

# UNITED FOR ALL



United Way of  
Northwest Michigan

2020

# LOOKING FORWARD

2020 has been a difficult year for all of us. We have had the world that we once knew change, but we will get through this. Even with all of the changes, uncertainty and unknowns; your United Way stands strong working to help every child build a strong foundation for the future, that hard working individuals can achieve self-sufficiency and their dreams and that those in crisis have resources readily available.

We have evolved to respond to the ongoing pandemic by putting over 500 volunteers, including our Tuesday Toolmen, to work. We have raised nearly a million dollars with our partners to help support area nonprofits and we have connected over 2000 individuals to resources through our 211 system.

On top of that we are changing what we do. 2021 will be the year of what WE can do in our community to have impact. All of this would not be possible without you. We hope that you will consider continuing to give your time, talent and treasure to supporting your local United Way.

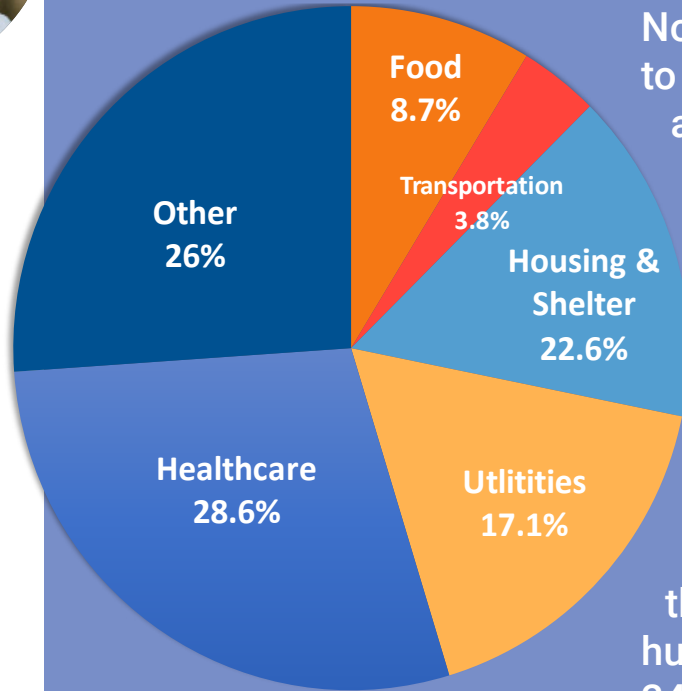
At United Way of Northwest Michigan we are here for you, we are here because of you and we are here with you **LIVING UNITED.**

## SETH JOHNSON

President  
United Way of Northwest Michigan



# CORNER



**2,203 TOTAL CALLS**

Every day, people across Northwest Michigan turn to 211 for information and support—whether financial, domestic, health or disaster-related. 211 is a free, confidential referral and information helpline and website that connects people of all ages and from all communities to the essential health and human services they need, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

# MEET THE TUESDAY TOOLMAN

These volunteers are hand raisers, problem solvers, and game changers. Especially when unexpected life-changing events happen for our neighbors, neighbors like Sharon and Nicholas.

A few months ago the unthinkable happened. When Sharon was out of town, Nicholas suffered a dizzy spell, fell, and became paralyzed. As he fought to recover, it became evident they were looking at a very different future. Nicholas would now be using a wheelchair for mobility. More than the emotional recovery, they faced real physical barriers. Nicholas would not be able to recover from home without a wheelchair-accessible ramp.

Enter the Tuesday Toolmen. Through Sharon's coworkers, a local trade association, and a very generous business that provided all of the building materials, Sharon was able to bring Nicholas home. The Toolmen planned, prepared, built, and installed the wheelchair ramp a week before Nicholas was released from the hospital.

He was able to rejoin his bride of 21 years in the house they worked so hard to build, and make home.

We like to call the Tuesday Toolmen our hammer-hauling heroes. They answer calls to help assure our neighbors can be safe, healthy, and secure at home.

United Way measures success in lives changed. This story is a testament to the difference that communities can make when we come together for our neighbors and the common good. And when that happens, everyone wins.

**UNITED FOR SHARON & NICHOLAS.**  
**UNITED FOR BETTER DAYS.**  
**UNITED FOR ALL.**

**UNITED  
WE CHANGE THE  
STORY OF MANY.**

**UNITED WAY OF NORTHWEST MICHIGAN**

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**AS ONE,**

**OUR VISION**

United Way envisions a world where all individuals and families achieve their human potential through health, education, and financial stability.

**OUR MISSION**

We connect and mobilize the caring power of our local communities to advance the common good.

# CHANGE DOESN'T HAPPEN ALONE.

Help us get the word out.

Please share how **YOU** plan to join the fight and transform your community with United Way of Northwest Michigan.

Be sure to include #UnitedWayNwMI



@UnitedWayNwMI