

FOX VALLEY UNITED WAY



Fox Valley United Way

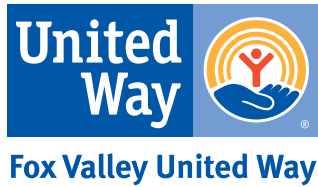
2016 ANNUAL REPORT



We fight for the
health, education and
financial stability of
every person in every
community.

– United Way Mission

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



23 Communities

The people of the Fox Valley win when we all work together to LIVE UNITED. When we forge partnerships to find better solutions to old problems. When we inspire others to join the fight to help our neighbors in need. When we realize that giving, volunteering and advocating make the community a better place for us all.

That “community” has grown this year, as Fox Valley United Way (FVUW) has been entrusted to fundraise for social service agencies in eight additional communities.* We couldn’t be more thrilled to expand our efforts to recruit donors, volunteers and advocates to now support **61 human services agencies in Kane and Kendall counties** who receive FVUW funding because of their ability to affect change.

It’s a beautiful partnership between FVUW, concerned citizens and the agencies who provide essential services to people in desperate need. Together we are attacking hunger, homelessness, unemployment, domestic violence, substance abuse and mental health issues. Together we are supporting:

- quality early learning for children;
- legal and health care services for the poor;
- resources for the disabled;
- suicide prevention services;
- programs that assist seniors.

And that’s just a few of the needs that we can help to meet, thanks to our generous donors.

This annual report addresses our fundraising efforts, our unique FVUW initiatives, collaborations and events. We hope you will be inspired to Live United in 2017 as we fight for the health, education and financial stability of every person in the communities we serve.

- AURORA
- BIG ROCK
- BRISTOL
- CAMPTON HILLS*
- ELBURN*
- GENEVA*
- HINCKLEY
- KANEVILLE*
- LA FOX*
- LITTLE ROCK
- MAPLE PARK*
- MILLBROOK
- MONTGOMERY
- MOOSEHEART
- NORTH AURORA
- OSWEGO
- PLANO
- PLATTVILLE
- ST. CHARLES*
- SANDWICH
- SUGAR GROVE
- WASCO*
- YORKVILLE

This campaign year, we have been proud to fund the following local health and human services agencies.

