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**LIVE UNITED**



Shelby County United Way

**AUGUST 2020**

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# NEWSLETTER

As we enter August, we start our Pacesetter Campaign. Select companies and organizations hold their campaign and turn in their company totals at the end of the month. In doing so, we start the campaign off ahead of the curve. I want to thank those companies and organizations that are participating as a Pacesetter this year. We appreciate your support! This also kicks off our campaign season. Campaign Kickoff is scheduled for September 10th held at the Palazzo in Botkins, starting at 11:30AM. We are inviting those comfortable attending in person to RSVP by calling the United Way office at 937-492-2101. Tables will be distanced, hand sanitizer will be present, and we are asking attendees to wear masks while not eating or drinking. We hope to see you there.

2020 has been a year many of us have not seen in our lifetime. The Shelby County United Way and our partner agencies were visible, engaged, and impactful for many families and residents over the past three to four months. Curbside groceries, carryout meals, virtual or tele-conference mental health and counseling appointments, clinic appointments and pharmaceutical assistance, 24-hour programming at the domestic violence shelter, sober living homes, STAR House, and Clear Creek youth homes, Pandemic Child Care Centers, and the list of programming continues. The Shelby County United Way awarded \$65,000 in emergency funding from our reserves to help with mortgage/rent and utility assistance, food insecurity programming, and a gift to the Community Foundation of Shelby County to help start the "2020 Recovery Fund." We partnered with the West Ohio Food Bank and the Ohio National Guard to facilitate a drive thru food distribution and were active collaborating with our local leaders on a weekly basis in regards to the pandemic. Our mission and purpose was intensified during and continuing through the pandemic. This was and is only possible with your continued support during our campaign. Your contribution to the 2020 "Find Your Why" Annual Campaign with Suzanne Cline, Director of the Shelby County Libraries, as the Chair is critical for the success of the organizations and programs that we support.

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**C O N T I N U E D**

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# NEWSLETTER

I would also like to share a new initiative that will launch this school year. The Shelby County United Way and the Workforce Partnership of Shelby County are collaborating and have hired a high school career coach. The career coach will work with local graduating seniors currently not attending Upper Valley Career Center, not continuing their education at a community college or university, or not enlisting in the military. They will work with our students that are graduating and entering the work force. The career coach will be tasked with meeting assigned seniors 3-4 times throughout their senior year. During those meetings the career coach will assess the students' work force interests, competencies, determine if proper government ID's and documentation are obtained, and their access to transportation. The career coach will make recommendations to local employer's that are hiring of which most will be funding partners of Workforce Partnership. Desired outcomes include transitioning students from no employment or part time employment while in school to full time employment with benefits immediately following graduation. In doing so, their living wage and benefits will put them on a trajectory for success and be less likely to need government or social services in the future. For employers, we are hoping to direct a new, first time employee that is better matched for their hiring needs, hopefully improving retention rates.

I would like to thank Deb McDermott, Director of the Workforce Partnership along with Mick Given, Board Chair, for their willingness to partner with us and champion this effort. The career coach is another example of the Shelby County United Way adding front end, evidence or data driven programming that helps our youth become better students and better adults. Previously added programs are Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, the IMPACT Program that provides funding for counseling services to all school districts, and Character Playbook.

Thank you for your continued support.

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



# PARTNER AGENCY SPOTLIGHT

## YMCA CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER



**Tori Faulder, Child Development Center Director...**

The Y Child Development Center has been open and busy during the past several months. At the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Y Child Development Center transitioned into serving Shelby County as a Pandemic Critical Care Center caring for the children of essential workers. This was a busy time of learning and instituting intensive cleaning and safety measures. When June 1 arrived, the Y Child Development Center was ready to open its doors once again to all members of our community. Once the center reopened fully on June 1, the majority of our families returned to the waiting arms of our teachers. The center has been serving nearly 200 children throughout the summer.



Now, we are looking forward to the start of a new school year. We are currently near capacity in all ages with a significant waiting list for those under 2.5 years. We still have a few spots for school age and preschool students for the 20-21 school year. Infants and toddlers spend every day in a safe, nurturing environment focused on building relationships and meeting developmental milestones. Our preschool teachers are busy preparing their classrooms for another year of learning in an enriching environment. School age students will experience the same homework and social emotional support in our before and after school program as well as full day fun days when school is closed. We are planning adjusted special activities to ensure our children have all the learning and fun the Y Child Development Center offers in the safest way for the new circumstances brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic.



