



FY24 ANNUAL REPORT

**Reflecting on our journey,
Crafting our future.**

www.kishwaukeeunitedway.com





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Letter from the CEO



Michele Vaughn, EdD

CEO Kishwaukee United Way

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on the past year, Kishwaukee United Way navigated challenges during a significant transition, yet we have remained UNITED in our mission of hope and collective service. The strength of our community has shone through, with partner agencies and volunteers coming together to support those in need, whether through mobile resources, vital training, or assistance for families facing emergencies.

Our dedicated volunteers, driven by a passion for making a difference, have been instrumental in providing hope during difficult times. As we gear up for FY25, I am thrilled about the exciting opportunities ahead to build on our achievements.

We are dedicated to strengthening our community connections, enhancing our programs, and reaching out to the communities that need us the most. Our mission is more important than ever, and with unwavering support, I truly believe we can create a lasting impact together. Let's embrace this journey and uplift our community with enthusiasm and passion!

Thank you for being an integral part of Kishwaukee United Way. Together, we will continue to be a resilient community THRIVING forward.

About KUW



Staff

Dr. Michele Vaughn, CEO
Stacie Miller, Executive Assistant
Kenda Jeske, Volunteer Accountant

Board of Directors

Cindy Green-Deutsch, Chair
Chris DeVlieger, Vice Chair
Edith Craig, Treasurer
Paul Callighan, Director
Jennifer Yochem, Director
Teresa Jacobson, Director
Robby Cruz, Director
Mary Freeman, Director
Robert Heck, Director
Dave Leifheit, Director
Aaron Latshaw, Director
Patricia Croom, Director

Vision

Through collaboration, resource mobilization and voluntary giving, Kishwaukee United Way will work to provide a better quality of life for the communities we serve.

Kishwaukee United Way works with others to create lasting changes in DeKalb County. We help support basic needs, prepare kids for success in school, give people the tools to become financially stable and improve the health and well being of residents. We invite YOU to be part of the change.

Be part of the change. Inspire hope. Create opportunities for a better tomorrow. Reach out a hand to one. Influence the condition of all. That's what it means to LIVE UNITED.



Mission

Kishwaukee United Way's mission is to improve lives by sharing community resources.

Strategic Goals

- 1. Partner Agency Relations:** Our Board and staff are engaged with our active agency partners, with strong communication, mutual benefit and alignment with our impact areas.
- 2. Budget:** KUW boasts abundant and self-sustaining funds through a balanced and transparent needs-based budget, funded by volunteerism, donations and grants.
- 3. Marketing:** Traditional and non-traditional marketing efforts continue to enhance the image of KUW to donors, and our diverse marketing plan results in more community awareness, funding, and volunteer engagement from past and new donors.
- 4. Board relations and membership:** Our active Board has unique skill sets and is committed to an engaged membership that support staff and represents the diverse communities in which it serves.
- 5. Campaign:** Funding strategies, ever-increasing workplace campaigns, endowment dollars, and successful fundraising efforts has led to KUW-led community impact, fulfilled agency requests and emergency funds when needed.
- 6. Allocation system:** The relationship of KUW and its Board with partner agencies and a streamlined allocation system has made it easier than ever for partner agencies to submit their funding requests based on impact funding goals.

Our Community Investment



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To provide a better quality of life for the communities we serve.
Improving education, health, and economic mobility in DeKalb County, Illinois.



HEALTH **\$70,500.00**

- CASA - \$5,000
- Adventure Works - \$7,000
- Catholic Charities - \$2,500
- Safe Passage - \$15,000
- Barb Food Mart - \$10,000
- Voluntary Action Center - \$25,000
- Greater Family Health - \$3,000
- Youth Outlook - \$3,000

INCOME **\$61,000.00**

- Hope Haven - \$15,000
- Prairie State Legal Services - \$1,000
- Community Coordinated 4C - \$25,000
- Farmworkers & Landscapers Advocacy - \$5,000
- Family Service Agency - \$15,000



EDUCATION **\$28,500.00**

- The Children's Learning Center - \$10,000
- The Growing Place - \$3,000
- Opportunity House - \$8,000
- RAMP Center for Independent Living - \$7,500



Homeless Single Mom Partner Agency Story



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A single mom who was experiencing homelessness due to moving from another state came to 4-C for assistance, as her sister told her we could help her. This individual came into 4-C, and we helped her with obtaining financial aid for childcare. 4-C also gave her information for childcare openings as well as housing information and other local resources which might help make her transition to Illinois a little easier. This young woman was very grateful for our assistance and the resources that were shared with her. - *Susan Petersen, ED*



211 DeKalb Data Reports



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July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024



Total calls received in DeKalb County FY24 was 1,050 per PATH call data center quarterly reports. A full detail per quarter can be downloaded on our website at www.kishwaukeeunitedway.com.

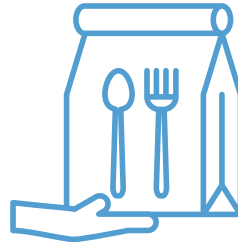
Top Four Needs Identified



Housing



Utilities Assistance



Food Pantry



Employment

New 211 Funding



A total of \$31,537.56 received in support of expanding our local 211 programming to better serve DeKalb County.

