

TAKING ACTION

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Fox Valley United Way

CHANGING LIVES



Fox Valley United Way is not a short-term fundraising organization. We've been working in the community for decades, partnering with other innovators to foster long-term impact that benefits us all.

Living United: Working together with concerned citizens to bring lasting change to our community.



Each year, Fox Valley United Way is privileged to harness the caring power of organizations and individuals, and channel that power to serve the neediest in Kane and Kendall counties. Where gaps exist in education, income stability or health services, Fox Valley United Way distributes donated funds, empowers volunteers and creates innovative programs that impact thousands of lives each year.

We are proud to share this 2014–2015 campaign report so that you can see the results of these efforts, made possible by those who so generously partner with us in our mission.

We've made great strides, but our work continues. Won't you join us in our 2015–2016 campaign? Go to uwfoxvalley.org to learn even more. **Let's LIVE UNITED.**





VolunteerFoxValley

Connecting people to volunteer opportunities in our community.



There are many caring people who want to make a difference for others, but they don't always know how or where their skills are needed. On the other hand, social service organizations benefit from volunteers, but don't always have the time or resources to recruit them.

For years, volunteers have given time and talent to serve their neighbors in need through Fox Valley United Way. Now these individuals and businesses can connect directly with organizations that need their help through **volunteerfoxvalley.org**, a collaboration between Fox Valley United Way and Aurora University.

Thanks to this online portal, we are seeing a great expansion of volunteerism in our community.

Did you know that volunteering can: boost self-esteem, provide a sense of purpose, combat depression, relieve stress and anxiety, help you stay physically healthy, help you network/develop new job skills, make you feel part of the community and provide social contact.

MOBILIZING VOLUNTEERS



115

**ACTIVE
ORGANIZATIONS**

participating at
volunteerfoxvalley.org.

1100

USERS

registered to
volunteer.



Reducing out-of-pocket medication costs with prescription drug discounts.



When people have to choose between buying food or paying for prescriptions, something needs to change. We impact community health by helping ensure access to these medications.

Fox Valley United Way partners with **FamilyWize**, a free prescription drug discount card that can save users up to 75% in medication costs at their local pharmacy.

To date, over 5,400 Fox Valley cardholders have saved more than \$580,000 with **FamilyWize**.

**SAVES AN
AVERAGE OF**

40%

**IN PRESCRIPTION
MEDICATION COSTS**

at local CVS, Walgreens, Rite Aid,
Kmart and Walmart pharmacies.

PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH



\$580,000

IN SAVINGS

for local participants to date.

5400

PEOPLE
in our service
area saved money
on prescriptions.



Strong, Prepared And Ready for Kindergarten

Ensuring that every child in Aurora is Strong, Prepared and Ready for Kindergarten (SPARK)



The **SPARK Aurora Early Childhood Collaboration** knows that without intervention, as many as 50% of Aurora's children will enter kindergarten without school readiness skills. This causes children to quickly fall behind in their education, and increases the risk of dropping out altogether.

SPARK made an impact this year by engaging more than 1,528 parents in workshops and special events designed to assist moms and dads who want their children to reach their full potential.

To help improve the quality of early childhood programs in Aurora, SPARK also hosted professional development activities that attracted 620 individuals involved in early childhood learning. To learn more visit sparkaurora.org.

