

UNITED WAY OF WESTERN NEBRASKA

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021



United Way
of Western Nebraska



UNITED WAY: SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

2020 began as our 75th year of serving our community. While the whole world was effected by the global COVID-19 pandemic, we at United Way sprung into action and promptly launched a COVID-19 Community Compassion Fund to help nonprofit agencies and individuals most in need of assistance with 100% of the funds raised supporting relief efforts in the communities we serve. United Way hosted the Farmers to Families Food Distribution and Community Cares Food Boxes in Alliance, volunteered for Shopping for Seniors and the Scotts Bluff Area Farmers to Families and provided instrumental basic up-to-date resource guides on our website and social media pages, as well as fielding calls and providing information to our many friends, neighbors and community members affected by the pandemic. All while continuing our fundraising efforts and community impact work throughout our communities.

While (we hope) the pandemic quickly fades into a distant memory, we recognize the importance of working together as a community. From our humble beginnings in 1945 as Scottsbluff Community Chest to serving the Western Panhandle and into Wyoming, United Way continues to serve our community through partnering with local nonprofits focusing on health, education and financial stability and filling gaps in services. We are more than a pass-through fundraising organization. We are a community focused nonprofit focusing on building stronger, healthier and more compassionate communities.

Today United Way of Western Nebraska serves the communities of Scotts Bluff, Morrill, Banner, Kimball and Cheyenne Counties and Goshen County, Wyoming from our main office in Scottsbluff and the Alliance office focuses on the needs of Box Butte and Dawes Counties.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

- Todd Lewis, President**
- Jason Rogers, 1st Vice President**
- Becca Tompkins, 2nd Vice President**
- Bill Boyer, Co-Secretary**
- Sherrie Huston, Co-Secretary**
- Jeri Goodman, Treasurer**

Executive Committee At Large Members:

- Triniti Burgner**
- Melissa Price**
- Doug Mader**
- Clint Schleicher**
- Julie Thompson**

2021 Board Members

- Allyson Berggren, Regional West Health Services**
- Bill Boyer, Rural Radio Network**
- Triniti Burgner, YMCA of Scottsbluff**
- Todd Deaver, Black Hills Energy**
- Jordan Diedrich, City of Scottsbluff**
- Jeri Goodman, FNBO**
- Cherokee Gribble, US Bank**
- Sherrie Huston, Regional West Health Services**
- Nick Lease, JG Elliott**
- Todd Lewis, Bytes**
- Doug Mader, WNCC**
- Michal Martinez, Target**
- Larry Massie, 11.13 Ministries**
- Melissa Price, Scottsbluff Public Schools**
- Audrey Rocheleau, Healthy Blue Nebraska**
- Jason Rogers, City of Gering**
- Clint Schleicher, ALLO**
- Melissa Schneider, Sam & Louie's**
- Jennifer Sibal, Gering Public Schools**
- Libby Stobel, Simmon Olsen Law Firm**
- Becca Tompkins, First State Bank**
- Julie Thompson, Gering Valley Plumbing & Heating**
- Susan Wiedeman, Panhandle COOP**



