TABLE OF CONTENTS

Year in Review ........................................................................................................3
United Neighborhoods Equity Fund .................................................................5
Neighborhood Networks: A Decade of Transformation.................................7
Stories of Impact ................................................................................................9
Our Supporters ..................................................................................................13
Top 25 Corporate Partners ............................................................................23
Executive Volunteers .....................................................................................24
A MESSAGE
FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Dear Supporters,

United Way of Metro Chicago had many opportunities over the last year to address the basic needs of area families and strengthen disinvested neighborhoods, particularly with the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, community violence, and economic turmoil. Together, with partners, donors, volunteers, community advocates, and residents, we are building a stronger, more equitable Chicago region.

Partnerships and working together to advance equity are at the core of everything we do at United Way of Metro Chicago. We are committed to learning about, piloting, and investing in more equitable funding practices. Last fall, we announced our first grantee cohort of the United Neighborhoods Equity Fund, which awards unrestricted funding and capacity building to small Black and Latinx-led nonprofits.

This spring, our Neighborhood Network Initiative—a community-driven, resident-led approach to investing in neighborhood transformation—expanded into three new neighborhoods: Englewood, Far South, and Garfield Park. The Neighborhood Networks’ successful COVID-19 community response, coupled with a $25 million gift from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott and support from other essential funders, led to the expansion.

In June, at our Stronger Neighborhoods Awards Luncheon—back in person after two years—we announced the launch of the Commit to a Neighborhood Initiative, a new public, private, and nonprofit partnership with ITW and our community partners to stimulate equitable economic development and the creation of quality, living-wage jobs in the Austin and Belmont Cragin neighborhoods of Chicago.

In this report, you’ll read more about these programs and other highlights: the expansion of Uniting for the Holidays; the return of our April Food Day food drive and awards luncheon in the Southland; and the two-year anniversary of the launch of the Chicago Community COVID-19 Response Fund. The incredible leadership and generosity of our committed volunteers and donors have given us the sound fiscal footing, support, and platform to accelerate our positive impact.

The last fiscal year has brought progress in expanding the impact of our investments and partnerships in the region’s most disinvested neighborhoods, and we see more opportunities ahead. But there is much work to do. United Way brings people together to address community priorities. Collectively that’s what we have done and will continue to do until children have better access to quality education, communities are safer, neighbors are healthier, incomes increase, and our region prospers. Thank you for joining us as—united—we help build a stronger, more equitable Chicago region where all families can thrive.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Francis
2021/2022 Chair, Board of Directors

Sean Garrett
President & CEO
JULY 2021

Campaign Heroes Celebration
- The hybrid event honored United Way's Top 25 Corporate Partners and welcomed 2021/2022 Campaign Chair Linda Imonti.

AUGUST 2021

United Neighborhoods Equity Fund Announced
- Launched a new fund supporting Black and Latinx-led nonprofits predominantly located on Chicago’s South and West Sides and in the south suburban region.

SEPTEMBER 2021

Inaugural Cohort of the United Neighborhoods Equity Fund
- Ten organizations selected to receive a $50,000 unrestricted grant for a two-year cycle, two years of intensive capacity building, support from DePaul University’s nonprofit management program, and opportunities to network with corporate partners, funders, and with each other.

OCTOBER 2021

Board of Directors Expands
- Announced the addition of 17 new members to our board of directors, a key component of our diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts.

Women United Speaker Series
- Women United and The Allstate Foundation hosted the virtual conversation “Stability for Survivors,” highlighting the importance of supporting domestic violence survivors through financial empowerment.

NOVEMBER 2021

Uniting for the Holidays Supports 10 Communities
- Thousands of meals, toys, educational resources, and wellness supplies were distributed to 3,000 families across the suburbs.

DECEMBER 2021

One-Year Anniversary of MacKenzie Scott Gift
- The $25 million gift—the single largest donation in our history—was invested in expanding our Neighborhood Network Initiative and supporting our regional impact grants.

Learning and Development
Fall Cohorts Graduate
- Our fall 2022 Board Leadership Institute and Responsible Business Leaders programs complete the weeks-long trainings, preparing them for board service and advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion.

JANUARY 2022

Martin Luther King Jr. Day with Shermann “Dilla” Thomas
- The TikTok sensation and Chicago historian offered an inside look at the Chicago Freedom Movement and MLK Jr.'s impact in the city during this virtual event.
**FEBRUARY 2022**

**Deepened Commitment to DEI**
- Released our organizational anti-racism statement and launched #UnitedWayBuyBlack, a digital passport supporting nearly 30 Chicago-based, Black-owned businesses.

**Young Leaders United Host IGNITE**
- 300+ Chicago-area young professionals came together at the Dalcy to raise funds for United Way’s work in community.