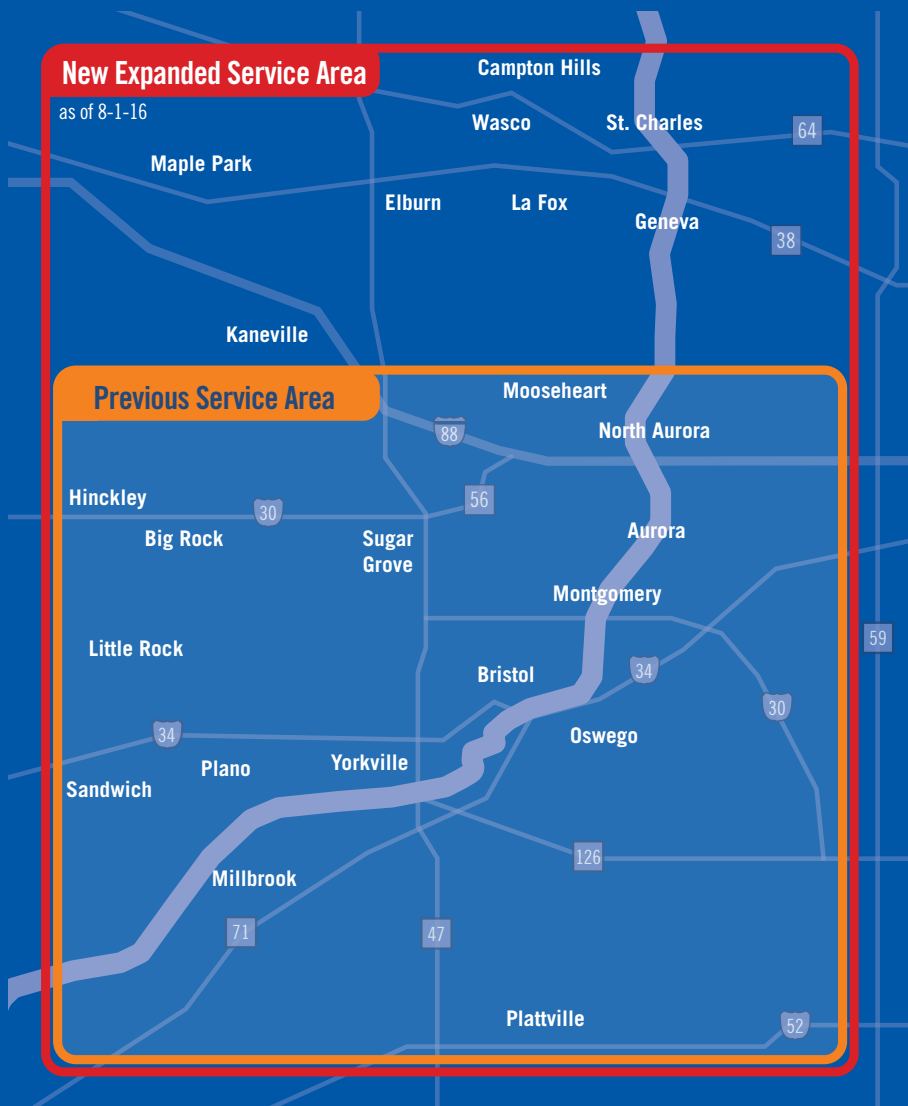
PARTNER AGENCIES

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| African American Men of Unity, Aurora | Consumer Credit Counseling Northern Illinois, Woodstock | Hope for Tomorrow, Inc., Aurora | Salvation Army, Tri-City Corps, St. Charles |
| Association for Individual Development, Aurora | DayOne PACT, Geneva | Joseph Corporation, Aurora | Salvation Army Golden Diners, Geneva |
| Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center, Inc., Aurora | Easter Seals DuPage/Fox Valley, Villa Park | Kendall County Community Food Pantry, Yorkville | Senior Services Associates, Aurora |
| Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry, Aurora | Ecker Center for Mental Health, Inc., Elgin | Kendall County Health Department, Yorkville | Suicide Prevention Services, Batavia |
| Breaking Free, Inc., Aurora | Elderday Center, Inc., Batavia | Lazarus House (PADS), St. Charles | Three Fires Council Boy Scouts, St. Charles |
| Camp Fire USA, Illinois Prairie Council, Lombard | Family Counseling Service, Aurora | Literacy Volunteers of Fox Valley, St. Charles | Triple Threat Mentoring, Aurora |
| Camp Kishwaukee, Plano | Family Focus, Aurora | Marie Wilkinson Child Development Center, Aurora | TriCity Family Services, Geneva |
| CASA-Kane County, Geneva | Fox Valley Academy of Music Performance, Aurora | Mutual Ground, Aurora | Tri City Health Partnership, St. Charles |
| CASA-Kendall County, Yorkville | Fox Valley Christian Action, St. Charles | Open Door Clinic, Aurora | TUG Career Services, St. Charles |
| Catholic Charities of Aurora, Aurora | Fox Valley Hands of Hope, Geneva | Operation Snowball, Plano | VNA Health Care, Aurora |
| Child Care Resource and Referral, Joliet | Fox Valley Family YMCA, Plano | People for Childcare, Aurora | Wayside Cross Ministries, Aurora |
| Community Benefits – Kendall County, Yorkville | Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois, Sugar Grove | Prairie State Legal Services, St. Charles | Well Child Center, Elgin |
| Community Career Center, Naperville | Golden Harvesters Senior Citizens, Plano | Rebuilding Together Aurora, Aurora | World Relief, Aurora |
| Community Crisis Center, Elgin | H.A.L.T. Club, Yorkville | Renz Addiction Counseling Center, Elgin | YMCA Metropolitan Chicago – Aurora and Oswego |
| Conley Outreach Services, Elburn | Hesed House (PADS), Aurora | RITAS Ministry, Aurora | YWCA Aurora, Aurora |
| | | Salvation Army, Aurora | |



New Expanded Service Area

as of 8-1-16



We are honored to be working with the eight communities that were previously supported by United Way of Central Kane County.