STAFF

Steph Black, Executive Director

Karen Benzel, Box Butte & Dawes Counties Director & Marketing

Deb Gies, Administrative Assistant

Jill Allen, Special Events Coordinator

Box Butte County Advisory Committee

Bret Bridges, BNSF Railway

Tiffany Crouse, Community Volunteer

Michelle Jensen, FNBO

Vickie Mattox, Community Volunteer

Carla Mayhew, City of Alliance

John McGhehey, Community Volunteer

Holly Ramsey, Bank of the West

Jeff Stevens, BNSF Railway

Chelsea Thompson, Box Butte General Hospital

Mikala Toedlti, Eagle Communications

Christina Trout, Black Hills Energy

Marcia Vogel, Heartland Real Estate & Appraisal



Dawes County Advisory Committee



Bev Bartlett, City of Chadron

Rob Bila, Platte Valley Bank

Kathi Brown, Chadrad Communications

Tina McClain, Community Volunteer

George Nollette, Butler Ag Equipment

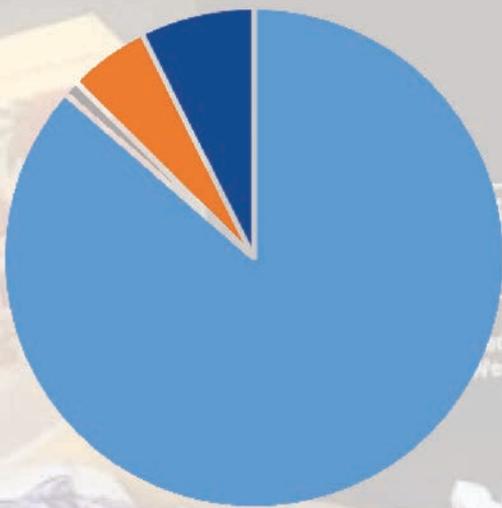
Caitlin Redden, FNBO

Laure Sinn, Chadron State College

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Financial Overview is reflective of United Way of Western Nebraska's audited financial statements ending June 30, 2020. The revenue accounts for revenue received across multiple campaign years and pledge loss. Our 2019-2020 campaign for United Way of Western Nebraska raised \$366,942 as reflected on page 6 and United Way of Western Nebraska serving Box Butte & Dawes Counties raised \$99,832 as reflected on page 9, equals special events proceeds and what was pledged for that fundraising campaign.

REVENUE SNAPSHOT



\$476,416

88% UW Campaign Fundraising \$420,342

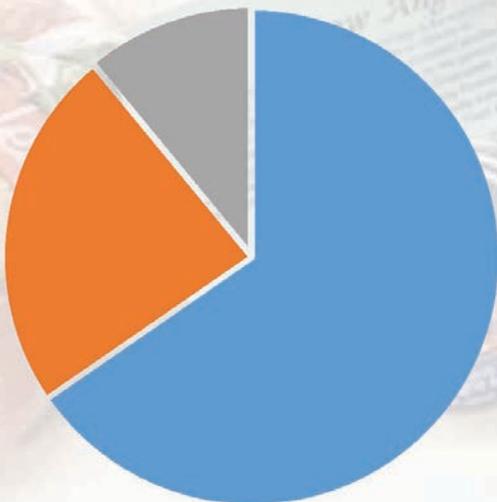
8% Other Revenue \$35,843

5% Special Events Revenue \$25,228

-1% Community Impact Revenue -\$4,997*

*Community Impact projects include Stuff the Bus, Day of Caring, BBC Holiday Baskets, BBDC Imagination Library. All of the money for these programs are raised from grants or donations specific to these projects. The grants are not always spent in the same fiscal year they are received.

EXPENSE SNAPSHOT



\$463,628

66% Programs & Grants to Agencies \$303,191

23% Administrative & General Expenses \$109,564

11% Fundraising Expenses \$50,873

SCOTTS BLUFF AREA HIGHLIGHTS

TOTAL RAISED **\$373,747**

2020-2021 CAMPAIGN GOAL: \$308,000

2020-2021 Partner Agencies

Education

- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts
- Guadalupe Center
- Summer Program for Handicapped Children (Camp Scott)
- TeamMates of Scotts Bluff County
- Western NE Childhood Development Center (CAPWN)

Health

- Buckboard Therapeutic Riding Academy
- CAPstone
- Carpenter Center
- CASA of Scotts Bluff County
- DOVES
- Plains West CASA
- Scotts Bluff County Volunteer Center

Financial Stability

- Cirrus House- Youth Program
- Family Stabilization Program (CAPWN)
- Stacey Houk Family Resource Center

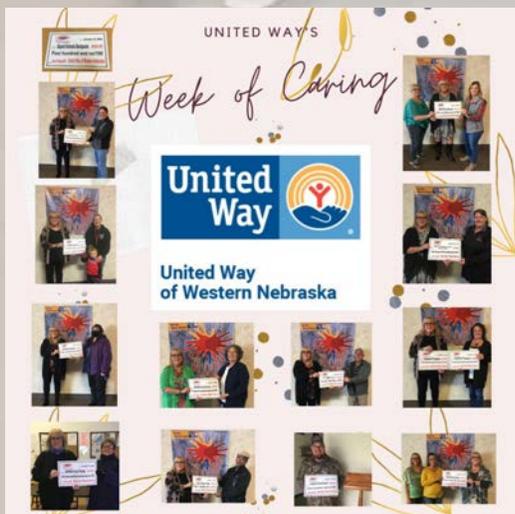


UNITED WAY OF WESTERN NEBRASKA COMMUNITY IMPACT WORK

DAY OF CARING FOOD INSECURITY EVENT

Day of Caring was restructured to **Week of Caring** as we were unable to hold our in-person food packaging event due to COVID-19.

