

LIVE UNITED



Shelby County United Way

# NEWSLETTER

**FROM THE  
DESK OF  
PRESIDENT,  
SCOTT BARR**



Median County Income			
Ranking # out of 88 Ohio Counties	County	Household Income	Family Income
13	Auglaize	61,758	76,082
18	Shelby	61,042	74,243
21	Miami	57,544	72,974
32	Logan	55,150	68,351
34	Champaign	57,103	67,230
49	Darke	52,691	63,477

## Our Community is Changing, So Should our Perceptions

The Shelby County United Way has the opportunity to see data and outcomes from our many funded programs and partner agencies, receive feedback from our elected and community leaders on issues facing our community, participate in many community meetings and task forces, and review published data. Shelby County has exited the great recession and become a top performing county in the State of Ohio. Make no mistake about it, we still have similar challenges as many of our peer counties do. However, Shelby County is a leader in the state.

Let's start with the Why? Why has Shelby County improved so much since 2010 and intensified the past three years? It starts with our industries and businesses. Shelby County is still the number one county in manufacturing positions per capita in the state of Ohio. Data from Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership shows 5 of the top 12 manufacturing companies in the Greater Dayton Region are in Shelby County and our manufacturing shipments exceed \$7 billion dollars annually. During my visits with company leaders and viewing their hourly job postings, many of our employers in manufacturing raised their hourly wages \$2.00 to \$3.00 per hour during 2017-2019. In doing so, average household and family size income has increased and outpaced our peers. (Continued on page 2)

# Our Community is changing, So Should our Perceptions (Continued from Page 1)

Childhood Poverty Rate			
Ranking # out of 88 Ohio Counties	County	Povery Rate	Child Poverty Rate
1	Delaware	4.6	4.7
2	Warren	4.6	5.2
3	Geauga	6.1	8.2
4	Medina	6.4	8.9
5	Putnam	6.7	9.5
6	Union	6.9	7.9
7	Mercer	6.9	8.8
8	Lake	8.3	12.1
9	Auglaize	8.7	11.3
10	Shelby	9.1	12
	Miami	9.4	11.6
	Darke	10.1	14.2
	Champaign	11	17.2
	Logan	13.4	21.6

Research compiled thru 2018 by Rich Exner at Cleveland.com shows Shelby County's median household income is \$61,042 and median family income is \$74,243 ranking us as the 18th best county in the state of Ohio. We are currently outpacing Miami County at 21, Logan County at 32, Champaign County at 34, and Darke County at 49. How many of you would have guessed that Shelby County is outpacing our peer counties, including Miami County in income?

When I started in my role 8 years ago, our county poverty rate was over 12%. Per Rich Exner's research thru 2018 Shelby County's poverty rate is 9.1% and the child poverty rate is 12%. This places Shelby County as the 10th BEST poverty rate in the state of Ohio. That is correct; Top TEN. We are outpacing our peer counties again. Poverty rate for our peer counties are as follows: Miami 9.4%, Darke 10.1%, Champaign 11%, and Logan 13.4%. Early indicators show our poverty rate at the end of 2019 will be under 9%. We will see when published.

As I stated earlier, we still have challenges. Shelby County's poverty rate for children is 12%. Sidney's child poverty rate is at 20%. That is too high. Next month we will discuss more on the child poverty rate in Sidney and Shelby County and, agencies and programs working to address this issue. I will also share a new collaboration with Workforce Partnership that will launch in the fall to directly address this topic.

In the meantime, we can change our perceptions. Get involved. Great things are happening in Sidney and Shelby County. Support your community and get behind Sidney Alive, Sidney-Shelby County Chamber of Commerce, Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership, our local government leaders, and many other individuals and business that are working on community branding, downtown revitalization, placemaking, and so much more. It's a great time to live, work, and make a difference in someone's life right here in Shelby County.

## PARTNER AGENCY SPOTLIGHT

### COMPASSIONATE CARE OF SHELBY COUNTY

Compassionate Care is a faith based health care center respectfully providing quality care and hope to the underserved of Shelby County. On August 1st, 2007 Compassionate Care first opened the doors utilizing volunteer physicians and nurse practitioners. Appointments were scheduled for one night a week and within six weeks we were managing more than 100 patients. It is almost thirteen years later and Compassionate Care's patient load exceeds 1700 patients and now open 4 days a week.

Compassionate Care is a free health care clinic that provides primary medical care, dental care, and prescription assistance for the under-insured and uninsured. We care for Shelby County individuals who do not qualify for Medicaid or Medicare and are living at or below 250% of the federal poverty level. CCSC is an amazing "Pay it Forward" story. The only way we are able to help so many individuals is because of so many kind people in the world. We operate strictly through individual and corporate donations, fundraisers and grants, such as United Way.