**MARCH 2022**

**Women United Host “Purposeful Transitions”**
- Women United hosted the hybrid breakfast event with keynote speaker Dorri McWhorter, the first female CEO of the YMCA of Metro Chicago.

**Neighborhood Network Initiative Expands**
- Launched three new Neighborhood Networks in the Englewood, Far South, and Garfield Park communities.

**APRIL 2022**

**April Food Day Collects 78,000 Pounds of Food**
- Our annual food collection event and awards luncheon raised more than $60,000 to address food insecurity for families in the Southland.

**MAY 2022**

**United Way Receives Philanthropy BUILDer Award**
- BUILD recognized United Way for our community impact in the Austin Neighborhood Network and transformative investment in the new BUILD youth hub.

**Learning and Development Spring Cohorts Graduate**
- Participants learned about board service and advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion through our spring 2022 Board Leadership Institute and Responsible Business Leaders programs.

**JUNE 2022**

**Stronger Neighborhoods Awards Luncheon Recognizes John W. Rogers, Jr. And ITW**
- Raised more than $1 million to support United Way’s work in neighborhoods across the region.

**ITW Deepens Impact Through New Initiative**
- United Way and ITW launched the Commit to a Neighborhood Initiative in the Austin and Belmont Cragin communities.

**Juneteenth “Sharing Our Stories”**
- United Neighborhoods Equity Fund grantees shared their stories about driving positive change during this virtual conversation hosted by the social justice artist Tonika Lewis Johnson.

**Transforming Places Pilot Program Announced**
- Cook County announced their investment of $15 million to support United Way’s place-based impact work.

**Pride Parade**
- Joined the Chicago Federation of Labor at the Pride Parade, marching the iconic route through Northalsted.

Be sure to follow us on social media to stay up to date on all of our programs, initiatives, and events throughout the year!

@UNITEDWAYCHICAGO   @UNITEDWAYCHI   @UNITEDWAYCHI   @UNITEDWAYOFMETROCHICAGO
United Neighborhoods Equity Fund Supports Black and Latinx-Led Nonprofits
Historic disinvestment in Black and Latinx communities throughout Chicago has led to current racial, social, and economic issues impacting families and residents in the city’s South and West Sides and south suburban region. Small Black and Latinx-led nonprofits in these areas often face challenges connecting to funders, building rapport, and securing and sustaining support for culturally relevant strategies. This has led to significant disparities in investment in these transformative organizations.

In the fall of 2021, United Way of Metro Chicago, with the support of founding sponsor Peoples Gas, launched the United Neighborhoods Equity Fund (UNEF), our philanthropic commitment to addressing these barriers and creating more equitable investments and opportunities in our communities.

The inaugural UNEF cohort of 10 grantees was announced in September 2021, with each awarded $50,000 of unrestricted funds over a two-year cycle to be used according to the needs of each nonprofit. Grantees also receive two years of intensive capacity-building support from DePaul University’s nonprofit management program, and opportunities to network with corporate partners, funders, and each other.

“The first cohort of UNEF exemplifies both a high-quality caliber of local Chicagoland nonprofits and represents those who truly know their communities best,” Sean Garrett, president and CEO of United Way of Metro Chicago said. “We’re thrilled to be working side by side with these organizations in hopes that, together, we can strengthen the fabrics of the neighborhoods they serve.”

Supporting grassroots community-based programs is vital to building neighborhoods where all families can thrive. The UNEF grantees live, work, and intimately know their communities’ biggest challenges and greatest opportunities. They are working in unison toward common goals to strengthen their neighborhoods in the areas of economic and workforce development, education, mentorship, health and wellness, safety, justice, journalism, and more.

If we do this neighborhood work well—and with Black and Latinx leaders who live in these neighborhoods—then opportunities and outcomes start to become more equitable; neighborhoods, history, and culture are maintained; and all families can reach their full potential.

In addition to founding sponsor Peoples Gas, UNEF is made possible with the generous support of corporate sponsors Nicor Gas, UL, and Target.

Watch the Community Stories of the 2021–2023 UNEF Grantees online at bit.ly/UNEF21
When we invest in our communities, we are in it for the long haul. Because change does not happen overnight. United Way of Metro Chicago’s Neighborhood Network Initiative reflects this commitment, combining long-term strategy with place-based, community-led efforts to drive neighborhood transformation.

Following nearly a decade of success, the model expanded in March 2022 for the first time in six years, adding Englewood, Far South, and Garfield Park to our previous 10 Neighborhood Network communities throughout the Chicago region: Auburn Gresham, Austin, Blue Island/Robbins, Brighton Park, Bronzeville, Cicero, Evanston, Little Village, South Chicago, and West Chicago.