These towns join our current Fox Valley United Way family – 15 communities in southern Kane and Kendall Counties. All together that means that we will be working from St. Charles in the north to Plattville in the south, to provide support to a total of 61 social service agencies in 23 municipalities.

foxvalleyunitedway.org

FOX VALLEY UNITED WAY COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Lighting the way so that all of
Aurora's young children reach their
full potential.





Strong, Prepared And Ready for Kindergarten

Since 2012, the SPARK Early Childhood Collaboration has been working to ensure that all of Aurora’s children have access to high quality early learning programs. It’s a group effort that brings together FVUW, the City of Aurora, four area school districts, early childhood programs and the social service agencies that help families in need. Together we’ve made tremendous strides toward helping children enter kindergarten with key school readiness skills.

Parent engagement, preschool program improvement and coordination among those teaching Aurora’s children have been the keys to success.

This success has been made possible by grants from Race to the Top, Dunham Fund, Gustafson Family Foundation, City of Aurora, Exelon/ComEd, and others. The SPARK collaboration also submitted a proposal for Aurora to be considered for a State of Illinois Preschool Expansion Grant. In 2015, the grant was awarded to East Aurora School District, West Aurora School District, Indian Prairie School District and the Aurora Early Learning Center. Combined, they opened 21 full-day four year-old classrooms, with a funding total estimated to be \$2.76 million annually for four years.

This helps to meet one of SPARK’s original goals of increasing the number of quality preschool openings for Aurora’s children.

For more information, visit sparkaurora.org

50%

OF CHILDREN
IN AURORA
ARE AT RISK

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



DID YOU KNOW?

Since inception, SPARK has:

- Engaged with 4,009 parents at educational and community events
- Participated in 177 community events to increase awareness
- Conducted 52 free developmental screenings in 2015–2016
- Connected 249 families to child care assistance
- Provided 58 professional trainings, reaching 655 early childhood professionals

FOX VALLEY UNITED WAY COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

We connect passionate volunteers with the social service agencies who need their help.





VolunteerFoxValley

Our collaboration with Aurora University, Volunteer Fox Valley, is growing larger each year.

The goal was to create an online virtual volunteer center that would connect interested volunteers with non-profit organizations who don't have time or resources to recruit people to assist them. That gives these organizations more time to do what they do best: help community members in need.

It's working!

On volunteerfoxvalley.org, organizations can post one-time events or ongoing needs. Volunteers can create a profile and be notified when the type of opportunity they are looking for arises. Volunteerism is increasing in the Fox Valley as a result.

To learn more, visit volunteerfoxvalley.org

130

ACTIVE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

AND MORE THAN

1,200

ACTIVE VOLUNTEER PROFILES



DID YOU KNOW?

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.

FOX VALLEY UNITED WAY COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

We help families save money on prescription medications and support child health and fitness.





Our collaboration with FamilyWize Community Service Partnership is helping residents of the Fox Valley save money on prescription medications. We distribute the FamilyWize prescription discount card, enabling folks to save on average 40–75% on medications not covered, or not fully covered by insurance at CVS, Kmart, Walgreens, RiteAid and Walmart pharmacies.

These savings mean that families do not have to forego medications prescribed to improve their health. To learn more or to download a free card, visit foxvalleyunitedway.org and click “Need Help?”