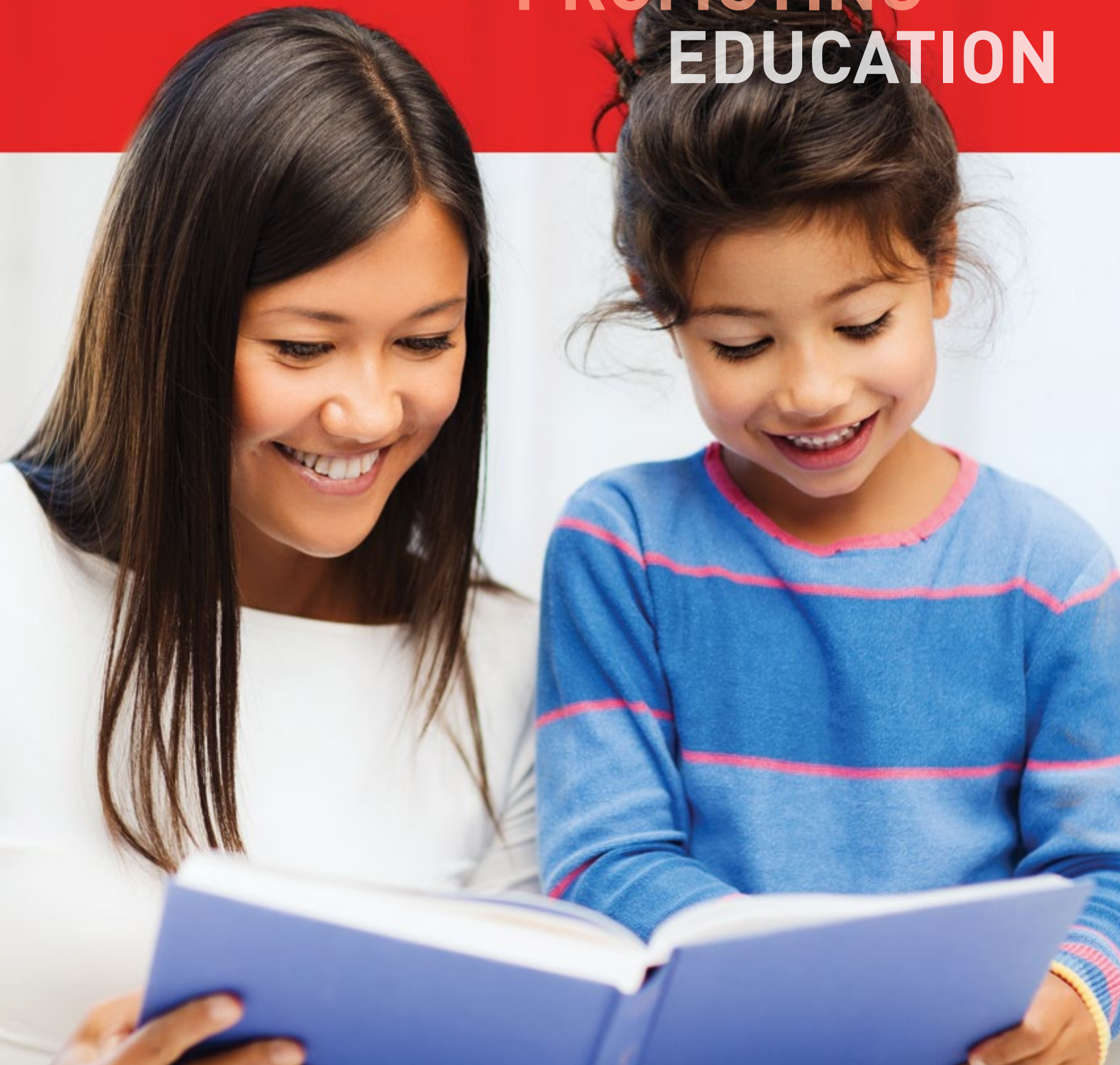
**AT
RISK:**

50%

OF CHILDREN IN AURORA

under age five have parents with low education levels, low incomes, are very young themselves, are single parents, and/or have limited English skills.

PROMOTING EDUCATION

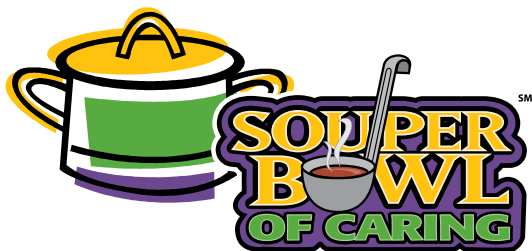


1 IN 6

**LOCAL
CHILDREN
LIVE IN
POVERTY**

1528

PARENTS
have attended
workshops and
special events.



Restocking local food pantries and providing holiday assistance to area families.



Two special annual events make a great impact in our communities. Hosted by local grocery stores, the **Souper Bowl of Caring** relies on generous shoppers to help to restock the shelves at the Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry and the Kendall County Food Pantry. In February, volunteers collected 3,200 pounds of food and \$7,883.80. Each dollar is able to purchase up to \$8 worth of food, making the total food donations worth \$63,070.

Our **Holiday Assistance Program** gives businesses, organizations, families and individuals a chance to bless needy area families. Donated toys, clothing and grocery gift cards helped make the holidays brighter for 121 local families including 312 children in December 2014.

