



2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR MISSION

Berkshire United Way ignites the collective power of individuals and organizations to build a stronger community together.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND CEO AND BOARD CHAIR

One hundred years of service is an incredible milestone for any organization. It is our sincere privilege and responsibility to be stewards of Berkshire United Way's legacy of positive community impact during our 100th anniversary year.

Many things have changed in our community over the past century; however, our vision of a thriving Berkshire County is just as clear as it was to the dedicated leaders and volunteers who came together in 1924 to help support their friends and neighbors in need.

In her message celebrating our centennial, United Way Worldwide President and CEO Angela Williams said:

"Your history is a powerful narrative of collective effort. It testifies to what can be achieved when people are united under a shared vision of support and progress. From the beginning, Berkshire United Way has been at the forefront, combining direct financial aid with comprehensive community assessments to understand and prioritize needs and develop lasting relationships to help people navigate their challenges.

Decade after decade, you have championed crucial causes — quality early childhood education, affordable and supportive housing, community health and well-being, youth engagement and empowerment, and economic equality. These are recurring themes because each generation faces and responds to them according to the circumstances of their time."

In our current circumstances, we know many of our neighbors struggle to meet their family's basic needs. Our response to this challenge begins with the belief that when you have access to the services and support you need to be safe, healthy, and financially secure, you can achieve your goals.

As you read through our annual report, we think you'll find these highlights make one thing perfectly clear: none of us can do this work alone. We're grateful to our partners and friends who help us make progress the way we always have.



Thomas Bernard
President and CEO



Laurie Gallagher
Chair, Board of Directors



2023–2024 STAFF



Tom Bernard

PRESIDENT AND CEO

Karrie Buratto

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Emily Daunis

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Gretchen Fairfield

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION MANGER

Pamela Knisley

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

Brenda Petell

DIRECTOR OF VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

Chloe Rychcik

DATA ANALYTICS AND TRAINING MANAGER

Katherine von Haefen

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

Gretchen Weber

DONOR RELATIONS MANAGER

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COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER



Michael Stoddard
GREYLOCK FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



Daltrey Turner
AUSTEN RIGGS CENTER

100 Years of Collective Impact and Service



Our 100th anniversary celebration in April 2024 was a “family reunion” of sorts for Berkshire United Way and our friends, partners, and supporters in the community.

As with any milestone gathering, the event provided an opportunity to look back on where we have been, appreciate the vision and dedication of those who guided us to this present moment of positive impact, and look to the future with hope, excitement, and an even stronger resolve to serve and support this incredible community we call home. (Read more about our celebration on page 12.)

The world is a much different place than it was in 1924, when a group of dedicated community leaders and volunteers came together with a common purpose to support their friends and neighbors in need.

Since then, our work has evolved in response to changing community needs — if not, we would not still be here! Yet despite, and because of, the many changes the passage of time brought to the Berkshires, and the changing circumstances that shaped our response to community needs, many things remain just as important as they were in the earliest days of our history.

First and foremost is our commitment to help make a positive difference in people’s lives, as well as to improve the conditions and break down the barriers that make it difficult for individuals and families to thrive.

From our earliest days we combined this commitment with community assessment and planning to understand what people need from us. This effort to listen and learn helped us focus our attention and resources in the areas of greatest need, and to collect data that demonstrates we’re making a difference! Over time, many priorities have remained constant: supporting children and young people, health and well-being, and financial mobility, all of which we recognize today in our strategic priorities of school and career readiness, household stability, and mental health.

Second is our unwavering belief in the collective power of this community.

Over the decades, our annual campaign has tapped into the generosity of employees and businesses, multiplying the impact of every dollar raised. Time after time, people motivated to share their time and talent with the community have come together under our banner. Today, we bring together our nonprofit partners to work together on common challenges and advocate for community needs.



Finally, we have worked intentionally to be part of a community that is safe, welcoming, and inclusive for everyone.

We know there is no end point in an equity journey, and recognize that each person's unique set of circumstances affects their experience living in the community. We also realize that building a community where everyone can thrive begins with acknowledging and understanding the barriers people face and then working with our neighbors to remove or mitigate those barriers.