"We are thrilled to expand our reach and impact in the Chicago region," said Sean Garrett, president and CEO of United Way of Metro Chicago. "Broadening our Neighborhood Network Initiative in Englewood, Far South, and Garfield Park communities strengthens our commitment to building a more equitable Chicago region and, together, with our community partners, helping all neighborhoods and families thrive."

Throughout the pandemic, the Neighborhood Networks have served as rapid response hubs, providing direct COVID-19 relief and aid through cash assistance, food distribution, PPE supplies, and vaccination resources for residents. In December 2020, philanthropist MacKenzie Scott donated $25 million to United Way, serving as a strong endorsement of our place-based approach to neighborhood transformation.
Our Neighborhood Networks’ successful local community response to the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with Scott’s gift, resulted in unprecedented visibility and opportunity for the model, including the potential to expand into new communities. A portion of Scott’s gift is being used to support the three new Neighborhood Networks, along with investments from our partnership with the Robert R. McCormick Foundation and other funders.

With the addition of the Englewood, Garfield Park, and Far South networks, our Neighborhood Network Initiative will have an even greater impact. Together, we will continue to work alongside local neighborhood leaders to help identify and solve community priorities and build local infrastructure, developing affordable housing, cradle-to-career education, family wrap-around service, economic development, business ownership, and arts and culture.

Over the last 10 years, our Neighborhood Network Initiative has gained momentum and garnered millions of dollars in support from philanthropic partners, such as the Robert R. McCormick Foundation and MacKenzie Scott, among others. And these partnerships continue to grow. We recently announced that we are joining Cook County on the Transforming Places Pilot Program, a public/private approach to community-led transformation.

Cook County’s investment will allow us to expand our Neighborhood Networks in additional suburban Cook County communities, broadening our reach and deepening our impact. When we come together to make a difference, real change and opportunities are possible for all families in the Chicago region.

Watch the video “Neighborhood Networks: A Decade of Transformation” online at bit.ly/NNDecade22
Stories of Impact
When we embrace all of our neighborhoods and communities as the heartbeat of the Chicago region, every person has the opportunity to thrive. Here are some highlights from the past year, stories of impact and how we’re working together to build a stronger, more equitable Chicago region.

The Giving Spirit at Uniting for the Holidays

In partnership with local nonprofit agencies, Uniting for the Holidays helps reduce food insecurity and brighten the holiday season for our neighbors. Over the course of five weeks in November and December, these drive-thru style events expanded this year to reach more communities, connecting more than 3,000 families in 10 suburbs with 3,500+ holiday meals and 1,500+ toys, stuffed animals, books, and wellness resources.

“This year, the need that we are seeing in the community is a need for coming together, for feeling safe, for feeling that people are cared for and that you are loved,” said Kathy Millin, executive director for Partners for Our Communities in Palatine.

More than $285,000 was raised through the generous support of 40+ corporate sponsors, 100+ individual donors, and our regional boards to help foster a season of joy and connection.

→ Read more online at bit.ly/U4TH21

Committed to Anti-Racism Through Action

During Black History Month this past February, United Way of Metro Chicago shared what we’re doing in the diversity, equity, and inclusion space. How we’re living out our commitment to being an anti-racist organization, while holding ourselves accountable as we learn and grow, is vital to building stronger, more equitable communities.

“Diversity, equity, and inclusion are integral to what we do,” said Tamiya Aurel, chief people and equity officer for United Way of Metro Chicago. “As a funder and a partner in the community, we are working together to find ways to heal, create solutions, and build a more equitable and just region.”

These solutions include reshaping how we were structured internally through staff and board-led racial equity committees, creating our anti-racism statement and video highlighting our four main pillars of equity work, launching the United Neighborhoods Equity Fund, and continuing to provide anti-bias training and equity challenge resources for staff, volunteers, and partners.

→ Read more online at bit.ly/Antiracism22
April Food Day: Coming Together for the Southland

After two years of forgoing the in-person event due to the pandemic, April Food Day was back this past spring to honor leaders in the Southland and support local agencies through food collection and distribution. More than 78,000 pounds of food was donated and given to 10 food pantries in our south and southwest suburban communities.

The awards luncheon celebrated several Southland community leaders, corporate partners, and government officials who have been working tirelessly to confront food insecurity: Mia Cross, director of community health and programs for Family Christian Health Center (Individual Leadership Award); Mr-Jack Products (Business Leadership Award); and Thornton Township (Community Leadership Award).

"I struggle to not have tears in my eyes," said Johanns Williams, South-Southwest Regional Board chair for United Way of Metro Chicago. "The greatest conduit we have is food. For me, food is love. If we continue to keep food in front of people, good things will come out of it."

Read more online at bit.ly/AprilFoodDay22

Chicago Community COVID-19 Response Fund: Bending the Curve of Recovery

Two years ago, the world was facing an unprecedented unknown: a deadly global pandemic that was shutting down life as we knew it. But one thing was certain. People would need help to survive amid the uncertainty.