\$63,070

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The pantries were able to purchase food equal to 8x the cash value of the donations.

ADDRESSING NEEDS



3200

POUNDS
of food collected
at our event.

121

FAMILIES
received donated toys,
clothing and grocery
gift cards to help make
the holidays brighter.

LIVE UNITED

Celebrating a community that cares!



More than 1,000 people attended this year's **What Floats Your Cardboard Boat Race** in August 2015. The event, which serves as the annual kick-off for our fundraising campaign, challenges local businesses, organizations and individuals to create “unsinkable” cardboard boats to raise awareness of all the causes that benefit from donations to Fox Valley United Way. A record-setting 29 maritime contraptions set sail on a 200-yard course on Mastodon Lake.

At our **Annual Breakfast** in May 2015, we honored donors and volunteers, and heard testimonials from individuals blessed by the social service agencies that these donors and volunteers support.

49

LOCAL SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES

supported by the Fox Valley United Way.

RAISING AWARENESS



29

**BOATS
SET SAIL**

at this year's
race—a record
number of
participants.

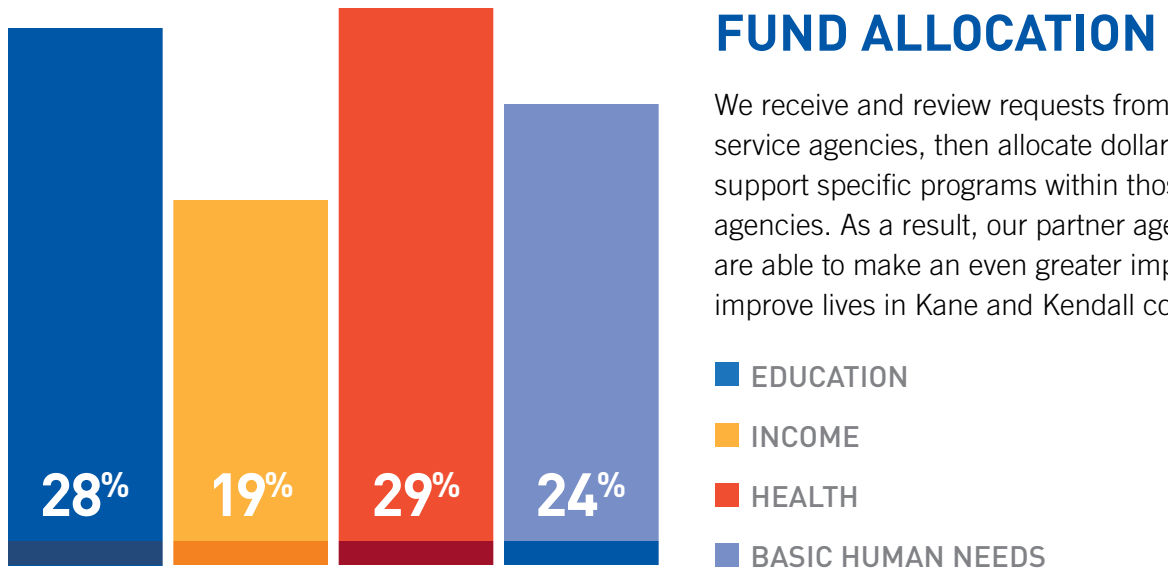
1000+

ATTENDEES

watched and cheered
for their favorite boats.

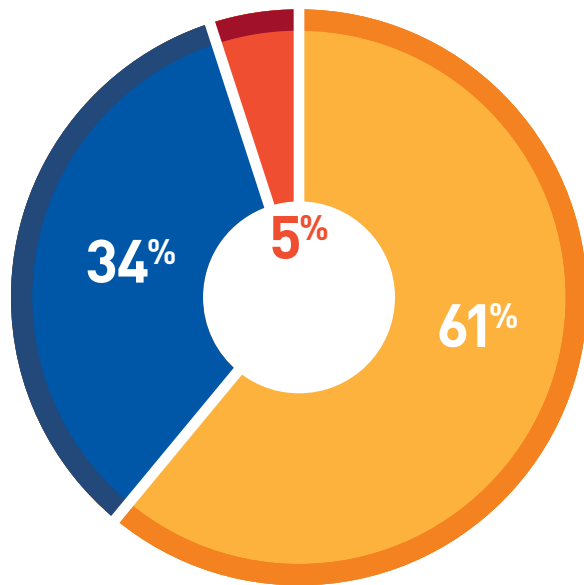
Funds raised by Fox Valley United Way stay in the area, supporting the work of local health and human services agencies.