In 2019, 5,500 medical visits were provided at an estimated savings to local medical facilities of \$13,752,500.00 in unpaid medical expenses. Over 94% of our patients work for a living and are just not able to make ends meet, but yet are trying. When Shelby County residents find themselves in the healthcare "gap", Compassionate Care is able to step in and provide medical care options.

We are looking forward to Compassionate Care's upcoming fundraiser, "Country for a Cause" on March 14th, 2020. Nashville artists and songwriters, Darryl Worley, Chris Wallin, and Dan Demay will be sharing their incredible talents in a private concert at the Buckeye Barn. Tickets and Tables are still available, for more information please contact the clinic at 937.492.9400

Our county is a generous community with the genuine concern for the health of its residents. Our goal continues to help bridge the gap for our patient's medical needs, while utilizing each donated dollar to its maximum, in turn helping people without medical choices in our community. Thank you to those who have supported Compassionate Care, we appreciate your kindness. For more information about CCSC, please contact us at 937.492.9400 or visit our website at [www.welovecompassionatecare.com](http://www.welovecompassionatecare.com)



**FROM THE  
DESK OF  
TRACI  
MILANESE**



## DOLLY PARTON IMAGINATION LIBRARY

117,283 Books mailed since March 2015

2,449 Kids ages 0-5 subscribed in Shelby County

69.97% of eligible kids enrolled



During the January session of Student United Way, the participants had the opportunity to visit the Courthouse and learn from three of our partner agencies. They first heard a presentation about the IMPACT Program from Amy Simindinger and Judge Beigel. Through this program, students from day care facilities and pre-k classrooms up to seniors in high school can be referred to a counseling provider at no cost to the family. This program is 10 years old and fully funded by the Shelby County United Way.

Bridget Davis, the Director of CASA/GAL, shared about their program. A CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocate, advocates for our abused and neglected children in Shelby County. They learned about the role of a CASA and the training required. The number of children being referred and needing an advocate has increased each of the past few years.

The third and final presentation was from Tiffany Kemp, Director of Victim Services. Their staff is on call 24 hours a day. When needed, they are notified by law enforcement to arrive at a crime scene or take part in death notifications. Tiffany shared the many crimes that took place in Shelby County. Victims are all ages and from all communities. Victim Services provides a trauma therapist at no cost to a victim of crime after the victimization and later in their life as needed.

All three organizations are Shelby County United Way partner agencies or programs.





## Save the Date

We are in the initial planning stages for our annual Signature Event  
**POWER of the Purse Champagne Luncheon and Fashion Show**

**Save the Date for April 18th @ 11:30 am!!**

If you or anyone you know may want to donate raffle items/packages or be a sponsor for the event please call the United Way office 492-2101 or email Amy at

[Awest@shelbycountyunitedway.org](mailto:Awest@shelbycountyunitedway.org)

Checks made payable to Shelby County United Way with POWER of the Purse in the memo line. Sponsors of \$100 or more are listed in the program and on our Sponsor Board displayed at the event.

## POWER Membership

Join our POWER-ful group of 111 Members strong and help make an impact in the lives of children and families in Shelby County! To date over \$52,000 has been allocated back into the community! You can attend events, volunteer or just make a financial contribution with your \$50 a year membership. Go to [Power4Women.org](http://Power4Women.org) to join and find out more.

## Kindergarten Tutoring 2019-20

Join the fun and make a true impact one child at a time!

All slots are from 9-10 am & Specific openings are...

**Longfellow: Thursday - every other week**

**Emerson: Monday-1 slot available every week & every other week**

**We would love to have more subs as well!**

If you or someone you think may be interested email

[Awest@ShelbyCountyUnitedWay.org](mailto:Awest@ShelbyCountyUnitedWay.org) or call the United Way office at 492-2101.



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES...

**Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Shelby & Darke County**- Have youth waiting to be matched with a mentor (492-7611)

**Shelby County CASA/GAL** is looking for volunteers to advocate for abused and neglected children (498-7447)

**Compassionate Care of Shelby County** needs trained medical providers willing to volunteer and see patients (492-9400)

**FISH of Shelby County** is an all-volunteer thrift store (492-1760)

**Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley** is in need of volunteers to serve seniors (498-4593)

**Job and Family Services of Shelby County** are recruiting foster parents (497-7611)

**Alpha Community Center and Holy Angels Soup Kitchen** rely on volunteers to cook and prepare lunch meals (498-9758) and (498-0598)

**Agape Distribution Inc** uses volunteers daily to stock food on the shelves and unload product (498-4368)

**POWER-Shelby County United Way** needs kindergarten tutors on Monday through Thursdays from 9-10 am (492-2101)