Within just a few days, The Chicago Community Trust and United Way of Metro Chicago came together to establish the Chicago Community COVID-19 Response Fund (CCRF), with support from the City of Chicago, foundations, businesses, and individuals. By the time the fund closed in early 2021, we had raised more than $35 million from 6,000 donors to support more than 400 nonprofit organizations providing emergency services to people most impacted by COVID-19.

Today, as our region turns its attention to recovering from the pandemic, the Trust and United Way remain aligned in our commitment to ensuring our communities can withstand and thrive in the face of future challenges and crises.

Read more online at bit.ly/CCRF22
[United Way's] investment in the Far South and specifically in the Roseland community will help us create programs such as Culinary Arts Vocational Education, designed so that each individual will have the opportunity to be empowered and to achieve their life successes.

JOYCE CHAPMAN
PRESIDENT, FAR SOUTH CHICAGO COALITION
ITW Deepens Community Impact through Commit to a Neighborhood

ITW’s legacy began with a magazine ad. Chicago financier Byron L. Smith was interested in investing in a manufacturing business in the early 1910s and ran an ad in The Economist. A small group of tool inventors responded, and Illinois Tool Works (ITW) was born.

More than a century later, ITW is a global, diversified, multi-industrial manufacturing leader with a decentralized, entrepreneurial culture. Their business model is successful. But their success is also rooted in community—and in advancing real, positive change. For more than 70 years, ITW has joined United Way as a global corporate partner, investing in communities from the inside out. They have consistently ranked among United Way of Metro Chicago’s top 10 corporate partners, and the majority of ITW employees give annually to United Way, contributing more than $100 million nationally over the life of their partnership.

Today, ITW is taking its commitment to community a step further. It’s investing in entire neighborhoods. Announced at our Stronger Neighborhoods Awards Luncheon on June 2, 2022, ITW is joining United Way to launch the Commit to a Neighborhood Initiative in the Austin and Belmont Cragin communities.

“All of us at ITW feel very fortunate to be part of a company where a deep commitment to give back to the communities where our people live and work has been embedded in the fabric of the culture of the company going all the way to our founding 110 years ago,” said Scott Santi, chairman and chief executive officer of ITW, during his remarks at our 2022 Stronger Neighborhoods Awards Luncheon, where ITW received the Corporate Leadership Award.

As part of its “Do More” agenda, ITW is committed to supporting more inclusive economic growth and opportunities in disinvested communities. Commit to a Neighborhood will do just that, creating quality, living-wage jobs with good benefits and stimulating economic development in Belmont Cragin and Austin, where United Way has an established Neighborhood Network. ITW will partner with United Way and on-the-ground nonprofit partners to provide workforce development for industry-specific jobs currently available to residents in Austin and Belmont Cragin.

“The Commit to a Neighborhood Initiative gives ITW the opportunity to be a catalyst for economic development and economic inclusiveness here in the Chicago region,” said Kenneth Escoe, executive vice president of specialty products for ITW. “This is an opportunity for us to be deliberate about our ability to engage in something that is sustainable and is going to be significant in transforming communities of need.”

This partnership among public, private, and nonprofit leaders will bring together resources and expertise between the ITW team and community partners to create jobs, workforce training, economic growth, and wealth for all our neighbors in Austin.

“We are extremely proud of our company’s long history of civic involvement and commitment to giving back,” Santi said. “We wholeheartedly embrace the responsibility that we have to continue to live up to and build on that legacy.”
Volunteering: A Labor of the Soul

Long-time volunteers L. Marie Asad, Andrew Vail, and Valerie and Patrick McInerney believe in the power of giving back, of being “servant leaders,” as L. Marie says. They believe that coming together as volunteers can make a difference in the community, breaking down systemic barriers and driving positive, equitable change.

L. Marie Asad
South-Southwest Regional Board Member and Community Relations Specialist, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois

“Growing up in Englewood, I saw firsthand what it was like not to have all the necessities that today so many take for granted, like stable housing, heat, electricity, food, and access to a doctor or dentist when you needed it. Volunteering makes a difference, and I’ve experienced how good it feels to help others and enact change.

I truly believe in the concept of servant leadership. It’s about leading by example and paying it forward. Choosing to serve with United Way is important because it allows me the opportunity to get to know the organizations on the front lines helping the community, which allows me to do a better job in connecting Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois with resources to help our members and the communities we serve.”
Valerie McInerney
Marketing Director, PwC’s Trust Leadership Institute

Patrick McInerney
Marketing and Product Development Leader, EnMotive

“Volunteering at the 9/11 Day of Service and creating and repairing garden beds was important to us as it can really change a child, and really everyone, to be exposed to gardening, to see the beauty in their environment, and to learn from seeing plants grow. Being in the Englewood neighborhood reminded me of where I lived as a child in Detroit, and I really felt like I could feel the impact the work would have for the community.