These funds are gratefully received from individual and workplace giving, corporate grants and gifts, as well as in-kind donations and services.



PARTNER AGENCIES

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| African American Men of Unity, Aurora | DayOneNetwork, Geneva | Kendall County Community Bridges, Yorkville | Rebuilding Together Aurora, Aurora |
| Association for Individual Development, Aurora | Elderday Center, Batavia | Kendall County Food Pantry, Yorkville | RITAS Ministry, Aurora |
| Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry, Aurora | Family Counseling Service, Aurora | Kendall County Health Department, Yorkville | Salvation Army, Aurora |
| Breaking Free, Inc., Aurora | Family Focus, Aurora | Marie Wilkinson Child Development Center, Aurora | Salvation Army Golden Diners, Geneva |
| Camp Fire USA, Illinois Prairie Council, Lombard | Fox Valley Academy of Music Performance, Aurora | Mutual Ground, Aurora | Senior Services Associates, Aurora |
| Camp Kishwaukee, Plano | Fox Valley Hands of Hope (formerly Fox Valley Hospice), Geneva | Open Door Clinic, Aurora | Suicide Prevention Services, Batavia |
| CASA – Kane County, Geneva | Fox Valley Family YMCA, Plano | Operation Snowball, Plano | Three Fires Council Boy Scouts, St. Charles |
| CASA – Kendall County, Yorkville | Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois, Sugar Grove | People for Child Care, Aurora | Triple Threat Mentoring, Aurora |
| Catholic Charities of Aurora, Aurora | Golden Harvesters Senior Citizens, Plano | Plano Youth Athletic Association, Plano | VNA Health Care, Aurora |
| Child Care Resource & Referral, Joliet | H.A.L.T. Club, Yorkville | Prairie State Legal Services, St. Charles | Wayside Cross Ministries, Aurora |
| Community Benefits – Kendall County, Yorkville | Hope for Tomorrow, Inc., Aurora | Public Action to Deliver Shelter, Aurora | World Relief, Aurora |
| Community Career Center, Naperville | Joseph Corporation, Aurora | Quad County Urban League, Aurora | YMCA of Metro Chicago, Aurora and Oswego |
| | | | YWCA Aurora, Aurora |



FUNDRAISING

This graphic shows where funds are obtained. Thank you to our donor companies and to those who give their employees access to workplace giving.

- EMPLOYEE WORKPLACE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS
- CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS
- INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