Meta - \$10,000

Northwestern Medicine - \$7,000

State of Il. - \$14,537.56

Client Success Stories 211



211 Success Story 1

Caller was struggling with mental health issues and the hurdles they create in finding long-term employment. She was out of work for several years following a period of emotional turmoil and began to accumulate an intimidating amount of debt. Despite having a bachelor's degree and more than a decade of experience in office work, the caller did not think she could handle another corporate job. She is currently doing DoorDash on a limited basis but wants something more concrete and reliable. Our operator asked the caller about her hobbies and interests, and when she talked about how much she loved being outside and walking her dog the operator suggested starting off with some volunteer work both to get a sense of what she'd enjoy and to ease back into the workforce gradually. As an alternative to re-entering the workforce, our operator provided the caller with the information she needed to apply for disability. Finally, to address the issue of debt, our operator went over some financial assistance programs with her. The caller was relieved to have multiple potential 'next steps,' and the beginnings of a plan for the future. The call ended on an optimistic note, as the caller declined our offer to schedule a follow-up contact.

211 Success Story 2

Caller reached out with concerns about a mold issue in her apartment. The four units of her building share a connected garage, in which there is a substantial amount of visible mold. She and her partner have an infant in their care, which adds an additional degree of urgency to the situation. Caller has also been suffering from migraines for the last year and suspects the mold was the cause. To tackle this issue, our operator developed two plans of action. First, we provided the caller with information for their local health department to schedule a mold test for their property. Second, our operator helped identify a local medical provider with whom the caller could schedule tests for herself and her baby. The call concluded with the caller feeling good about knowing where and with whom to book the necessary property and physical examinations. ✨

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Talk Show

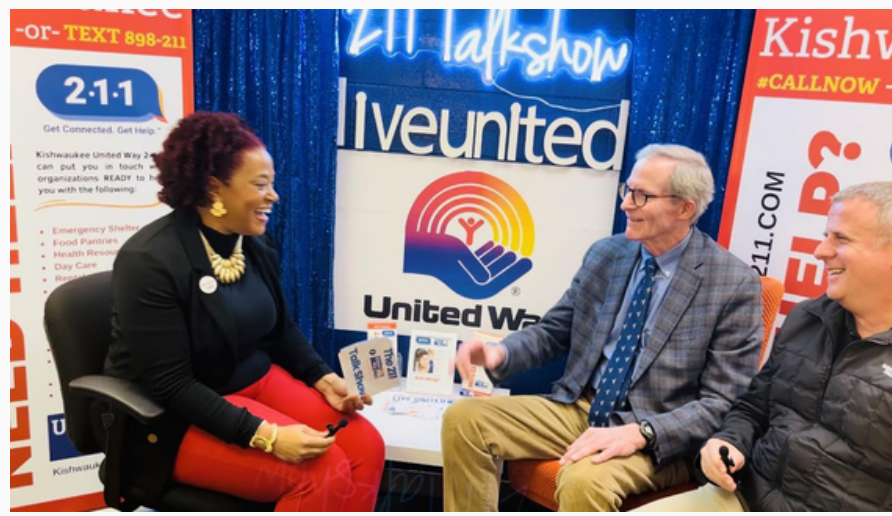
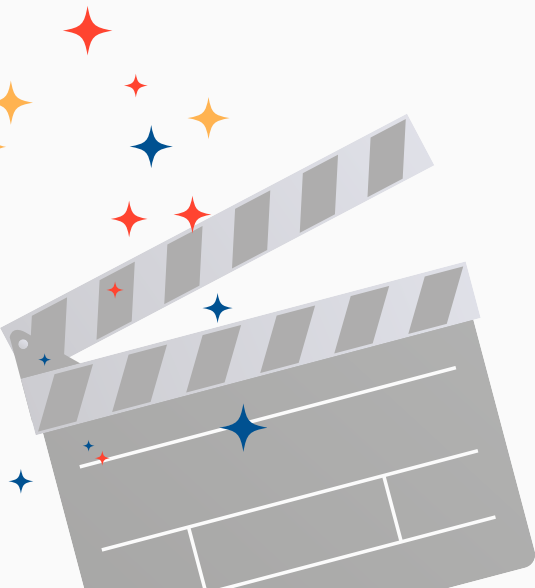


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Kishwaukee United Way launched a new 211 talk show in September 2023 inviting community partners and leaders to share resources, inspiring stories, and remain actively connected to Kishwaukee United Way's 211 program.

Talk Show Guest

- RAMP, Guest Jessica Wexell
- Youth Outlook, Guest Nancy Mullen
- FLAP, Guest Alexandra Sossa
- Adventure Works, Guest Katie Watts
- The Break Room, Guest Malia Jones
- Empower Parenthood Project, Guest Kendall Hampton
- CASA of DeKalb, Guest Jessica Sandlund
- Opportunity House, Guest Wanda Tatum
- Greater Family Health, Guest Bob Tanner
- BLAC Inc., Guest Tiffany Tucker
- Community Coordinated 4c, Guest Susan Petersen
- Creating Blessings, Guests Edgar & Daisy Arias
- United Way of Lee County, Guest CEO Ashley Richter
- FNBO Banking Homeownership, Guest Devyn Grzywa
- City of DeKalb, Guests Mayor Cohen Barnes & City Manager Bill Nicklas



KUW Initiatives & Outreach



Kishwaukee United Way participated in forty three community outreach initiatives and launched new programming to address immediate needs in the community.