Many things have changed for Berkshire United Way and our community, and yet there remains a bright and clear line of service that connects us to the people who made a bold commitment in 1924 to open pathways of opportunity for everyone. That commitment remains as vibrant and necessary as it was 100 years ago, and our resolve to build a thriving community is just as strong today.



BUW 100-Year History Timeline

1924

Establishes Pittsfield Community Fund Association

Charles W. Power serves as first board president

Supports 13 agencies

1930s

Great Depression increases needs, decreases donations

1933

Gets involved in community planning

1940s

Introduces workplace solicitation and payroll deduction

1944

Adopts Red Feather as national campaign symbol

1946

Renamed Pittsfield Community Chest

1951

Renamed Pittsfield United Community Chest

1954

Amy Bess Miller becomes first woman to serve as Chest campaign chair

Photo courtesy of the Collection of Hancock Shaker Village, Pittsfield, MA

Moves from North Street to Wendell Avenue house



The Power of Your Donation

INVESTING FOR EQUITY AND IMPACT

General operating support is an emerging best practice in philanthropy. This approach provides flexible funding that enables nonprofits to direct dollars where they know it is needed most, for things like rent, utilities, staffing, and program supplies. Equally as important, this model of community investment helps shift the power imbalance in philanthropy that traditionally has made it more difficult for marginalized organizations to access funding.

With support from our Board of Directors, Berkshire United Way adopted this general operating support approach and piloted the model in the 2023–2024 grant cycle. This bold step made us the first funder in Berkshire County — and the first United Way in Massachusetts — to adopt general operating support. This strategy not only puts our equity commitment into practice by empowering nonprofit partners to spend grant dollars where they are needed most, but also allows them to be nimble and respond to emerging needs.

This model also ensures accountability. Our funded partners agree to meet specific outcomes in one or more of our priority areas and report critical impact data. While we work to make our community investments more inclusive, we continue to uphold our longstanding partnership with organizations that provide measurable and meaningful impact to those they serve.

Under this model, Literacy Network of South Berkshire (LitNet) used Berkshire United Way funding toward staff salaries and benefits. This allowed the organization to make one part-time position full time and hire another part-time program staff member. By supporting staffing needs, LitNet further developed current programs and launched new ones, such as the First-Gen project.

“Unrestricted funding allows us to do our best work, which allows us to best help our community.”

Leigh Doherty, Executive Director of LitNet



Support for Emerging Needs

It is critical for Berkshire United Way to be nimble and responsive to emerging needs in the county, and we recognize that many times the community has urgent issues that go beyond our community impact funded program areas. The **Venture Fund** allows us the flexibility to selectively support an emerging need or innovative service that may not fit into a current priority area. The fund has been managed at Berkshire United Way since 1987, but with the recent focus on diversity and inclusion, we have reassessed how we can provide equitable access to this additional community resource.

In 2025, we plan to promote the Venture Fund as a designated option for donations. This is a new opportunity to support a regional emergency fund — one that can support a unique new program or quickly pivot to fund disaster relief.

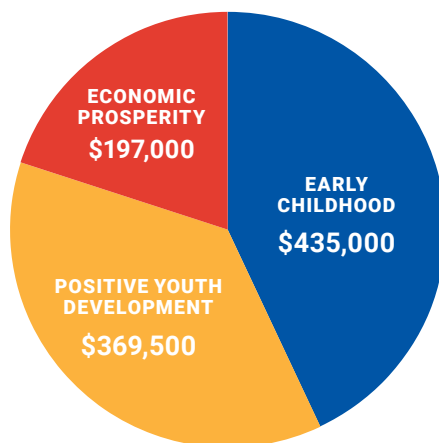
2023–2024 Venture Fund Recipients

2nd Street Second Chances
Blackshires Community
Empowerment Foundation
Berkshire Community
Action Council

Berkshire Youth
Development Project
Focus is Our Children
UpSide413

2023–2024 COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

With support from you and more than 3,000 generous donors, Berkshire United Way invested just over \$1 million in 28 organizations working in our three impact areas: Early Childhood Development, Positive Youth Development, and Economic Prosperity.



