

# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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United Way  
of Greater Toledo

## United Way of Greater Toledo Celebrates Community Investments

**Toledo, OH** – Today, United Way of Greater Toledo (UWGT) announced its 2016-17 program investments. Through the generosity of the local community, more than \$10.7 million will be invested in programs, initiatives, and partnerships advancing education, income and health throughout Lucas, Wood, and Ottawa counties.

“We applaud the generosity of all our donors, corporate and individual, and our volunteers who are so committed to building community everyday,” said Karen Mathison, president and CEO of United Way of Greater Toledo. “Our investments fuel the community to advance in education, income, and health.”

Linda Ewing, United Way of Greater Toledo 2015-2016 board chair explained, “The resources awarded to organizations for specific programming align with United Way’s 5-year Live United 2020 goals. We have a solid investment plan in top-performing, local programs and initiatives which through positive results make our community a better place to live, work, and raise a family.”

The United Way Board of Directors approved the investment recommendations of community volunteers, who over the course of several months, reviewed program results, completed site visits, and assessed the programs’ ability to achieve the results needed to move the work forward.

Further reinforcing the collaboration between United Way and its organizational partners, Community Impact Awards were given to a number of United Way’s local non-profit partners for achieving outstanding results, demonstrating proactive responsiveness, and effective partnerships.

***NOTE: The Community Impact Award list included at the end of this release***

Mathison also highlighted the recipients of the premier award, Spirit of Caring. “Recognizing Tom Waggoner as our individual recipient was an honor. His dedication and contribution to United Way through his Board of Director service has been tremendous. We are also thrilled to award Brooks Insurance with the Corporate Spirit of Caring Award.” Mathison continued, “Brooks instills a culture of community support and truly walks the talk corporately and by providing opportunities for all their employees to make a difference in our community.”

The support supplied by the community is an integral part of United Way and partners delivering results. The annual campaign invites people to get in and give more. The community supported this campaign through:

- corporate gifts, sponsorships and held special events totaling \$3,373,526.
- Employees and individuals giving \$7,764,238.
- Grants in the amount of \$1,026,069

David Waterman, United Way 2015 campaign chair and partner with Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP noted, “This work United Way and its partners do in this community through everyone’s support is real, relevant, and necessary. It’s what makes the work we do to support those programs rewarding.”

Waterman stressed, “Everyone’s gift is important and when it comes to the annual campaign, our premier companies whose corporate and employee giving each total between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000 made a tremendous impact on this campaign. But everyone needs to hear that beyond those companies, every gift we receive from every donor is appreciated!

***Note: Campaign Pillar, Pinnacle and Zenith Award list included at the end of this release***

Bill McDonnell, regional president of PNC has been named the 2016 United Way Campaign Chair.

United Way 2016-2017 community investments by organization program can be found online at [unitedwaytoledo.org/communityinvestments](http://unitedwaytoledo.org/communityinvestments).

To learn more or get involved with United Way’s work visit [unitedwaytoledo.org](http://unitedwaytoledo.org), follow United Way of Greater Toledo on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

## **Community Impact Awards**

### **Community Partnership Award:**

- **Toledo Grows**, a program of Toledo Botanical Garden, known for implementing best practices in community engagement, urban agriculture, volunteer management and meaningful impact. Much of their success can be attributed to their strong and ever-growing collaborative partners.
- **The Ottawa County Business Advisory Council** created job shadowing, internships and apprenticeships for the 5,485 students in the 6 school districts in Ottawa County. A team of educators and employers are designing opportunities for students to do career exploration from something as simple as visiting a workplace to a 6-8 week internship that results in a stipend at the end.

### **Impact Results Award:**

- **Toledo Public School’s Partners with Purpose and Girl Scouts of Western Ohio;** together have begun to report student attendance at programs. This serves as a means to dig deeper into the data to engage in continuous improvement with the students.

### **Impact Responsiveness Award:**

- **Schools as Community Hub sites** for diligence in engaging the schools’ community members to discover their aspirations and hopes that drive the necessary work. Those schools and their lead partners include:
  - Leverette Elementary and YMCA/JCC
  - Pickett Academy and the University of Toledo

- Reynolds Elementary and University Church
- Robinson Elementary and The University of Toledo
- Scott High School and Lutheran Social Services
- **Toledo Lucas County Health Department** for positive response to the issue of high infant mortality and creating partnerships to bring CenteringPregnancy to our community as an additional tool to reach at-risk mothers.
- **Wood County Educational Service Center's STARS Program** that provides quality enrichment and extended learning activities for elementary children in Wood & Ottawa counties. The STARS program expanded in the 2015-16 school year to meet the needs of families in the school districts of Eastwood (Pemberville) and Bowling Green (Conneaut).

## **Campaign Awards**

**Companies with corporate and employee contributions from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 to United Way of Greater Toledo are:**

***Pillar Award- (\$100,000 - \$499,999 in employee and corporate giving)***

BP-Husky Refining, LLC

Brooks Insurance

The Blade and Toledo Council of Newspaper Unions, Buckeye CableSystem, and Buckeye Telesystem

Dana Holding Corporation

FCA US LLC, UAW Local 12 and UAW Local 1435

Fifth Third Bank and Fifth Third Foundation

HCR ManorCare and HCR ManorCare Retirees

Johnson Controls Battery Group, Inc. and UAW Local 12|

Johnson Controls Northwood & UAW Local 12

Libbey Inc. and USW Local 700, USW Local 65, GMP Local 59, IAMAW 105

Lucas County Offices

ProMedica

Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP

SSOE Group

Toledo Edison / A FirstEnergy Company and IBEW Local 245, IBEW Local 1413, Office and Professional Local 19

Toledo Refining Company

Toledo Transmission Operations and UAW Local 14

The University of Toledo, The University of Toledo Retirees and The University of Toledo Foundation

***Pinnacle Award- (\$500,000 - \$999,999 in employee and corporate giving)***

The Andersons, Inc., The Andersons Foundation, The Andersons Fund Supporting Organization and The Andersons Retirees

Owens-Illinois, Inc. and Owens-Illinois Retirees

**Zenith Award- (\$1,000,000 or more in employee and corporate giving)**

Owens Corning and Owens Corning Employees and Retirees

United Way of Greater Toledo, serving Lucas, Wood, and Ottawa counties, unites the caring power of people to improve lives. We are made up of problem solvers, difference makers, and opportunity creators. Together, we're on a mission to change lives forever in our community by investing in programs focused on education, financial stability, and healthy lifestyles. We tackle the tough problems in these areas by funding and partnering with the most effective local organizations who create real opportunities and get results. You can give, you can advocate, and you can volunteer – that's how to **LIVE UNITED**. For more information, visit [www.unitedwaytoledo.org](http://www.unitedwaytoledo.org).

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