- Raised \$16,400 from grants & donations specific for the event
- Distributed \$16,400 in VISA gift cards to 14 local programs serving the needs of food insecure families
- Programs Include:
 - Scottsbluff Backpack Program
 - Gering Backpack Program
 - Mitchell Backpack Program
 - Morrill Backpack Program
 - Bayard Backpack Program
 - Scottsbluff/Gering Soup Kitchens
 - CAPWN Food Pantry
 - Potter's Wheel Ministry Food Pantry
 - Our Lady of Guadalupe Food Pantry
 - Firefighter Ministry
 - Mitchell & Morrill Food Pantry
 - Diaper Depot
 - Snow Angels
 - 11:13 Ministries



STUFF THE BUS

Stuff the Bus was restructured due to COVID to collect monetary donations instead of a supply collection.

- Purchased 155 pre-packaged school supply kits for CAPWN in Scottsbluff
- Purchased 70 pre-packaged school supply kits for CAPWN in Sidney
- Delivered \$5,025 in VISA gift cards to Scottsbluff, Gering, Mitchell, Morrill, Minatare, Bridgeport, Bayard, Banner County and Sidney School Districts



COLLABORATIVE WORK

- Panhandle Continuum of Care
- Panhandle Partnership
- Cooperative Ministries Association
- Weekly Nebraska United Way Leadership Director's Meeting
- Bridges Out of Poverty Workshop
- Agency Assistance
 - Shopping for Seniors
 - COVID Emergency Food Bags
 - Snow Angel Bags
 - CAPWN drive thru pantries

UNITED WAY OF WESTERN NEBRASKA SPECIAL EVENTS

DUCK DRAW

The Duck Draw was reformatted this year. As the primary special event for the Scotts Bluff Area, the grand prize winner won a 2020 Toyota Rav 4.



Thirty prizes were awarded in the 2020 Duck Draw plus a bonus prize.

2020 Duck Draw Winners

Kendra Feather: 2020 Toyota Rav 4
George Kaufman, Jr. : 2020 Honda Pioneer Side by Side



VIRTUAL 5K FOR UNITED WAY



Virtual 5k for United Way allowed participants to run, walk, jog or roll a 5k when it worked for their schedule to benefit United Way.

United Way special events are integral to our success raising funds and awareness in the community.

BOX BUTTE & DAWES COUNTIES HIGHLIGHTS

TOTAL RAISED **\$99,832**

2020-2021 CAMPAIGN GOAL: \$90,000

2020-2021 Partner Agencies

Education

Box Butte County

- Alliance First National Spartans
- Alliance MOPS
- Alliance Oldtimers Baseball & Softball
- Alliance Recreation Center
- TeamMates of Alliance

Health

Box Butte County

- Community Service (NCAP)
- Community Table

Dawes County

- Community Service (NCAP)

Financial Stability

Box Butte County

- CAPstone Child Advocacy Center
- East Point Horspice
- The DOVES Program

Dawes County

- CAPstone Child Advocacy Center
- The DOVES Program



BOX BUTTE & DAWES COUNTIES COMMUNITY IMPACT WORK

DAY OF CARING FOOD INSECURITY EVENT

Day of Caring was restructured to **Week of Caring** as we were unable to hold our in-person food packaging event due to COVID-19.

- Raised \$5,500 for grants and donations specific for Day of Caring
- Distributed \$5500 in Visa Gift Cards to 9 local programs serving the needs of food insecure families
 - Bulldog Backpack Program
 - Chadron Backpack Program
 - Hemingford Backpack Program
 - Community Table
 - Extra Helpings Food Pantry (Alliance)
 - Extra Helpings Food Pantry (Chadron)
 - Closer to Home
 - Hemingford Food Pantry
 - Crawford Food Pantry



STUFF THE BUS

Stuff the Bus was restructured due to COVID to collect monetary donations instead of a supply collection.

- Delivered \$1600 in VISA gift cards to Alliance, Chadron, Crawford & Hemingford School Districts



FARMERS TO FAMILIES & COMMUNITY CARES FOOD BOX DISTRIBUTIONS

- United Way volunteers distributed 3300 boxes of food and 1100 gallons of milk in July & August 2020 as part of the Farmers to Families Program
- United Way volunteers distributed 152 sets of food consisting of 15 pounds of fresh produce & 1 gallon of milk twice per month from November 2020 through June 2021 as part of the Community Cares food distribution



BBC HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

- Over 75 families received Thanksgiving baskets in 2020
- Christmas food baskets served 280 families (including 703 individuals) partnering with area churches, nonprofit organizations and business in the community