Total funding: \$1,001,500

Total served: 18,143

Community volunteers are deeply involved in reviewing funding applications to make recommendations to the Berkshire United Way Board of Directors.

This year, 30 volunteers spent over 400 hours collectively reading and evaluating the applications to make their recommendations.

2023–2024 FUNDED PARTNERS

18 Degrees	Elizabeth Freeman Center
Barrington Stage Company	Flying Cloud Institute
Berkshire County Head Start	Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center
Berkshire County Kids' Place	Greenagers
Berkshire Hills Regional School District	Lee Public Schools
Berkshire HorseWorks	Lee Youth Association
Berkshire Nursing Families	Literacy Network of South Berkshire
Berkshire Pulse	NAMI Berkshire County
Berkshire South Regional Community Center	Pediatric Development Center
Berkshire Theatre Group	Railroad Street Youth Project
Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity	Rites of Passage and Empowerment (R.O.P.E.)
Child Care of the Berkshires	Roots & Dreams and Mustard Seeds
Community Health Programs	Roots Rising
Dalton Community Recreation Association	Volunteers in Medicine Berkshires

1955

Becomes United Community Services (UCS) of Pittsfield

Benefits from GE's Employee Good Neighbor Fund

1956

Creates Volunteer Bureau

1960

Gladys Allen Brigham becomes first executive director



1965

Presents first Volunteer of the Year award; later named after Robert K. Agar, Jr.



1966

Thomas McFalls becomes executive director

1972

Becomes United Way of Central Berkshire

United Way of America adopts Circle of Hope as its symbol

1973

Funds new internship program for college students



1974

Celebrates 50 years

1977

Fritz Heinemann becomes executive director

1979

Holds joint campaign with county United Ways and Community Funds

1980

Sells Wendell Avenue house and moves to South Street

Campaign raises over \$1 million

1981

Establishes Venture Fund to support innovative services

1982

Absorbs Lee United Community Fund

Recognizes first-time volunteer commitment to annual campaign with Thomas F. Cooney Award

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

\$435,000 invested

6,720 children served

88% of children reached important milestones in social-emotional development and language skills.

JAKE IS READY TO LEARN ▼

Jake* was a toddler when he first came to Lee Youth Association's Busy Bee program, but he had a difficult time adjusting. When he moved up to preschool, he would frequently become overwhelmed, which led to terrible tantrums — hitting other children, screaming, and throwing things. This hindered his learning and growth and disrupted class time.

With general operating support from Berkshire United Way, Lee Youth Association hired a full-time behavior specialist to provide extra support for children like Jake.

Jake was diagnosed with a sensory processing disorder, which made it harder for him to cope with changes and new circumstances. The behavior specialist started working with Jake every day to help him develop skills and habits to adjust to a calmer environment and focus on the day ahead.

Jake now joins in activities and plays with the other children. He also recognizes when he needs a break and asks for quiet time in the behavior specialist's room. The skills he has learned will continue to help him navigate school and beyond.



ADVOCATING FOR EARLY EDUCATION ▲

Berkshire United Way and Representative Tricia Farley-Bouvier welcomed Amy Kershaw, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care to Berkshire County to hear directly from local early learning educators about the state of this critical sector.

During Commissioner Kershaw's visit, she had the opportunity to meet with 25 early learning educators from across the county who advocated for investments and policies to resolve regional inequities around professional development, behavioral health supports, and subsidy rates to support lower-income families and the centers that serve them.

Early learning centers in the region especially struggle to provide infant and toddler care because of the teacher/child ratios and cost. "Without additional support and funding, care for our youngest children becomes difficult," said Amy Hall, president and CEO of Child Care of the Berkshires. "We also struggle with finding and retaining staff. We had to close a facility in Pittsfield due to staffing challenges, not that there wasn't a need for our services."

Representative Farley-Bouvier shared with the educators that their advocacy is helping set budget priorities and drive policy changes that help the commissioner do this important work.

