



Lycoming County
United Way

NEWSletter



HAPPY

New Year!!

2022



Thank you for joining us in 2022, our centennial year. We have much in store for our 100th Anniversary and we can't wait to share it with you!

WHAT'S NEW...

Round Up Your Grocery Bill!

Round up and make a difference!

Throughout the entire month of January, round up your bill at the self-checkout in your local [Weis Markets](#), and 100% of your donation will benefit the Lycoming County United Way (LCUW)!

Note - Donations made at Weis Markets in Lycoming and Tioga Counties will support LCUW. All other donations will go to your local United Way.



TO DONATE
ROUND UP

All round-ups at self checkouts during January 2022 will directly support your local United Way.



Cup of Love is Coming Next Month!



The Cup of Love is back again this year! This February, visit our friends at [Alabaster Coffee Roaster & Tea Co.](#) for their signature drink! For each drink sold during the month, Alabaster will donate a portion to the Lycoming County United Way!

Have a cup and support your community!

Vaccine Hesitancy

FACT: COVID-19 is real, but not everyone understands how it impacts them, their families, or their community.

FACT: People need a safe, judgment-free place to discuss their concerns about the virus and

treatments, including vaccination.

FACT: Trauma plays a role in the decision-making process when raising a family, interacting at work, and even getting a vaccine.

FACT: Controlling COVID-19 takes everyone playing their part.



Joshua Kula



Krista Snyder

Our team is taking a trauma-informed approach to vaccine hesitancy in its fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in every community.

The Temple University's COVID-19 Trauma-Informed Workforce Initiative Fund provided \$3.5 million in sub-awards for employer partners like the Lycoming County United Way who have committed to implementing COVID-19 prevention and vaccine adherence strategies in their respective communities and for the populations they serve. The project is being supported by funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources & Services Administration.

Please reach out to one of our outreach specialists to start a conversation or for more information.

CONTACT OUR OUTREACH SPECIALISTS

- Joshua Kula (jkula@lcuw.org)
- Krista Snyder (ksnyder@lcuw.org)
- Jessica Umpstead (jumpstead@lcuw.org)



Jessica Umpstead

LET'S TAKE OUR SHOT AT ENDING COVID-19



PROTECT YOURSELF.
PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY.
GET VACCINATED.



WE ARE FIGHTING FOR YOUR HEALTH!

Lycoming County
United Way United
Way
**CHANGE DOESN'T HAPPEN
ALONE**

211 Agency Newsletter



Have you heard of [211](#)?

211 is a service to connect you with resources in your community. From help with utility bills to housing assistance, afterschool programs for kids, and more. The specialists at 211 are there to listen to your needs and provide you with programs in your community.

Are you part of a nonprofit that wants more information? The 211 Team is now launching a statewide newsletter that could have valuable information for you and your organization. To opt in to the PA 211 Newsletter [click on this link!](#)

A LOOK BACK

Lights of Hope

The community entered the New Year by celebrating hope. The Lights of Hope Community Celebration was held on a snowy lawn in front of UPMC Williamsport to give support to our local healthcare workers and offer hope as the community began the new year. The Lycoming County United Way, [UPMC Northcentral Pa](#), and [Sojourner Truth Ministries](#) organized the assembly of 1000 luminaries to celebrate such hope.

Sojourner Truth Ministries, executive director Angelique Labadie-Cihanowyz led the group in prayer. She prayed for and thanked all the healthcare workers. Her welcome and prayer were followed by remarks by Mayor Derek Slaughter, who extended condolences to those who lost family and friends to COVID-19 and thanked healthcare workers for their dedication and sacrifice. Ron Reynolds, President of the UPMC Muncy and Lock Haven hospitals, spoke on resolve, resiliency, and the many sacrifices of all healthcare staff. They promised world-class healthcare in our communities. Ron Frick, president of the United Way, ended the ceremony and left the group with this quote from George Washington Carver, “Where there is no vision, there is no hope”.

We would like to thank everyone who was a part of the celebration and to the Williamsport Sun-Gazette for [their article on the event](#).

Photo credit: Tyler Wagner, UPMC



a message from the **PRESIDENT**

Happy New Year!

#hope.

In our last newsletter of 2021, I focused on gratefulness and hope. The word hopeful means “having qualities that inspire hope, full of hope, inclined to hope.” We all need hope. Hope for a better way of life, hope to end disease and pain, and return to things and people we miss.

We ended 2021 on a high note, working with our friends at UPMC and four local coffee shops providing a free cup of coffee to healthcare workers at UPMC. We are grateful for the ongoing support of our friends at UPMC and all those who are working long hours under significant stress to take care of us. I am also grateful to our friends at [Alabaster Coffee Roaster & Tea Company](#), [Backhouse Café Coffee & Tea](#), [Julie’s Café](#), and [The Sawhorse Café](#) for helping us celebrate healthcare workers and the unbelievable two years they have helped us survive. We also celebrated gratefulness with videos from our United Way family, partners, and friends. Check them out on our [Lycoming County](#)

January started out with our first annual Lights of Hope event on the front lawn at UPMC Williamsport. Funded by a generous donation from UPMC, we were able to buy supplies to create 1,000 luminarias which shined brightly from the evening of January 7 to the morning hours on January 8. Joined by Rev. Angelique Labadie-Cihanowyz, Executive Director at Sojourner Truth Ministries (and a United Way community partner), Ron Reynolds, President of UPMC Muncy and Lock Haven, and Mayor Derek Slaughter, I was honored to be a part of this celebration of hope in our people, our health and our community. Special thanks to Angelique and mom for the vision and for JanAnn Todd and many others for helping us execute the event. These kinds of community events give me hope that our mission to mobilize resources to improve lives is still alive and well.

Beginning on November 2, 2020, members of the Williamsport Board of Trade, met to consider the establishment of a "Federation of Charities for the purpose of making one drive to raise the money necessary to meet the annual budget of all our local charitable organizations, such a financial federation is generally called a Community Chest." It was the unanimous opinion of the Board that this was an "effort worthy of our attention." The committee of the Board agreed that "...it is the duty of the Board of Trade to finance the necessary expense of bringing a man or woman to Williamsport to confer with our people as keys in order that we may reach an intelligent conclusion as to the wisdom of undertaking this project in the City."

On April 14, 1922, a formal motion was made and approved unanimously to establish the Community Chest, which gave birth to the Williamsport Welfare Corporation, Lycoming United Fund, the Lycoming United Way, and now the Lycoming County United Way.

Leaders in 1922 had the vision to establish an organization that could mobilize community resources to improve lives. It was our purpose then and is still our mission today. I remain hopeful for the next 100 years of service to our community, and while I am pretty sure I will not be around to enjoy it, those who started this organization in 1922 certainly had hope and a sense of vision for what could be.

Happy birthday to us...

Together, we still make an impact. Together, we LIVE UNITED. Because change doesn't happen alone.

Blessings,



**PARTNER
SPOTLIGHT**

Sojourner Truth Ministries

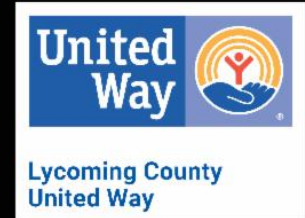
Feeding Program:

Sojourner Truth Ministries Feeding Program offers breakfast and lunch 6 days per week to anyone in need specifically homeless individuals in our community. Sojourner is a safe place for people to home, socialize, be off the streets, and away from substances, they may be trying to avoid.



**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.

**Lycoming County
United Way**



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.