We are proud to join the effort to address childhood obesity by partnering with **Making Kane County Fit For Kids!** This organization works to improve access to safe places for children to walk/bike/play, increases access to fresh produce in school and child care programs, and promotes a culture of health and wellness at home, school, workplaces and more. To learn more, visit makingkanefitforkids.org

MORE THAN
10,000
COMMUNITY
MEMBERS HAVE
SAVED MORE THAN
\$1.2M
IN PRESCRIPTION
DRUG COSTS WITH
FAMILYWIZE



DID YOU KNOW?

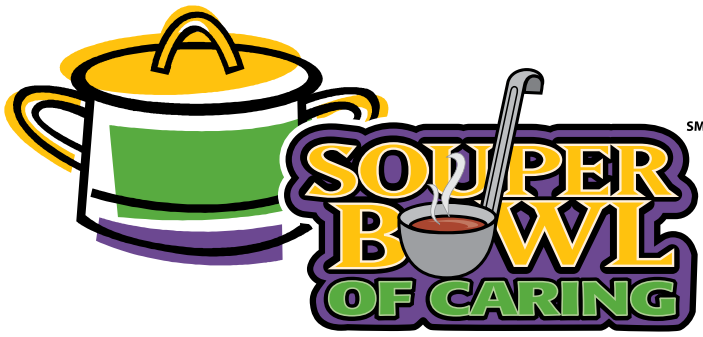
**1 OUT OF 5
CHILDREN IN
KANE COUNTY
IS OVERWEIGHT.**

Without intervention, these kids are more likely to have diabetes, bone and joint problems, heart disease, and other serious health issues.

FOX VALLEY UNITED WAY SPECIAL EVENTS

We engage with passionate donors and volunteers through annual fundraising events.





We recruit donors and volunteers for two special events each year that have tremendous impact. Not only do they raise awareness and get the community excited about helping folks in need—they're a lot of fun!

The **Souper Bowl of Caring** is hosted by area grocery stores and gives teen volunteers a chance to gather food and monetary donations for the Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry and the Kendall County Community Food Pantry. After the holidays, these pantries need extra help in providing enough food for community members. In February 2016, our volunteers collected 2,400 pounds of food and \$8,247. Since the pantries are able to purchase \$8 of food for every dollar donated, the total purchasing power equaled \$65,976.

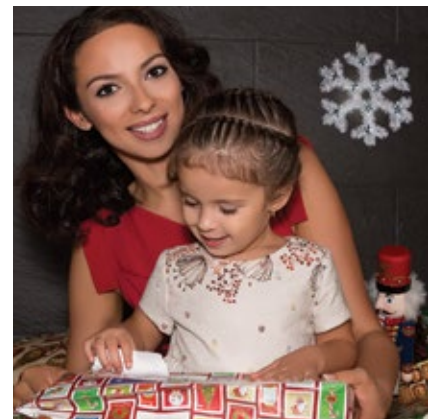
Holiday Assistance gives businesses, organizations, families and individuals a chance to adopt a family/child for the holidays. Children receive requested toys and clothing and parents are given grocery gift cards to help make the season brighter. In December 2015, 126 families, including 312 children, benefitted from the generosity of a caring community.

2,400

POUNDS OF
FOOD
COLLECTED

126

FAMILIES
BENEFITTED
FROM HOLIDAY
ASSISTANCE



DID YOU KNOW?

COMMUNITY IMPACT

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

This year's donations equaled \$65,976 in purchasing power.

We celebrate with a community that cares.



LIVE UNITED

Every year our **What Floats Your Cardboard Boat Race** gets bigger and better. In August 2016, we had 29 different boats racing in 9 different heats. Businesses, community organizations, police, fire, mayoral candidates and individuals manned handmade boats—and the sinkings were even more spectacular this year. The event raises awareness and donations for the 61 social service agencies that we fund. It's an event that the community looks forward to every year, and couldn't be possible without the support of the City of Aurora.

In May 2016, we hosted our **Annual "Celebrating a Community That Cares" Breakfast**. This is our opportunity to recognize those whose generosity of time and resources has been a huge blessing to our partner agencies in the past year. We love to hear the testimonials of those whose lives have been changed because donors, volunteers, advocates and agency staff have taken the time to care.