"Early education programs set the foundation for lifelong learning, provide support for working families, and are an investment in the future," said Berkshire United Way President and CEO Tom Bernard. "It was so important for the commissioner to see local programs in action, to hear from leaders and providers, and to understand how central regional context and equity are to an effective early learning sector in Berkshire County."

** Names and some details have been changed to ensure confidentiality*

POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

\$369,500 invested

5,169 youth served

94% of youth improved personal growth skills such as critical thinking, teamwork, collaboration, and problem solving. **84%** of youth created a post-high school plan.

JEN EMBRACES INDEPENDENCE ▼

Since Roots Rising was founded, Berkshire United Way has supported their goal of connecting youth to the land. The organization provides opportunities for youth to connect with themselves, each other, and the earth, and just as importantly, to spend time away from screens.

During Jen's* early days on the Youth Crew, she didn't want to sit on the grass and get dirty, but she quickly embraced everything about the crew experience, including getting her hands in the dirt. Her openness allowed her to fully benefit from the experience. In her own words, "Roots Rising made an impact on my life because I learned how to be more independent and have more responsibility. You don't have to be alone to get through things."

Parents also notice the impact of the Youth Crew experience. "My daughter used to always be in her room sleeping or on her phone, but ever since Roots Rising, she goes out more and uses her phone less. She feels more connected."



1983

James Williamson becomes executive director



1984

Officially becomes **BERKSHIRE UNITED WAY**

Absorbs Southern Berkshire Community Fund

1988

Absorbs Dalton Community Chest and Hinsdale/Peru Community Fund

1989

Dean Hanks becomes president and CEO



1993

Dan Dillon becomes president and CEO



1994

Moves from funding agencies to directly funding programs

1995

First ever Labor Award recognizes **Mike Filpi**, a member of the labor community

1996

Introduces first "Day of Caring" in Berkshire County

1997

Hands out first **J. Edward Dery Memorial Award** to honor extraordinary commitment to our community

1999

Presents first Helping Hands, Caring Heart Award; later named after **Daniel C. Dillon**

2000

New (**John C. and Chara**) **Haas Challenge** helps boost leadership donations



Meets \$3 million campaign goal

Johnson Ford and **Greylock Federal Credit Union** sponsor vehicle as campaign incentive; continues for 20 years



PROVIDING SUPPLIES FOR LEARNING ▲

Back-to-school supplies can cost a family or teacher hundreds of dollars. Berkshire United Way set out to alleviate some of this burden through a school supply drive in partnership with Greylock Federal Credit Union (GFCU).

With a list from Pittsfield Public Schools of the most needed supplies, collection sites were set up at the Berkshire United Way and Downtown Pittsfield, Inc. offices, and an Amazon wish list was created.

Berkshire United Way and GFCU also worked with the Kiwanis Club of Sheffield and Berkshire South Regional Community Center to collect school supplies for Muddy Brook, Undermountain, and New Marlborough elementary schools.



"It is so needed for students, staff and families, and was very kind and thoughtful of you. What a great partnership! Your generosity is greatly appreciated."

Kerry Light, Williams Elementary School Principal

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

\$197,000 invested

6,254 adults served

77% of families reached self-identified goals for household stability. **54%** of individuals reported an increase in wages.

A NEW START FOR GLORIA ►

Gloria* had worked as a nurse for more than 20 years in El Salvador. When she moved to the United States, she was eager to continue her long-term career as a nurse and become a part of her new community, but she didn't speak any English and didn't have a driver's license.

Berkshire United Way supports life-changing programs that remove barriers to education, provide training opportunities, and offer instruction for English learners. Literacy Network of South Berkshire (LitNet) has helped Gloria reach and set new goals since she moved to Berkshire County in 2016.

Gloria was paired with a trained LitNet tutor who came to her house twice a week to help her learn English. Gloria also enrolled in the Adult Learning Program at Berkshire Community College (BCC) and began working toward becoming a certified nursing assistant.

LitNet also helped Gloria become a U.S. citizen in 2022, which opened the door for scholarship opportunities and federal aid to help her pursue her nursing studies.