DONOR COMPANIES

3M	Breaking Free	East Aurora School District 131	Heat & Frost Insulators & Allied Trades Local 17	My Inner Harmony Acupuncture	State Farm Insurance Co.
AAA Motor Club	Burlington Northern Foundation	Ecolab	Henry Pratt Company	Nalco	Target
Abbott Laboratories	Cano Container Corporation	Engineering Enterprises, Inc.	Hewlett-Packard	Nationwide Enterprise	TASC Giveback
ACXION	Carson Pirie Scott	Esser Hayes	Hollywood Casino	Nicor Gas	TD Ameritrade
Adesta LLC	Carson Pirie Scott Foundation	Equifax	HSBC	Nike Factory Outlet Store	TDS
Advocate Health Care	Castle Bank	Exelon/ComEd	IBM	North Central Illinois Labor Council	The Gap
Alcatel Lucent	Castle Insurance	Farmers Insurance	I.B.E.W. Local 461	Old Second National Bank	The Hartford
Allied Waste/ Republic Services	Caterpillar	FedEx	Ingram Micro	Optimum Health	The Voice
Allstate	Caterpillar Foundation	FedEx Ground	International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers Local 265	O'Reilly Auto Parts	Three Fires Council Boy Scouts
American Heartland Bank & Trust	CB&I	Fifth Third Bank	International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150	Ottosen, Britz, Kelley, Cooper & Gilbert, LTD.	Toyota
Andersen Corporation	Cement Mason's Local 597	Finishing Solutions Network	JCPenney	Painter's Local Union 448	Travelers Group, Inc/ Citigroup
Aramark	Ceridian	First Alert	Jewel-Osco	PepsiCo	Unilock Chicago, Inc.
Associated Bank	Chicago Journeyman Plumbers Local Union 130	First Midwest Bank	Johnson & Johnson	Pitney Bowes	Union Pacific Railroad
Association for Individual Development	Chicago Pipefitters Local 597	Fox Metro Water Reclamation District	Kellogg's	PNC Bank	United Health Group
Atlas Staffing	Chicago Premium Outlets	Fox Valley Building Trades	Kelmscott Communications	Presence Mercy Medical Center	United Union of Roofers Local 11
AT&T	Citgo	Fox Valley Family YMCA	Kohl's	Rasmussen College	UPS
Aurora Commercial Claims	City of Aurora	Fox Valley Hospice	Korn Ferry	Rush-Copley Medical Center	Victaulic Company of America
Aurora Fastprint	Comcast	Fox Valley Labor News	Laborers' International Union of North America Local 582	SABIC Innovative Plastics	VNA Health Care
Aurora Noon Lions Club	ConAgra Foods	GE Capital	Liberty Mutual	SciTech Hands On Museum	Walgreens
Aurora Public Library	Cottingham & Butler	Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois	Macy's	SECA – State Campaign	Walmart
Aurora Regional Chamber of Commerce	Costco	Goodrich Quality Theaters Inc.	Mazda Midwest Region	Senior Services	Waubensee Community College
Aurora Township	Crawford, Murphy & Tilly	Grinnell Mutual	Meijer	Sheet Metal Workers 265	Wells Fargo
Aurora University	Crown Trophy	Guardian	Merck	SmithAmundsen	West Aurora School District 129
Bank of America	Deloitte	H.B. Fuller Construction Products	MetLife	Sprinkler Fitters and Apprentices Local 281	Westfield – Fox Valley
Bedford Charitable Foundation	Dick's Mini Donuts	Hallmark Services Corporation	Microsoft	Sprint	Weyerhaeuser
Best Buy	Dreyer Medical Clinic	Hanover Insurance	Midland States Bank		Windy City Amusements
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois	Dunham Fund		Mutual Ground		Wrigley – Yorkville
BP America	DuPage County Building and Construction Trades Council				Wrigley Company Foundation
BMO Harris					YWCA Aurora
BNSF Railway					Zurich

We are grateful to individual benefactors, including our Leadership Giving Society Donors, who provide gifts of \$1,000 or more.

People helping people is what Fox Valley United Way is all about, and these individuals exemplify the significant impact of caring for our neighbors in need.

LEADERSHIP GIVING SOCIETY DONORS

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Todd D. Heckman	Bradley J. Poterack	Keith Wilson
	John and Sue Potter	

Thank you to our sponsors who give of their time and talent, providing additional support that makes our programs possible.

These 2014–2015 campaign sponsors provided support to reduce our administrative expenses and make more funding available for distribution to programs.

ANNUAL SPONSORS



MEDIA SPONSORS



IN-KIND SPONSORS

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Full Armour Studios
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Office Solutions, Inc.
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Sladelimages
Weiss Insurance Agencies

We focus on the implementation and execution of the organization's strategic initiatives and objectives.

We are thankful for the time and attention that the Fox Valley United Way Board of Directors, Committee Members, Staff and Interns commit to promoting lasting change in our community.

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SPARK Early Learning Initiative

Dalila Alegria
Outreach Coordinator,
SPARK Early Learning Initiative

Interns

Ashley Hendrix
Alyssa Howey
Jessica Nunez
Grace Smith
Angelina Tutor
Cora Trofy

We serve 15 communities in Kane and Kendall counties in the Fox Valley of north central Illinois.

Fox Valley United Way strives to measurably improve lives in the communities we serve: Aurora, Big Rock, Bristol, Hinckley, Little Rock, Millbrook, Montgomery, Mooseheart, North Aurora, Oswego, Plano, Plattville, Sandwich, Sugar Grove and Yorkville.



The mission of Fox Valley United Way is to measurably improve lives in the communities we serve.



United Way is a worldwide network that advances the common good, creating opportunities for a better life for all by focusing on the three key building blocks of education, income and health. The United Way movement creates long-lasting community change by addressing the underlying causes of problems that prevent progress in these areas.

LIVE UNITED is a call to action for everyone to become a part of the change. Join us. With your help we can continue to make a difference for Fox Valley individuals and families — and in turn build a greater community for us all.



Fox Valley United Way

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