Volunteering is a great way to see how you can make an impact in real time. Beyond giving dollars to a cause, volunteering your time gives you a connection to the cause that is truly gratifying to the soul. For those of us with children, it’s wonderful to give them the experience and keep paying it forward for generations to come.”

Andrew Vail
General Counsel, United Way of Metro Chicago and Partner, Jenner & Block LLP

“At Jenner & Block, a commitment to public service is at the core of our values and mission as a law firm. We are a firm with a conscience, and serving our community is an obligation and a privilege of every lawyer at Jenner & Block. We recognize, encourage, and support our people in their efforts to contribute to the communities in which they live and work. Our pro bono work has a tremendous impact on individual lives, law, and policy.

I’m most excited about new opportunities to creatively and broadly work with the United Way team and my colleagues and attorney network to address unmet legal needs in our community that we come across through United Way’s programs. The need in our community is so great, and volunteering can mean so much, including to those who engage. There is no time better than now to volunteer.”
More than a century ago, in the late 1800s, a family of Lithuanian Jewish immigrants settled in Elgin, 38 miles northwest of Chicago. Home of the Borden Milk Company, Elgin was well-known for manufacturing butter and milk and, later, the Elgin Watch Company, the largest producer of fine watches in the United States.

The Seigle family embraced their new town and the promise of innovation. The first Seigle’s Center was born, otherwise known as the Elgin Lumber Company. Fast forward more than 130 years later, and Mark Seigle is keeping his family legacy alive. Today, Seigle’s Cabinet Center is the largest distributor of kitchen and bath cabinetry and countertops in the Chicago market.

With a strong family heritage in Elgin spanning generations of Seigles, Mark prioritizes giving back and supporting the greater Elgin community—as a volunteer, donor, and board member with many local organizations, currently the Boys & Girls Club of Dundee Township and United Way of Metro Chicago. What does he credit for his drive to do good? His family.

“I’m genetically disposed to being charitable because I was raised that way,” says Mark Seigle. “Our family, starting with my father, has a long history of supporting and giving back to our communities. It was ingrained in me from childhood. I saw this ongoing commitment, not only through money, but through volunteer efforts and leadership.”

As owner and president of Seigle’s Cabinet Center, Mark models giving back, encouraging his team to make a difference through their United Way workplace giving campaign, which has “become an ongoing element of our corporate structure and remains that way today,” Mark says. “We’re proud of our long track record of support through United Way.”

Mark’s relationship with United Way runs deep. Prior to United Way of Elgin merging with United Way of Metro Chicago in 2019, Mark was a longtime member on the Elgin board of directors. He continued his involvement with United Way post-merger and currently serves on United Way of Metro Chicago’s North-Northwest Regional Board and has been an instrumental voice on several committees.

With his wife, Robin, their family foundation, the Seigle Foundation, has been a presenting sponsor of our Uniting for the Holidays distribution events for the last two years. Their generosity has helped connect thousands of families in Chicago’s suburban communities with holiday meals and gifts, reducing food insecurity and brightening the holiday season.

“Uniting for the Holidays covers the basic needs of food and addresses extreme levels of scarcity today,” Mark says. “As part of our United Way effort comes from our [Seigle Cabinet Center] employees, Uniting for the Holidays allows our employees to donate not only money, but time, and see their money in action.”

From cabinetry to philanthropy, the Seigle legacy spans generations of individuals coming together to make a difference to help their community thrive. From Jewish immigrants over a century ago looking for hope and opportunity outside of Chicago, the Seigle legacy will continue to help families prosper for decades to come.
United Way’s partnership with the Garfield Park community helps strengthen our coalition of residents, faith-based and health care institutions, nonprofits, and other stakeholders. Being a part of the Neighborhood Network Initiative furthers our mission to develop leaders and create opportunities and programs that build a thriving Garfield Park community.

THEODORE JOSEPH (TJ) CRAWFORD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
GARFIELD PARK RITE TO WELLNESS COLLABORATIVE
Honoring his long-standing corporate and civic leadership and commitment to building a stronger, more equitable Chicago region, John W. Rogers, Jr. received the 2022 Andrew J. McKenna Leadership Award at our Stronger Neighborhoods Awards Luncheon on June 2.

Rogers’ story begins in the Greenwood District of Tulsa. Known as “Black Wall Street,” the prosperous neighborhood of Black-owned businesses and homes was destroyed a century ago when white rioters looted and burned the community.

Rogers’ great grandfather was J.B. Stradford, a lawyer and investor who owned Greenwood’s Stradford Hotel, the largest Black-owned hotel in the United States at the time. After his hotel and neighborhood were destroyed in the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, Stradford fled north, eventually settling in Chicago. One hundred years later, his great grandson is carrying on his legacy of advancing Black excellence and equity.