The Y Child Development Center is committed to our families and to the people of Shelby County. We will continue to serve in every capacity possible for this time and into the future. For more information on our program, contact our Child Development Center Director, Tori Faulder, at 937.498.2273 or [tfaulder@sidney-ymca.org](mailto:tfaulder@sidney-ymca.org).



## DOLLY PARTON IMAGINATION LIBRARY

127,977 Books mailed since March 2015

2,415 Kids ages 0-5 subscribed in Shelby County

69% of eligible kids enrolled



# INFORMATION AND REFERRAL HOTLINE



2-1-1 is Shelby County's information and referral service for people in need. Every day, thousands of people across the U.S. turn to 2-1-1 for information and support – whether financial, domestic, health, or disaster-related. 2-1-1 is a free, confidential referral and information helpline that connects people from our community to essential health and human services they need, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A toll-free call to 2-1-1 connects you to a community resource specialist in our area who can put you in touch with local organizations that provide critical services that can improve – and save – lives. Dial 211 or 855-663-8333



We are tentatively planning on holding Student United Way for school year 20-21. The Shelby County United Way Board of Directors have budgeted \$10,000 for the students to award in grants to organizations that serve infant to 18 year old clients.



# POWER UPDATE



# POWER

Passionate • Optimistic • Women • Encouraging • Results

## POWER-ful Grants:

POWER has received over 25 POWER grant applications this year. Up to \$2,000 will be distributed to each 501(c)(3) agency or government entity. The grant monies will be awarded for projects that fulfill POWER's mission of providing programs/assistance to initiatives that benefit children and families in Shelby County. There is a minimum of \$20,000 in grant money that will be allocated through POWER.

## POWER Membership:

If you would like to join our POWER-ful group of over 100 women strong or find out more about our women's initiative group and how we continue to make an impact go to [www.Power4Women.org](http://www.Power4Women.org). To Date over \$52,000 has been allocated back into the community for children and families in Shelby County through POWER.

## POWER-ful You Membership Event:

Thursday Aug. 13th at noon, Virtual POWER-ful You Event with Wilson Health Cardiology physician, Dr. Matthew French, MD, FACC. Dr. French will speak to the POWER group via zoom about understanding heart disease in women.

## Save the Date:

POWER of the Purse Champagne Luncheon & Fashion Show April 24, 2021!



Save the Date!

APRIL 24, 2021

Our signature event has a new date.  
We hope to see you there!

Check our Facebook and this website for updates.



# SHELBY COUNTY UNITED WAY COVID-19 RESPONSE...

The Shelby County United Way is committed to supporting our community and working with our community leaders during this crisis. We will fulfill our mission to continually identify, evaluate, and make possible the human services needed in our community.

## COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUNDING

**Rent/Mortgage/Utility Assistance - \$45,000**

**Food Assistance - \$10,000**

**2020 Recovery Fund - \$10,000**

**Partnered with WOFB to host Food Distribution Drive Through**



The Shelby County United Way has also partnered with the Community Foundation of Shelby County for a charitable fund - **2020 Recovery Fund**

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES...

**Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Shelby & Darke County-** Have youth waiting to be matched with a mentor (937-492-7611)

**Shelby County CASA/GAL** is looking for volunteers to advocate for abused and neglected children (937-498-7447)

**Compassionate Care of Shelby County** needs trained medical providers willing to volunteer and see patients (937-492-9400)

**FISH of Shelby County** is an all-volunteer thrift store (937-492-1760)

**Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley** is in need of volunteers to serve seniors (937-498-4593)

**Job and Family Services of Shelby County** are recruiting foster parents (937-497-7611)

**Alpha Community Center and Holy Angels Soup Kitchen** rely on volunteers to cook and prepare lunch meals (937-498-9758) and (937-498-0598)

**Agape Distribution Inc** uses volunteers daily to stock food on the shelves and unload product (937-498-4368)

**POWER-Shelby County United Way** suspended kindergarten tutoring until the second half of the school year, pending further school accommodations (937-492-2101)