Digital Crossover

\$10,000 Grant Funded by Comcast

Aspiring Author Sessions - 30 Served
Resume Writing Sessions - 36 Served
Entrepreneur Sessions - 15 Served

Live United Children's Book ePublished



Empowerment Luncheon

Annual Fundraiser hosted at Faranda's Lincoln Inn
Empowerment Speaker, Carole Peters, CEO United Way NEXT
Sponsored by Old National Bank



Christmas Sponsorship

Sponsored by CST Industries - 30 Youth, 3 Organizations



Diaper Drive

In partnership with the Empower Parenthood Project
3250 diapers donated with 5 KUW diaper drop-off locations



Stuff the Bus

Partnered with Transdev & Walmart - Donating School Supplies to The Growing Place & Children's Learning Center



Day of Caring

\$10,000 Grant Funded by Target Distribution Center
100 Volunteers and over 10 projects



KUW Highlights



New Employee

Stacie Miller

Executive Administrative & Outreach Assistant

Meet Stacie, an executive assistant with a passion for community. A proud graduate of Northern Illinois University, Stacie was inspired to pursue a career in administration and community leadership after working in healthcare during the COVID-19 pandemic. With 4 years of experience in data entry and community-based service, she provides a strong set of skills and a proven track record of success in community partnerships. Outside of work, she enjoys baking and spends much of her time in the kitchen creating unique treats, which she shares with friends, family and neighbors. *Joined KUW in February 2024*



GREAT RIVERS 2024

March 19-22 • Milwaukee, WI

#UWGREATRIVERS

Dr. Michele Vaughn attended the United Way Great Rivers conference as a 1st time attendee and Faculty member. She delivered an inspiring session on brand strength, awareness and relevance to a room full of UW professionals.

Session Topic

Take the Lid Off So Your Community Can Smell Your Impact



NIU Give DeKalb Interns



Three undergraduate students from Professor Ralph Kahn's OMIS 352 business class at (NIU) interned with Kishwaukee United Way to help prepare for the annual Give DeKalb Day.



Financial Highlights



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Illinois NFP Audit & Tax, LLP

Certified Public Accountants

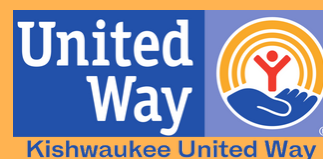
View Complete Report On our website

Kishwaukee United Way Statement of Financial Position June 30, 2024

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash	\$ 165,276	\$ 13,159	\$ 178,435
Total Current Assets	165,276	13,159	178,435
Total Fixed Assets, Net	0	0	0
Other Assets			
Security Deposit	900	0	900
Total Other Assets	900	0	900
Total Assets	\$ 166,176	\$ 13,159	\$ 179,335
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,293	\$ 0	\$ 1,293
Agency Allocations Payable	175,000	0	175,000
Total Current Liabilities	176,293	0	176,293
Total Liabilities	176,293	0	176,293
Total Net Assets	(10,117)	13,159	3,042
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 166,176	\$ 13,159	\$ 179,335

Financial Highlights

Continued...



Illinois NFP Audit & Tax, LLP

Certified Public Accountants

View Complete Report On our website

Kishwaukee United Way Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenue, Support and Gains			
Grants and Donations			
Campaign Contributions	134,702	0	134,702
Corporate and Foundation Grants	0	51,538	51,538
Endowment Income	96,830	0	96,830
Special Event Revenue	24,804	0	24,804
Miscellaneous	6,783	0	6,783
Interest Income	2,895	0	2,895
Net Assets Released from Restrictions:			
Satisfaction of Purpose Restrictions	57,995	(57,995)	0
Expiration of Time Restrictions	0	0	0
Total Revenue, Support and Gains	324,009	(6,457)	317,552
Functional Expenses			
Program Services	301,832	0	301,832
Management and General	48,755	0	48,755
Fundraising	32,848	0	32,848
Total Functional Expenses	383,435	0	383,435
Change in Net Assets	(59,426)	(6,457)	(65,883)
Net Assets,			
Beginning of Year	135,634	19,616	155,250
Prior Period Adjustment	(86,325)	0	(86,325)
Beginning of Year, Restated	49,309	19,616	68,925
End of Year	\$ (10,117)	\$ 13,159	\$ 3,042



Donor Support

To every single donor, corporate sponsor, and leadership giver -we couldn't do it without your help. Thank you for believing in our mission and helping us make a positive impact in the community.



On behalf of our team and Board of Directors, please know that your generosity never goes unnoticed. Thank you for your support and ongoing commitment to our mission.

Dr. Michele Vaughn



Contact Us



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