagine, and Rebuild, an initiative that showcased the strength of the **next generation of philanthropists.**
For over 25 years, United Way GCR has coordinated the Capital Region SEFA campaign. United Way GCR staff works with a Statewide Council, 13 Campaign Region Coordinators and manages the Capital Region SEFA Committee.

In 2020, the Capital Region SEFA campaign raised $654,213 and the Statewide SEFA campaign raised $3,103,858.

United Way and the labor movement have a longstanding partnership that continues to build stronger communities. We first came together after World War II as an innovative way to rebuild our country. It looked different back then, but our shared passion for building a better world was evident from the start.

Organized labor’s strong partnership with United Way has helped create jobs, educational opportunities, and healthy communities for decades.

In the Greater Capital Region, our collaborative efforts include:
- Emergency Financial Assistance for Members
- National Letter Carriers Food Drive
- 5.18 Day

**Assets**

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<th>Unaudited 6/30/2021</th>
<th>Audited 6/30/2020</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>647,101</td>
<td>1,361,115</td>
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<td>Investments</td>
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<td>Pledges Receivable</td>
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<td>Other Receivables</td>
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<td>Property &amp; Equipment Net</td>
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<td>Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust</td>
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<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,498,496</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,863,562</strong></td>
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**Liabilities**

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<th>Unaudited 6/30/2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>189,957</td>
<td>107,427</td>
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<td>Grants Payable</td>
<td>642,825</td>
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<td>Designations Payable</td>
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<td>Notes Payable</td>
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<td>277,963</td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2,442,271</strong></td>
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**Net Assets**

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<th>Unaudited 6/30/2020</th>
<th>Audited 6/30/2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions - Undesignated</td>
<td>8,246,546</td>
<td>1,555,108</td>
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<td>Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions - Board Designated</td>
<td>2,874,887</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets With Donor Restrictions</td>
<td>573,996</td>
<td>641,489</td>
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<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,695,429</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,421,291</strong></td>
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**Total Liabilities and Net Assets**

United Way of the Greater Capital Region has met or exceeded the Better Business Bureau's 21 Standards for Charitable Accountability and is a BBB Accredited Charity. You can review United Way of the Greater Capital Region's Charity Review online at www.BBB.org.
LIVE UNITED

RESPOND. RECOVER. REIMAGINE. REBUILD.