

# FAQ's about United Way

## What does United Way do?

United Way unites people and resources to build a stronger, healthier community. United Way brings together people in our community who donate their money, volunteer their time and advocate to make sure that local non-profits focused on youth education, health and financial stability can provide services to people in Portage County. Local United Way volunteers evaluate the community's needs and review agencies that can address those needs. They decide how your money can be used most effectively in your community.

## How is my United Way connected to other United Ways?

Other than sharing a name and branding, United Ways are completely independent and run by local volunteers in each community.

## What percent of donated funds goes toward administration costs?

In 2022, 82 cents of each dollar went directly to nonprofits and program services. Our audit and Form 990 are available upon request.

## Does my money stay in Portage County?

Yes, all partner agencies that receive funding from our United Way serve people in Portage County.

## Who controls United Way of Portage County?

A local board of directors comprised of dedicated people who live and work in Portage county oversees all activities of the organization.



## Who decides how my money is used?

Committees of local volunteers review partner agency applications, make on-site visits and review the programs and services of our agencies prior to accepting them as United Way partner agencies. They make funding recommendations based on the information they obtain. Final funding is approved by the United Way of Portage County Board of Directors.

## Why should I give to United Way?

- Your money works in our community to fund effective, efficient program that get results.
- All funding decisions for Portage County are made by local volunteers that study the needs of our community.
- United Way is the only organization that allows you to give to the entire community, not just one area of need.
- You can donate through your company's payroll deduction plan which make giving easy (Check with your CEO or HR department about availability of this option)
- United Way of Portage County is efficient. Because we depend heavily on volunteers, we have low administrative rates compared to other nonprofits.