Gloria was incredibly proud to learn that her English was strong enough to transfer to all English classes at BCC. She completed her nursing school prerequisites with high marks and finally entered the nursing program. She's also working full time at Berkshire Meadows.

Her current LitNet tutor helps her improve her English and assists with Nursing 101 homework, which Gloria says is "very hard," but she is on course to become a registered nurse next year!

** Names and some details have been changed to ensure confidentiality*



SHARING WITH OUR NEIGHBORS ▼

Berkshire United Way, Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center, Greylock Federal Credit Union, and Lenox Middle and High School teachers and families collaborated to host a community clothing drive the weekend of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Leading up to the holiday, volunteers collected, sorted, and organized hundreds of donations of clothing and shoes. On MLK Day, community members and families were invited to “shop for free.” More than 1,000 people benefited.

The largest faction of volunteers were students from Lenox and Pittsfield schools, who helped set up, collect, sort and organize, and assist during the shopping day. Additionally, students from Lenox High School’s Latinx Club helped translate for more than 100 Spanish-speaking shoppers.



2001

Establishes Ruth P. Boraski Children’s Endowment Fund

Supports 125 programs across 40 agencies

2002

Becomes beneficiary of Josh Billings RunAground

Establishes Legacy of Caring Society to meet needs in perpetuity

2004

Forms Pittsfield Prevention Partnership youth development coalition

2005

Jim Cieslar becomes president and CEO

2006

Council of Massachusetts United Ways activate Mass211

Presents first Ruth P. and Nicholas Boraski Leaders in Philanthropy Award

Initiates Success By 6 to focus on early education and school readiness



2008

Kristine Hazzard becomes president and CEO

2009

Moves to Community Impact investment model

Adopts LIVE UNITED branding

United Ways of America and International merge to become United Way Worldwide

2010

Launches Face the Facts — Reduce Teen Pregnancy initiative

2011

Installs county’s first Born Learning Trail

Launches The Pittsfield Promise early learning initiative

2013

Invests in Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program

2014

Forms Positive Youth Development Impact Council

Volunteers Make a Difference

GRATITUDE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

Thanksgiving is a time to feel safe and have a warm meal with family and friends, but for many of our neighbors in Berkshire County, that isn't always the case.

To help supply families with food support for the holiday, a group of 21 food pantries, organizations, and faith communities organize the **Thanksgiving Angels** program in Pittsfield every year. Working together, they provide an uncooked turkey and all the fixings for a traditional Thanksgiving meal to anyone in need.

Thanksgiving Angels partnered with Berkshire United Way to help manage the massive number of volunteers who give their time to help make the program possible. Berkshire United Way connected Thanksgiving Angels with their online Volunteer Center, volunteerberkshireuw.org, which helps nonprofits recruit, coordinate, and manage volunteers.

Thanksgiving Angels was new to the Volunteer Center, but quickly learned how the system would simplify the process of organizing the hundreds of volunteers it takes to make this effort a success.

With the support of Berkshire United Way, more than 350 volunteers shared over 2,000 hours of their time to pack and distribute Thanksgiving meals for almost 8,000 people in Berkshire County.



VOLUNTEERS READ ACROSS THE BERKSHIRES

Every March, Berkshire United Way helps coordinate dozens of volunteer readers in several schools, after-school programs, and early education classrooms for the annual **Read Across America Day**.

Lisa Leary, a third-generation employee at General Dynamics Mission Systems, was one of the volunteers, offering to read to the participants in Flying Cloud Institute's Girls Science Club at Capeless Elementary School in Pittsfield.

She brought her own book, *The Girl with a Mind for Math*, which tells the story of Raye Montague, a female engineering hero who was instrumental in technological advances and development for the U.S. Navy. Lisa thought the girls would be interested in learning about submarines but also wanted to help open their minds to future possibilities.

Lisa shared that as a child growing up in Pittsfield, she personally benefited from several programs that BUW supported. "Some of the programs have come and gone but BUW always realigns to the needs of the residents of the community."