As a graduate of Princeton, where he was captain of the men’s basketball team and majored in economics, Rogers leaned on his competitive drive and spirit to launch Ariel Investments in 1983 after working for two-plus years as a stockbroker for William Blair & Company, LLC. Ariel Investments was the first African American-owned asset management firm in the country. Rogers was a pioneer in his industry, like his great grandfather in Tulsa and, later, his parents.

His father was an original Tuskegee Airman, and his mother was the first African American woman to graduate from the University of Chicago Law School in 1946.

“I’ve been very fortunate to have some really dynamic leaders in my family and people willing to stand up and fight for justice,” Rogers said in a 2020 interview with Washington Post Live.

Rogers embodies the mindset of any great leader, striving for “precision and excellence” in everything that he does, both personally and professionally, while giving back to the community. He uses his success as a businessman to break down barriers for others and is committed to reducing the racial wealth gap. Rogers has testified before the Committee on House Financial Services of the U.S. House of Representatives—not once but twice, in 2019 and 2020, advocating for legislation that supports business diversity.

“Dr. King talked about how achieving true equality in this country would require economic repair and economic justice,” Rogers said during his 2020 testimony before the Committee on House Financial Services of the U.S. House of Representatives. “We have a long way to go to win the battle Dr. King described. Black businesses are important to the future growth of the American economy...Our nation cannot survive, let alone thrive, without strong communities of color. That’s why it’s so important that we...work to create wealth, jobs, hope, and opportunity.”

“I’ve had the pleasure of knowing John Rogers for 40-plus years,” said Andy McKenna, chairman emeritus of McDonald’s Corporation, in a pre-recorded introduction at our 2022 Stronger Neighborhoods Awards Luncheon. “John has done a remarkable job, particularly [his] work on leadership diversity around Chicago. It’s a real testament to John. This United Way award really depicts [him] and all [his] service to the community.”

Sources: aaregistry.org; “How Tulsa Race Massacre Shaped Today’s Most Successful Black CEOs” (npr.org); tulsahistory.org; “Ariel Investments, America’s First Black-Owned Mutual Fund, Grand Launches Fund To Close The Racial Wealth Gap” (Forbes Magazine)
Food Is Love: Johanns Williams Fights Food Insecurity in the Southland

A 18-year-old Johanns Williams used to sell mis-labeled laundry detergent out of his car. As a teenager, he'd seen his once bustling and vibrant Harvey community transition to a place grappling with rising crime, unemployment, and poverty following the closure of the local steel mills and commercial businesses in the late 1970s and 1980s. Even the beloved Dixie Square Mall was no more.

His soap enterprise out of the trunk of his car was his way of supporting struggling families. “That’s how I started wanting to do something to lift the community,” Johanns said.

Fast forward to 2010. Johanns was a successful business professional with a career in franchise operations for the hotel industry. Yet, his hometown continued to face systemic inequities—including access to food. In between work trips while visiting family, he witnessed them unpacking fresh produce and non-perishable food—from a local pantry. Soon after learning of the ongoing challenges of food insecurity impacting those so close to him, Johanns decided he needed to do more.

He had recently joined United Way of Metro Chicago’s South-Southwest Regional Board. He viewed the partnership with United Way as the perfect way to take action and get food to families in need—not only in his hometown of Harvey, but in the greater south suburban region. Their first food drive started with “an eight-foot table and about seven volunteers,” Johanns said. “We collected maybe 2,700 pounds of food.”

“We did it the next year and the next year, and it started to catch on and grow,” he said. “From an eight-foot table to the Tinley Park Convention Center. Now we have over 150 volunteers, guest speakers, awards, a luncheon—the whole bit.”

April Food Day has, indeed, transformed. The annual food collection event and awards luncheon brings in more than 100,000 pounds of food distributed to 10 local food pantries in the Southland. The event brings the community together for a cause that is close to Johanns’ heart, with volunteers and donors from all walks of life, from corporate business professionals to high school students—and even Johanns’ own family. His children travel home from out of state to share in this family tradition of giving.

“We are so close to so many individuals who struggle, and by no fault of their own, for something as simple as food. We can do something,” he said. “When you take on your passions and share with your family, it takes on a deeper meaning. This event helps me teach my kids the importance of living your values and feeding people—feeding people with more than just food.”

“I struggle to not have tears in my eyes,” Johanns continued. “The greatest conduit we have is food. For me, food is love. If we continue to keep food in front of people, good things will come out of it.”
Chairing from the Heart: Linda Imonti’s Commitment to Community

Linda Imonti joined the United Way of Metro Chicago Board in 2020 amid the COVID-19 pandemic because she wanted to make a difference.