To learn more about all of our special events, please visit **foxvalleyunitedway.org** and check out the "Live United" tab.

61

LOCAL SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES ARE SUPPORTED BY FOX VALLEY UNITED WAY.



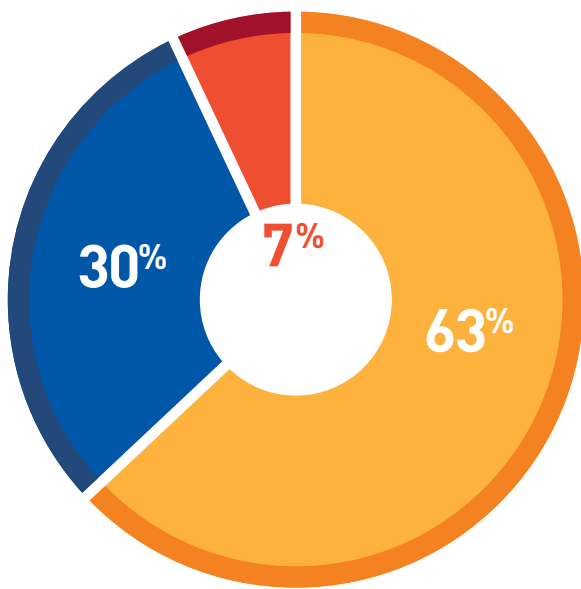
DID YOU KNOW?

MORE THAN 1,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED THIS YEAR'S CARDBOARD BOAT RACE.

This year, attendees got to *Vote the Boat* online! Our online donation portal accepted "votes" by donation, raising more money for our partner agencies!

Thank you to these generous donor companies who make it possible to fund 61 social service agencies in Kane and Kendall counties.

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| 3M | Carson Pirie Scott Foundation | Fifth Third Bank | I.B.E.W. Local 461 | Nalco | State Farm Insurance Co. |
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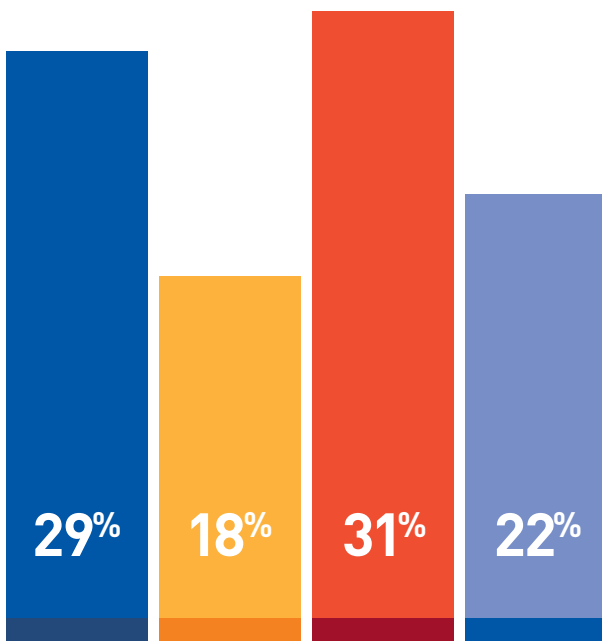


DID YOU KNOW?

WHERE OUR FUNDS COME FROM

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



WHERE WE ALLOCATE DOLLARS

We receive and review requests from social service agencies, then allocate dollars to support specific programs within those agencies. As a result, our partner agencies are able to make an even greater impact to improve lives in Kane and Kendall counties.

- EDUCATION
- INCOME
- HEALTH
- BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

We're grateful to individual benefactors, including our Tocqueville and Leadership Giving Society Donors...

TOCQUEVILLE GIVING SOCIETY DONORS (\$10,000+)

Christopher M. Crane
Thomas W. Merritt Jr.

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Fox Valley United Way

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St. Charles, IL 60174

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info@uwfoxvalley.org

foxvalleyunitedway.org

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.