Lisa and her husband have supported the BUW annual campaign for the last 30 years, but she also knows how important gifts of time are to an organization. She has served on several nonprofit boards and has seen first-hand how strong volunteer participation helps an organization succeed and grow.

104
nonprofit
organizations

1,400
individual
volunteers

6,800
volunteer
hours

\$200K
community value
of volunteer
service hours

BERKSHIRE UNITED WAY VOLUNTEER CENTER

volunteerberkshireuw.org

4TH ANNUAL #HereForGood VOLUNTEER MONTH

A big THANK YOU to the more than 270 volunteers who donated 840 hours of their valuable time during Berkshire United Way's #HereForGood Volunteer Month! A few of our highlights:

48 volunteers helped paint the new home of the free afterschool program **Focus is Our Children**.

34 volunteers signed up to help at the **Berkshire Pride Festival** during a kick-off and volunteer recruitment event at Hot Plate Brewing Co.

113 volunteers packed **40,000 servings** of ready-made meals at the **Meals For Good** event.

42 volunteers from five local businesses and the Taconic High School Horticulture program spent **Earth Day** cleaning up the grounds at **Solider On**.

STAMP OUT HUNGER

Since launching in 1993, Stamp Out Hunger® has grown into the largest one-day food drive, helping to fill shelves of food banks throughout the United States. United Way Worldwide has long supported this effort led by the National Association of Letter Carriers. Locally, Berkshire United Way has been a strategic partner in this event since 2003.

Every year on the second Saturday in May, United States Postal Service carriers collect donations of nonperishable food items along their routes, and Berkshire United Way coordinates volunteers to assist with weighing and sorting the food to be allocated to local pantries. This year, volunteers moved almost 20,000 pounds of food to support more than a dozen food pantries across Berkshire County.



"We couldn't do this without Berkshire United Way organizing the volunteers to help unload, weigh, sort, and coordinate the donations so they are allocated equitably among local food pantries."

Amy Breault, NALC Branch 286 president, who has overseen the Pittsfield drive since 2006

2015

Launches Chapter One... Our Towns, Our Kids, Our Future initiative



2016

Installs 50 Book Houses across the county

2017

Holds first United at the Table event

2018

Presents first 10X the Fun Festival as part of 10x10 Upstreet Arts Festival



2019

Candace Winkler becomes president and CEO

Refreshes brand messaging and introduces #HereForGood tagline

Holds first volunteer fair with Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires

2020

Raises and distributes over \$3.4 million through the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund

Launches new online Volunteer Center

2021

Formalizes Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging, and Anti-Racism commitment

Presents inaugural Golf For Good Tournament with General Dynamics Mission Systems

Hosts first #HereForGood Volunteer Month



2022

Tom Bernard becomes president and CEO

2023

Benefits from inaugural all-women's Red Tee Golf Tournament

Launches new strategic plan with renewed vision and updated priorities

Relaunches convenings for leaders, program staff, and navigators to share information and resources



2024

Celebrates 100 years

Celebrating 100 years of Community Impact

In honor of our historic anniversary, Berkshire United Way hosted a Centennial Celebration on April 10 at the Colonial Theatre in Pittsfield. Almost 300 community partners, supporters, and friends joined us to mark the occasion.

This special evening featured a presentation with remarks and celebratory messages from elected officials, United Way Worldwide President and CEO Angela F. Williams, and BUW Board Chair Laurie Gallagher; a performance by Youth Alive; the presentation of the Daniel C. Dillon Helping Hands, Caring Heart Award to Mary Wheat; a reflection of BUW's shared 100-year history with Berkshire County and the nation by Dr. Frances Jones-Sneed; a look ahead at our vision for a thriving community by BUW President and CEO Tom Bernard; and a special closing by former board member Warren Dews, Jr.

HONORING SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM

Berkshire United Way's **Daniel C. Dillon Helping Hands, Caring Heart Award** celebrates unsung heroes in our community who quietly, with little fanfare or recognition, make the Berkshires a better place through their volunteer efforts. In 2024, we were proud to present this award to **Mary Wheat**, a founder and longtime chairwoman of the annual Thanksgiving Angels meal program who now serves as president and site manager of the South Community Food Pantry.