“It’s important to me to build a stronger, more equitable Chicago region,” Linda said. “That became even more important when we went through the pandemic and we saw the impacts of COVID. That led me to getting more involved in United Way.”

Linda was already a donor to United Way through KPMG’s employee giving campaign, so she was familiar with the United Way model of assembling resources and investing in neighborhoods from the ground up. After being named managing principal of KPMG’s Chicago office in April 2019, she made the decision to deepen her involvement and joined United Way’s Board of Directors and Campaign Cabinet as a vice chair.

During Linda’s term as a vice chair, she and the KPMG team expanded United Way’s network of supporters and opened up new opportunities. Because of their great success, Linda was quickly recruited to chair the 2021/2022 campaign. “When someone comes to you with this kind of opportunity, especially during the time period we were going through, I said yes,” she said.

The role of campaign chair afforded Linda the opportunity to elevate KPMG’s impact and commitment to addressing systemic issues in the community, especially access to quality education and literacy. Through Linda’s leadership, the KPMG Family for Literacy (KFFL) Chicago chapter donated its one millionth book to Chicago’s young readers at Woodson Regional Library in Auburn Gresham.

KPMG Chicago has also collaborated with our Auburn Gresham Neighborhood Network to support its commitment to equitable education and early literacy programs for children in preschool through third grade. Last year, Linda announced a total commitment of $900,000 to the Auburn Gresham community over nine years.

“With everything our city has faced due to COVID-19 and ongoing racial inequities, it’s more critical than ever that we continue to invest back into our neighborhoods,” she said. “We continue to stand by United Way’s belief that a zip code should not dictate a person’s destiny.”

Linda’s decision to lead the 2021/2022 campaign came during an especially unpredictable time, and she attributes her success as campaign chair to the team around her. “I would consider myself very fortunate that they believed in me to do the role and that there was such a strong team of people around me that had the same passions,” she said. “It’s an amazing experience. You sit back and think, wow, the team did that.”

The 2021/2022 campaign year came to a close during our Campaign Heroes Celebration on July 19, hosted by KPMG’s Ignition Center in Chicago, where Linda announced that $42.5 million was raised during the campaign season.

“Chairing has to come from the heart,” she said. “Yes, we apply our strategic mind, and we apply our business savvy, but in the end, it comes from the heart. And that makes magic.”
The Englewood Neighborhood Network will help us support our efforts to improve the quality of life for residents, designed to increase Teamwork Englewood’s capacity as well as our partners. Having partners like United Way who value a place-based, community-led approach is vital to transforming neighborhoods and improving health, educational and economic outcomes.

CECILE DE MELLO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TEAMWORK ENGLEWOOD
# 2021/2022 Top 25 Corporate Partners

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>BMO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>KPMG</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>PwC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Exelon, ComEd</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>An Exelon Company</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>UPS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>TW</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bank of America</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Deloitte</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Northern Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>EY</td>
<td></td>
<td>Peoples Gas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>We Keep Life Moving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nicor Gas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fifth Third Bank</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>AON</td>
<td></td>
<td>Costco Wholesale</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Baird</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sargent &amp; Lundy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>PNC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Comcast NBCUniversal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Enterprise Holdings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Allstate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>CIBC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Harris Associates Oakmark Funds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Usbank</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Burns McDonnell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Board of Directors
Chairperson
Cheryl A. Francis
Vice Chair
Linda T. Coberly
Treasurer
Manuel Flores

Members
David C. Blowers
Patrick J. Canning
David R. Casper
Jeffrey Devon
Paulette Dodson
Andrew Dunn
Kenneth Escoe
Bridget Gainer
Linda L. Imonti
Rev. Larry L. Jackson, MDiv
Lisa N. Johnson
Darren Jones
Carina Markel
Charles Matthews
Edward W. McGrogan
Randy Mehrberg
Eileen M. Mitchell
Neil Murray
Kristie P. Paskvan
Alicia Ponce
Mark Prindiville
Robert Reiter
Jud Snyder
Robert A. Sullivan
Scott C. Swanson
Julia Morsch Sznewajs
Brooke Thompson
Wolfe Tone
Kelly R. Welsh
Johanns Williams

Executive Committee
Chair
Cheryl A. Francis
Patrick J. Canning
Linda T. Coberly
Jeff Devon
Manuel Flores
Linda L. Imonti
Carina Markel
Charles Matthews
Kristie P. Paskvan
Robert A. Sullivan

Compensation & HR Committee
Chair
Jeff Devon
Patrick J. Canning
Julia Morsch Sznewajs

Chicago Council Committee
Chair
Matthew Bruce
Kant Desai
Andrea Durbin
Eric Lugo
Maura McCauley
Mandee Polonsky
Jennifer Shimp
Brett Taylor
Peter Tobin
Rev. Larry L. Jackson, MDiv
Lisa N. Johnson
Judson Snyder

