

# UNITED WAY WOMEN UNITED® NOTES & NEWS



United Way of Northwest Indiana

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# STRONGER TOGETHER. BECOMING ONE

*United Way of Northwest Indiana*



For more than 50 years, Lake Area United Way and United Way of Porter County have been serving Northwest Indiana with a vast network of health, education and financial stability programs that provide people in need the support necessary to get back on their feet.

As our communities continue to grow and change, the lines between counties have started to blur. Many of our residents work in one county and live in another so they have a vested interest in what happens in both Lake and Porter counties.

That's why our two United Ways decided to join together to form United Way of Northwest Indiana. By merging our organizations, we can help make it easier for residents to make a difference across the Region, truly living united.

Our vision is to help people thrive by bringing our caring community together to solve the toughest challenges, creating a world where all individuals can achieve their full potential. We'll be able to make this vision a reality over the next few years by expanding services and programming to residents across the Region with the help of our partners, volunteers and donors.

As one, we will be able to provide a streamlined process to make giving back easier and increase our ability to offer high-quality volunteer experiences to expand our advocacy efforts.

On October 1 we officially became United Way of Northwest Indiana. We are currently in the middle of a nationwide CEO search to find the organization's first leader. Our staff is working diligently to find the best ways to bring our programs and services together.

We are excited about what the future holds for Women United as part of this process. We look to expand the group's reach incorporating members and service opportunities from across the Region.

We will keep you updated on our progress and ways you can help make Women United even bigger and better. To learn more about United Way of Northwest Indiana, visit [unitedwaynwi.org](http://unitedwaynwi.org).



**DIRECTOR'S  
CORNER**

**KASIE TENBARGE**

*Women United Program Director  
& Director of Development*

## **“Hello, Women United!**

**I'm so proud of all we accomplish together.**

I'm thankful for your kind, giving hearts and the servant leaders that comprise this group. I know many of us are disappointed in the postponement of our annual Bunco Bash event due to rising COVID numbers; I am, too. I was looking forward to sharing the evening fun with you playing Bunco and raising awareness about the work we do. But, your safety is our top priority and so we will wait until spring to have a wonderful Bunco time. Save the date for April 28, 2022!

United Way Worldwide has welcomed Angela F. Williams as its new President and CEO. Angela is the first woman and first African American to lead United Way's Worldwide organization. I am beyond excited and proud to have Angela leading the way forward. Read about her impressive background and appointment to United Way at [unitedwaynwi.org](http://unitedwaynwi.org).

Thank you for all you do to serve those in need! I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming monthly meetings. We have a few special projects and ways to volunteer around the holidays to discuss. More information on these opportunities to come!

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



**KANDACE GREEN**  
*United Way Women United  
Volunteer Coordinator*

"Women United is the place for me because I love the mission of serving other women. The idea of women tearing each other down is often discussed. It's powerful to be a part of something that shows that the opposite can be true. It's also really cool to see how engaged the volunteers get for Monday night classes. I've been inspired by the creativity and unique backgrounds and perspectives each person brings."



**HONORABLE MARY DEBOER**  
*Porter County Circuit Court Judge*

"I joined Women United because I wanted to be a part of an organization where strong, smart, dedicated women came together to plot and plan ways to improve our community. As a former magistrate who handled divorces, I didn't have the direct exposure to the opioid and drug crisis that was occurring in our county. When I joined Women United, I learned about Alice's House and the help they provide women struggling to recover from their addictions. The fact that our ladies spend time with these women—teaching them something new or working through fun craft projects—is indicative of the dedication I spoke of earlier. We care about these ladies and want them to succeed. Now, as the Circuit Court Judge, I see on a daily basis how addiction ravages our community. I have defendants who appear before me one day and are gone the next due to overdosing. The work Women United does for our community and the women on the path of recovery is meaningful and significant. I'm very proud to be amongst you women. You all motivate me and impact me with your kindness and compassion!"

## BUNCO BASH POSTPONED

We've made the difficult decision to postpone our Annual Bunco Bash at Aberdeen Manor on October 28. We will be holding the event next spring, April 28, 2022.

If you would like to assist with collecting silent auction items or help in any other way, please contact Kathy Ricke at rickekathy@gmail.com or 281.750.1480.

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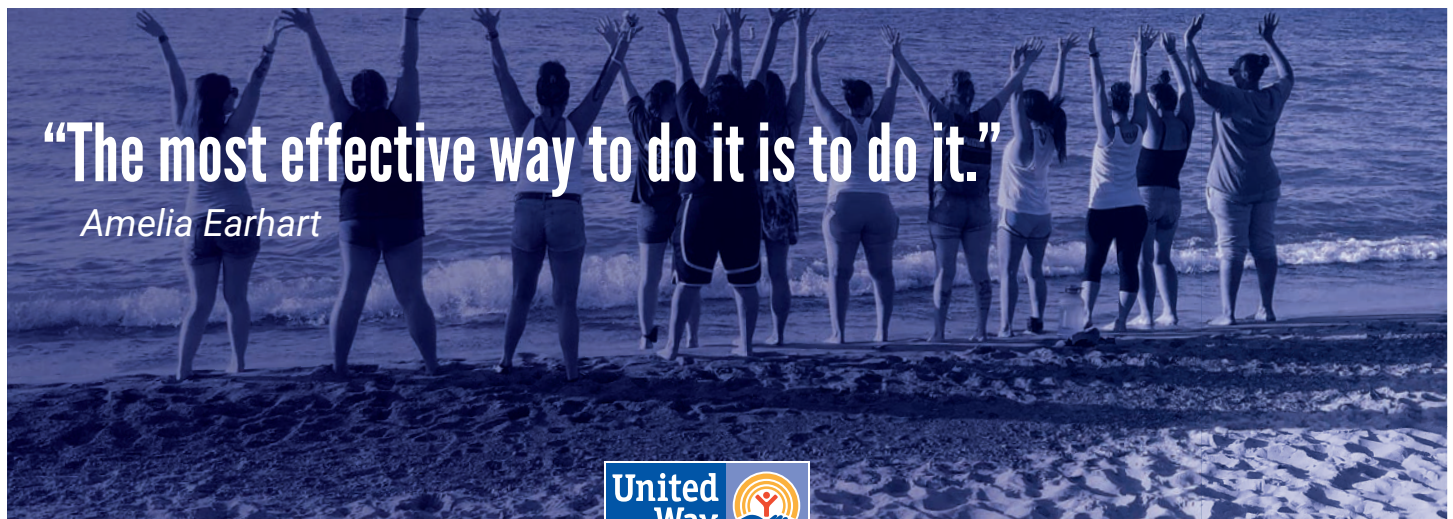
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Unites  
Northwest Indiana



**“The most effective way to do it is to do it.”**

*Amelia Earhart*



**Join Women United, a global community of women leaders within United Way.  
Together, we will create lasting change to lift up entire communities.**

United Way of Northwest Indiana helps struggling families by ensuring access to community health, education and financial stability services. In a single year, more than 22% of Northwest Indiana households are helped by United Way programs.

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