IMAGINATION LIBRARY

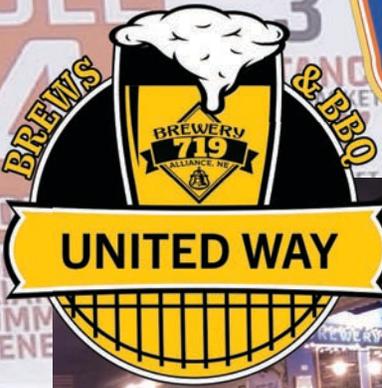
- All children under age 5 residing in Box Butte or Dawes County are eligible to receive 1 free book per month mailed to their home at no cost to the child or their family
- 4799 books were mailed to children in 2020

COLLABORATIVE WORK

- Task Force on Poverty
- Panhandle Partnership Board President
- Continuum of Care
- Community Table Board Member
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Board
- Bridges Out of Poverty

UNITED WAY OF WESTERN NEBRASKA SERVING BOX BUTTE & DAWES COUNTIES SPECIAL EVENTS

United Way special events raise funds and awareness for United Way. Five special events were hosted in 2020 for United Way of Western Nebraska serving Box Butte & Dawes Counties.



BREWS & BBQ



DISCOVER UNITED WAY
DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT



DRIVE IN MOVIE FOR UNITED WAY

RESPONDING TO COVID-19

United Way of Western Nebraska launched the COVID-19 Community Compassion Fund to help organizations and individuals in most need of assistance. An Ad Hoc Advisory Committee was formed to work with United Way to advise on the direction and implementation of support to address the needs in the community. This fund provides nonprofit organizations with flexible resources to address the impact of the COVID-19 public health crisis on our community or other publicly declared crisis, including immediate basic needs, gaps in service, and operational challenges. **\$26,463.68 was raised with 100% of the funds distributed to programs assisting with COVID-19 related needs.**



AD HOC COMMITTEE

- KAREN ANDERSON, SCOTTSBLUFF/GERING UNITED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE- SCOTTSBLUFF/GERING
- ROB BILA, FNBO- CHADRON
- JESSICA LECHER, PANHANDLE PARTNERSHIP- SCOTTSBLUFF/GERING
- JOHN MCGHEHEY, COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER- ALLIANCE
- LUKE SENDEN, BOX BUTTE GENERAL HOSPITAL- ALLIANCE
- LIBBY STOBEL, SIMMONS OLSEN LAW FIRM- SCOTTSBLUFF/GERING

COVID-19 COMMUNITY COMPASSION FUND GRANT RECIPIENTS

- COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OF WESTERN NEBRASKA- BASIC NEEDS
- FEED A HUNGRY SENIOR (ALLIANCE SENIOR CENTER)- SENIOR MEALS
- FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH- FOOD PANTRY
- NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP- FOOD PANTRY
- SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY VOLUNTEER CENTER- FOOD BOXES
- SCOTTSBLUFF/GERING SOUP KITCHEN-MEALS
- COMMUNITY TABLE-MEALS



SERVING IN OUR COMMUNITY



United Way responded to the COVID-19 pandemic not only through assisting non-profits with financial resources, but in serving our community. The Scottsbluff office assisted each Tuesday morning with the Scotts Bluff County Volunteer Center's **Shopping for Seniors** program. This program saw their numbers grow exponentially and United Way stepped up to ensure the many seniors that rely on the shoppers were able to continue to receive their groceries and basic necessities. The Alliance office coordinated volunteers for Western Community Health Resources' **Senior Commodity Supplemental Food** program. After COVID-19 hit, their regular volunteers were no longer available. United Way volunteers ensured that the food was able to be distributed to seniors in the community. United Way volunteers distributed the **Farmers to Families** and **Community Cares** food distributions in Alliance ensuring fresh produce and quality food was available to food insecure families.

CONTACT INFORMATION



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Deb Gies, Administrative Assistant
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Jill Allen, Special Events Coordinator
events@uwnn.org

www.uwnn.org

Thank you to all our donors, volunteers and United Way supporters. Whether you bought a duck for the Duck Draw, disc golfed at our DISCover United Way Disc Golf Tournament, donated in any way, shape or form, this generosity is what enables us to continue to address food insecurity and other community impact areas, in addition to providing funds to the many programs that count on United Way to accomplish their mission. United Way volunteers came together to serve our community and ensure many of our most vulnerable had access to quality food. Thank you for partnering with United Way. Together we can make a difference in Western Nebraska. United & Strong!

**United
Way**



**United Way
of Western Nebraska**