Equity Committee
Chair
Linda T. Coberly
Rev. Larry L. Jackson, MDiv
Lisa N. Johnson
Judson Snyder

Finance & Audit Committee
Chair
Manuel Flores
Chair, Audit Sub-Committee
Carina Markel
Patti Barnett
Paulette Dodson
Martha Hinchman
Edward W. McGrogan
Mark Prindiville
Adam Schlesinger
Julie Scott
Laura Stern
Brooke Thompson

Nominating Committee
Chair
Robert A. Sullivan
David C. Blowers
Patrick J. Canning
Deborah L. DeHaas
Cheryl A. Francis
Lisa N. Johnson
Lester McKeever
Andrew J. McKenna
Neil Murray

Strong Neighborhoods Committee
Chair
Kristie P. Paskvan
Kant Desai
Manuel Flores
Cheryl A. Francis
Bridget Gainer
Reverend Larry L. Jackson, MDiv
Janet Katz
Anna Lee
Marcia MacPhearson
Randy Mehrberg
Eileen Mitchell
Tawakaliu Mitchell
Neil Murray
Michael Pinkney
Alicia Ponce
Mark Prindiville
Kelly R. Welsh

Tocqueville Committee
Chairs
David C. Blowers
Wolfe Tone
David C. Albright
Chuck Beitel
David Berezin
Niamh Kristufek
Susan C. Levy
Brad Reid

United Way of Metro Chicago 2021/2022 Impact Report | 24
Campaign Cabinet

Chair
Linda L. Imonti

Vice Chairs
Steven C. Bauer
David C. Blowers
Teresa Wilton Harmon
John Oliver Hudson III
Lisa N. Johnson
Henry Munoz
Neil Murray
Thurman Smith
Wolfe Tone

Members
Laura M. Adams
David C. Albright
Jennifer (Shook) Bahra
Jamie Baisley
Chuck Beitel
David Berezin
Michael Berger
Justin Brown
David Burden
Jessica Caffrey
Katie Jahnke Dale
Dmitry Dukhan

Polly Melton Eldringhoff
Shane M. Foley
David Freeman
Natasha Galavotti
Thomas Harmening
Jack Hennessey
Sara Kowalczyk
Niamh Kristufek
Dawn Lauderdale
Susan C. Levy
Rogelio Lopez
Christopher Miceika
Jackie Nagel

North-Northwest Suburban Regional Board

Chair
Edward W. McGrogan

Vice Chairs
Samuel Boebel
Scott H. Budd
Marc D. Wallace

Vice Chair/CISC Co-Chair
Janet Katz

Secretary/CISC Co-Chair
Alan Bromberg

Members
Steve Adelstein
Chuck Adler
Sue Ehlers
Christopher Eilers
Barbara Ferguson
Shaun M. Goldfarb
Corey Gustafson
Jeffrey W. Kreye
Satish Kumar

South-Southwest Suburban Regional Board

Chair
Johanns Williams

Vice Chairs
Hannah Hayes
Jeff Cohn

Co-Chair, Resource Development Committee
Robin Bettenhausen

Co-Chair, Resource Development Committee
Victor Roberson

Chair, Community Impact Steering Committee
Mayme C. Buckley-Leonard

Chair, Board Development and Nominating Committee
Barbara Suggs-Mason, Ph.D.

Members
Vernard L. Alsberry, Jr.
L. Marie Asad
Andrea L. Davenport
Dr. Lakshmi Emory
Shamus Hayes
Rev. Larry L. Jackson, MDiv
Deborah Stevens
Desiree Watkins

West Suburban Regional Board

Chair
Andrew Dunn

Vice Chair
Mark Skerjan

Chair, Community Impact Steering Committee
Jason Meslin

Members
Scott Allister
Jose Alvarez
Linda Anderson
Maureen Brocato
James Grana
Samina Kapadia
Marcia MacPhearson
Aaron McCollough
Tara Nieberding

Mike Paulsen
Linda Peddle
Shane Print
Brad Reid
Maureen Spain
Greg Tait
Bill Thomson
Sarah Vehlow
Don V. Villar
Andrew Vouziers
Melissa Washington
Patrick (Pat) Whiteside
Christopher L. Williams

Mark S. Seigle
Venetia Valley
Eric Witherspoon
Bill Thomson
Sarah Vehlow
Don V. Villar
Andrew Vouziers
Melissa Washington
Patrick (Pat) Whiteside
Christopher L. Williams
There is an opportunity for us as a community to do more together. I’m fundamentally optimistic about what’s ahead of us because we’re committed and we’re going to keep going.

SEAN GARRETT
PRESIDENT AND CEO,
UNITED WAY OF METRO CHICAGO