NEWS RELEASE

Lucas Camuso-Stall Sr. Director, Public Relations & Advocacy lucas.stall@unitedwaytoledo.org (419) 254-4652 office | (765) 977-3712 mobile



United Way Publicizes COVID-19 Response Report

[Apr. 15, 2021, TOLEDO, OH] – After a year of fighting the devastating effects of the pandemic, United Way of Greater Toledo (UWGT) has publicized a comprehensive, year-long response report, outlining how the organization rerouted its day-to-day operations to assist community members in need.

The full overview can be found on UWGT's website, UnitedWayToledo.org/covid-response-report

Wendy Pestrue, president and CEO of UWGT said, "With 10 pages of content and data from March 2020 to March 2021 – this is still just a snapshot of how our staff, donors, advocates and volunteers came together to serve those who needed help during this difficult time."

UWGT notes that, through the organization's Emergency Response Fund, over 27,000 individuals were supported via dollars given to 28 local programs. That is in addition to the more than 60 programs UWGT allocates funding to in a traditional year.

Furthermore, United Way 2-1-1 shows that it took 104,398 calls since March of 2020, while also handling various projects that provided financial assistance to working families. UWGT's volunteerism efforts are also estimated to be worth nearly \$600,000 in time alone, with over 22,000 hours donated.

"This report truly displays the power of community when we work as one. Of course, we do not want this piece to give the impression that the pandemic is over. As we have said before, folks in Lucas, Ottawa and Wood County will be feeling the economic impact of this disaster for years to come. Which is why local nonprofits, like United Way, need your support," said Pestrue.

The report captures a combination of data and narratives collected by UWGT from March 2020 to March 2021. This timeframe has special significance, as staff had their first emergency meeting on getting food to children, while schools went into virtual learning, on March 13, 2020.

"There are so many unsung heroes who gave their time and emotional energy to United Way this past year. To those individuals, I am forever grateful, and your work will not be forgotten."

VIEW THE REPORT

###