View our Centennial Celebration presentation.



BIRTHDAY BASH AT FIRST FRIDAYS

Berkshire United Way celebrated its 100th anniversary with a Birthday Bash as part of the August 2 First Fridays at Five in partnership with the City of Pittsfield and Downtown Pittsfield, Inc.

We were joined by partner organizations to offer family-friendly crafts, games, and activities, as well as hand out free children's books.



Our Vision for a Thriving Community

Another highlight of our centennial celebration was the rollout of our updated strategic priorities. Based on what we learned from our last community survey and the development of our strategic plan, these priorities reflect our best understanding of what is happening in the community, and what people in the Berkshires expect and need from Berkshire United Way. Most importantly, we heard clearly that people in the community expect us to lead efforts to enhance the social service infrastructure, increase access to information, and foster intentional and inclusive collaboration.

As we move into a thriving future for Berkshire County, we will focus on:

- **SCHOOL AND CAREER READINESS** because we believe every child and young person deserves a strong foundation for future success.
- **HOUSEHOLD STABILITY** because we know everyone deserves equitable access to economic prosperity, and to have a stable and secure household.
- **MENTAL HEALTH** because we understand all of our neighbors deserve to be healthy and supported to build and strengthen their quality of life.

Focusing on these priorities will be an essential part of how we will continue to work hard with and on behalf of our friends and neighbors for years to come. This work will require more and deeper collaboration, the willingness to envision new ways of serving and supporting people in our community, and a commitment to a truly regional approach to our shared work.

These priorities and this ongoing commitment are the foundation of our vision for a thriving community.

When you have access to the services and support you need to be safe, healthy, and financially secure, you can achieve your goals.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

WORKPLACE GIVING

We're grateful to the many local companies who invite us into their workplaces and support BUW through their generosity and engagement. These strong and trusted relationships help fuel our mission of positive community impact.

Last year, 140 companies with ties to the Berkshires supported us through employee giving campaigns.

Employee Giving Campaigns

Thank you to the local and national organizations that host annual Berkshire United Way giving campaigns and encourage their employees to make gifts via payroll deductions.

18 Degrees+
1Berkshire+
Acrisure/LV Toole Insurance
Adams Community Bank
Adelson & Company, PC+
Allendale Elementary School
Bard College at Simon's Rock
Barrington Stage Company
BBE Office Interior
Berkshire Athenaeum
Berkshire County ARC
Berkshire County Kids' Place & Violence Prevention Center+
The Berkshire Eagle+
Berkshire Health Systems+
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
Berkshire South Regional Community Center
Berkshire Sterile Manufacturing+
Berkshire Theatre Group
Berkshire United Way+
Best Buy
Big Y Foods Inc., Store #99
Boyd Biomedical
Brazee & Huban, CPAs
The Brien Center+
C&S Wholesale Grocers
Cain, Hibbard & Myers, PC+
Capeless Elementary School
Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, Inc.
Child Care of the Berkshires
Cohen Kinne Valicenti & Cook LLP
Community Health Programs
Conte Community School
Crosby Educational Academy
Crosby Elementary School
Dalton Community Recreation Association
Dettinger Lumber+
edm Services, Inc.
Egremont Elementary School
Elder Services of Berkshire County
Eli Lilly & Company
Elizabeth Freeman Center
Enterprise Holdings
Eversource Energy
Fairview Hospital+

