



Lycoming County
United Way

NEWSLETTER



Spring has brought us so many delights. Sunshine, blossoming flowers, and in-person events! We hope you were able to join us!

Did you know that May is Mental Health Awareness Month? If anyone you know needs mental health support, in the wake of these tragedies, please encourage them to call 211 or visit [211.org](https://www.211.org). Trained call center operators will connect them with locally available resources.

WHAT'S NEW...

Our hearts go out...

In response to the violent acts at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, we stand with our colleagues and the entire United Way family and mourn for those lost and their families. In response, several local funds have been created to support the families and the Uvalde community. Please consider supporting these local funds listed [here](#).

2022 Grants

May was a month for making decisions on United Way grants for the upcoming fiscal year. Almost 60 community leaders on five review panels met with each community partner to review applications, ask questions, and learn about each unique program the United Way funds. Final recommendations will be presented to the United Way board in July with final announcements in August.



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A LOOK BACK
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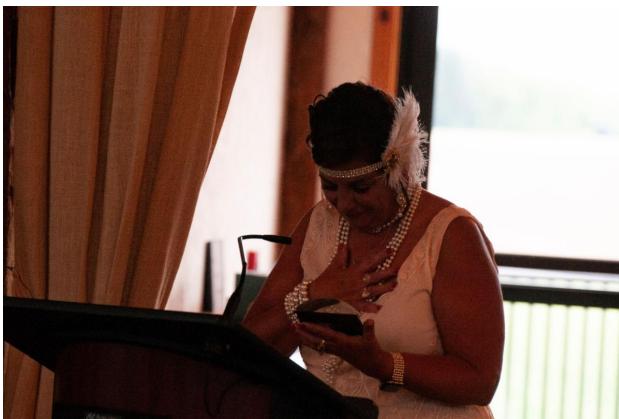
LIVE UNITED in Music II

Thank you to everyone who joined us for LIVE UNITED in Music II! It was an amazing night of music, dancing, and community! We are so grateful to the amazing group of volunteers and musicians who made it all possible.



The Centennial Gala

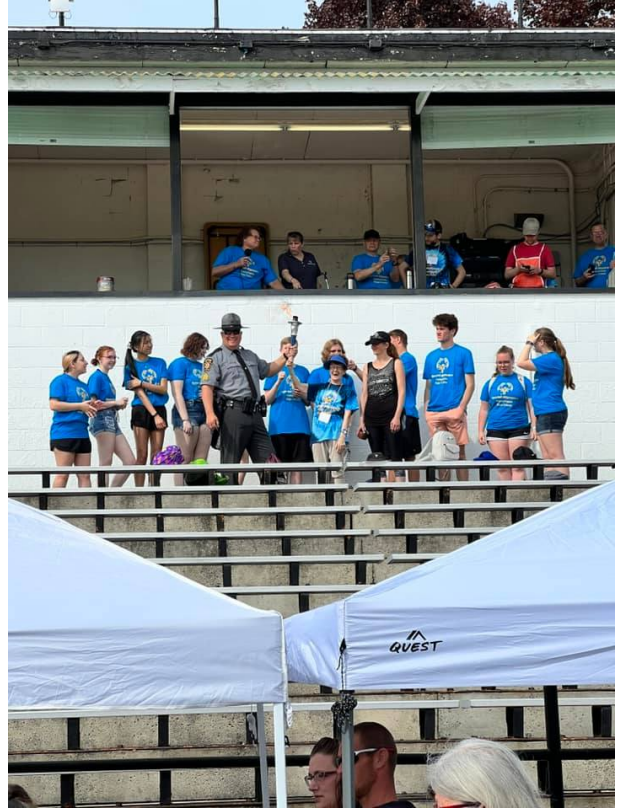
In honor of our Centennial Anniversary, our Board and Staff hosted a Gala at [Herman & Luther's](#). We are incredibly grateful for our Board and volunteers who designed the evening, the hard-working staff who orchestrated the event, and the sponsors who made it all possible.



This evening was special in many ways. We were able to spend it with good friends and colleagues and honor those who came before us to serve the Lycoming County United Way. It was also the night when we awarded the First Annual Harriet Lenhart Women's Leadership Award. We were thankful to have Harriet's children present the award to Mrs. Mary Jo Bower.

Special Olympics

We always have a great time volunteering with our program partners. This month we had the pleasure of volunteering with the Tioga County Special Olympics. Our team had an amazing time cheering on our "buddies"! We can't wait to come back next year!



United For Ukraine Fund



Children are the future and we have some amazing children in our community who want to make the world a better place. Students at Ashkar Elementary (East Lycoming School District) and Lycoming Valley Intermediate School (Williamsport Area School



District) had heard about the war in Ukraine and wanted to help the citizens impacted. They found fun ways to raise money for the UNITED for Ukraine Fund. We are amazing at how caring these students are and proud of the work they accomplished!

So long partners...