Federal Express
General Dynamics Mission Systems+
General Electric Company
Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center
Greylock Federal Credit Union+
Guardian Life Insurance Company of America+
Hannaford
Hearst Communications, Inc.
Herberg Middle School
Hill-Engineers Architects Planners, Inc.+
Hillcrest Educational Centers+
The Home Depot
International Paper
Interprint Inc.+
J.H. Maxymillian, Inc.+
JC Penney
Jimmy Peak Mountain Resort
The Johnson Dealerships+
Laurin Publishing Company, Inc.+
Lee Bank+
Lee Elementary School
Lenox Public Schools
MacFarlane Office Products+
MassHire Berkshire Career Center
Mercer Administration Center
Merchants Mutual Insurance Company
Miss Hall's School
MOLAR! Employment & HealthCare Services+
Morningside Community School
MountainOne
National Grid
New York Life Insurance Company
North Adams Public Schools
Onyx Specialty Papers, Inc.+
Pediatric Development Center
Pittsfield Adult Learning Center
Pittsfield City Hall
Pittsfield Cooperative Bank+
Pittsfield Fire Department
Pittsfield High School
Pittsfield Police Department
Price Chopper/Market 32
Protective Life Corporation
Ray Murray Inc.+
Raymond James & Associates
Raytheon
The Red Lion Inn

Pinnacle Companies

Pinnacle Company status is given to companies and organizations that go above and beyond during their Berkshire United Way employee giving campaign. They show commitment through employee participation, annual corporate support, and workplace special events.

Last year, 29 companies and organizations achieved this honor.

Reid Middle School
S-K Design Group Inc.
Southern Berkshire Regional School District
Stearns Elementary School
Taconic High School
Target - Store 2127
TD Bank
Town of Egremont

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Verizon
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Employee Campaign Coordinator of the Year recipient Beverly Gans from Taconic High School



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Thank you to the many businesses and foundations from the Berkshires and beyond that make an impact through an annual donation or sponsorship support.

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These generous community members annually contribute \$1,000 or more to support Berkshire United Way. Gifts recognized were made between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024.

The Alexis de Tocqueville Society

Ordre d'Independence \$250,000+

The Estate of Ruth & Robert White

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Membres de la Societe \$10,000-\$24,999

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The Greylock Society

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Statement of Activities for the Year Ended June 30, 2024 with Comparative Totals for 2023

	2024			2023
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Total
Revenues, gains and other support				
Campaign contributions:				
Total campaign amounts raised	\$1,813,139	—	\$1,813,139	\$1,842,092
Special event contributions	102,453	—	102,453	86,264
Special event income	39,160	—	39,160	19,247
In-kind support	3,815	—	3,815	5,509
Less: amounts raised on behalf of others	(41,836)	—	(41,836)	(71,935)
Less: provision for uncollectible pledges	(5,000)	—	(5,000)	(10,927)
Net campaign contributions	1,911,731	—	1,911,731	1,870,250
Interest and dividend income, net of investment fees	48,669	35,231	83,900	55,487
Administrative fees charged on designations	2,109	—	2,109	3,047
Grant income	8,000	15,000	23,000	72,120
Bequests	313,000	—	313,000	—
Contributions — (Venture Fund)	—	—	—	25,000
Realized and unrealized gains on investments	219,016	147,752	366,768	271,124
Released from restrictions (SABIC endowment)	101,103	(101,103)	—	—
Released from restrictions (Venture Fund)	37,000	(37,000)	—	—
Released from restrictions (New Arrivals Fund)	11,191	(11,191)	—	—
Investment return released for operations	16,814	(16,814)	—	—
Total revenues, gains, and other support	2,668,633	31,875	2,700,508	2,297,028
Expenses				
Program services — community investment	1,728,645	—	1,728,645	1,614,020
Supporting services:				
Management and general	130,036	—	130,036	160,912
Fundraising (resource development)	573,441	—	573,441	494,957
Total expenses	2,432,122	—	2,432,122	2,269,889
Change in net assets	236,511	31,875	268,386	27,139
Net assets, beginning of year	2,482,944	1,356,434	3,839,378	3,812,239
Net assets, end of year	\$2,719,455	\$1,388,309	\$4,107,764	\$3,839,378

For full audited financial information, please visit berkshireunitedway.org/public-reporting.



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Photo: Dan Morgan of Spruce Hill Photo

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Make an investment in Berkshire United Way and help us build a more equitable future for everyone in Berkshire County.

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Volunteer




Berkshire United Way's Volunteer Center connects organizations that need assistance with interested volunteers looking to share their time and talent.

volunteerberkshireuw.org



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Pittsfield, MA 01201
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berkshireunitedway.org

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