The last few weeks have been quiet in the office. The end of April also brought the end of our time with our Outreach Specialists and our intern. To Josh, Jessica, Krista and Karen we wish you all the best of luck for the future! We know that you will all accomplish great things in the future!



a message from the **PRESIDENT**

It has been a few months since our last newsletter, and the months of April and May were pretty busy for the team here at the Lycoming County United Way! With the Memorial Day holiday behind us, we want to thank those men and women and their families who have served our great country with honor and paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms. As summer unofficially begins, we hope that you will all take some time to enjoy the warm weather and spend some time with family and loved ones. The recent events in Buffalo, NY, and Uvalde, TX, should help us realize that life is short and we should be grateful for every day. Share a smile or a hug with a friend or neighbor. Show someone kindness. Community matters and we are thankful for the century of service our United Way has provided.

And speaking of celebrations. We had a well-attended press conference on our 100th birthday and invited the community and some special guests for some recognition and birthday cake. We introduced the Lycoming County United Way Centennial Fund at the First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania (FCFP) with a gift of \$1,000,000, and Jennifer Wilson announced a \$250,000 matching gift from FCFP. A few days later, we celebrated a very successful LIVE UNITED in Music II at the Community Arts Center, featuring the music of Sir Elton John and starring Michael Cavanaugh and local talent. Over 800 people enjoyed the event, and so many have asked when Michael is coming back! Special thanks to all our sponsors, particularly our presenting sponsor, UPMC, led by our board vice-chair Patti Jackson-Gehris, who was a champion for the sponsorship and decorated the Capitol Lounge for the Rocket Man VIP reception. We are grateful for our community partnerships and relationship with the Community Arts Center.

A few weeks ago, we celebrated the month of our incorporation with a Centennial Gala at Herman & Luther's, where friends and supporters enjoyed the music of the Walt Straiton Trio, dancing with Zac Baggett, and a great meal. Donna Bastian and her

siblings presented the inaugural Harriett Lenhart Women's Leadership Award in honor of their mom to past board member and staunch supporter Mary Jo Bower. She was joined by her family to celebrate her accomplishments. Harriett Lenhart, former board chair and volunteer and the first campaign chair to raise over one million dollars for the annual campaign, was the first female campaign chair and only the second woman to chair the board of directors. The award will be presented annually by the Lenhart family to a woman who has demonstrated a commitment to philanthropy in service to her community and the Lycoming County United Way. Nominations will be accepted from the United Way staff, board, previous recipients, and the Lenhart family. And two days later, our staff was fortunate to participate as "buddies" at the Tioga County Special Olympics Track & Field event at Mansfield University.

Our Temple University HRSA grant wrapped up in May with over 200 people vaccinated and significant outreach efforts in all three counties. We are the sub-recipients of PA Live Vaccine Grant proceeds based on outreach efforts from April 2022 through December 2023. Our annual grant-making process wrapped up on May 24, and recommendations will be made to the United Way board in July.

In June, we'll participate in a fundraising event held by Williams Companies, benefitting our United Way, and attend the annual Juneteenth celebration in Brandon Park.

Finally, special thanks to our retiring Board chair, Mike Pawlik, who has led our organization through challenging waters and an international pandemic. We are grateful for Mike's eight years on the board and wish him well in his retirement from the East Lycoming School District.

Blessings,



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

River Valley Region YMCA:

Brickhouse Program:

The River Valley Regional YMCA Jersey Shore Branch offers the Brickhouse Program which is an after-school enrichment program for students in grades 6-12. This program allows students to benefit from both direct and indirect positive program attributes, including a safe, supervised environment during a time when most students are left unattended due to parents working, even the possibility of a lack of proper care and attention at home, or keeping away from unhealthy lifestyles due to peers. The students utilize the large gym, teen room, and kitchen where they are provided snacks and, may complete homework, socialize, and build healthy relationships. The staff mentors help the students with homework and introduce them to

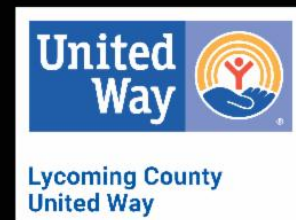


new sports or activities, and can help students with any questions and offer advice.

Childcare Program:

The River Valley Regional YMCA provides child care services to working families regardless of their ability to pay. This program focuses on allowing children a hands-on, interactive atmosphere. Through play, stories, songs, centers, and a wide variety of educational materials, the children are learning by experience which encourages individual growth and independent decision-making.

**GIVE.
ADVOCATE.
VOLUNTEER.** *with
the*



GIVE:

Click below to invest in our mission or text LIVEUNITED to 50155!



ADVOCATE:

Follow our social media platforms and share our posts!



VOLUNTEER:

Contact us at 570.323.9448!



OR



Shop with AmazonSmile! The same great Amazon you love but with .05% of the profits being automatically donated to the Lycoming County United Way! Click [here](#) to shop and support our mission!

Thank you for your continued support of the Lycoming County United Way!

Together we make an impact. Together we #LIVEUNITED!
Because change doesn't happen alone.



Supporting the Lycoming County United Way means supporting your community and enabling our organization to continue to fund the critical programs our partners provide. Your investment in the Lycoming County United Way helps ensure that people in communities in Lycoming, Sullivan and Tioga Counties continue to have these resources available to them.

