



Prairieland United Way

IN APPRECIATION OF OUTSTANDING
BUSINESS PHILANTHROPY AND
CREATING A CULTURE OF GIVING, WE
RECOGNIZE OUR TOP 20 BUSINESS PARTNERS

Thank You!

1. Jacksonville Memorial Hospital
2. Bound To Stay Bound Books
3. The Farmers State Bank and Trust Company
4. CNB Bank and Trust, N.A.
5. Ameren Illinois
6. Benton & Associates
7. Nestle
8. JBS Meats
9. Hertzberg New Method
10. Reynolds Consumer Products

11. First National Bank of Arenzville
12. Dot Foods
13. Illinois College
14. Hutchison Engineering
15. AgriSompo North America
16. Illinois Electric Cooperative
17. Blue Cross Blue Shield
18. Jacksonville School District #117
19. Dimond Brothers Insurance
20. Petefish Skiles & Co. Bank

Together, these companies
raised a total of

\$300,342



2024 CAMPAIGN

Prairieland United Way • 200 West Douglas • Jacksonville, IL 62650 • 217-245-4557
www.prairielandunitedway.org

Annual Report sponsored by the Journal-Courier



2025 ANNUAL REPORT
& 2024 CAMPAIGN AWARDS & CELEBRATION

From our Leadership...

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

After working at Jacksonville Memorial Hospital for the past 26 years with the last 2 as President and CEO, it has become abundantly clear to me that a community-based hospital can only be as strong as the community it serves. After being on the board of the Prairieland United Way for the past 5 years, it has also become abundantly clear that not many organizations have more of an opportunity to improve the strength of the community more than the Prairieland United Way. The board of the United Way has the honor of serving the 19 community-based service agencies that strive to meet the most basic needs that every individual deserves. Without the work of these agencies, the hospital would not be able to meet our mission to improve lives and build stronger communities through better health. I want to personally thank each of those that work and volunteer with these agencies. I want to thank each of the board members that spend their valuable time ensuring that these agencies have resources to meet the needs of our community. I want to thank our executive director, Karen Walker, for her leadership that ensures our fundraising efforts will provide the needed resources. I also want to thank and congratulate Jodee Nell and Kevin Eckhoff on a successful campaign that raised almost a half a million dollars so the needs of our communities could be met. Martin Luther King Jr. stated, “everyone can be great because everyone can serve” and Mahatma Ghandi stated “a nation’s greatness is measured by how it treats its weakest members”. The greatness in our community can be shown by those of you that work in these agencies as well as those of you that support these agencies. Thank you for being great and making our community great.

Sincerely,
Trevor Huffman



TREVOR HUFFMAN
President
Prairieland United Way
Board of Directors
2024-25

MISSION STATEMENT

Prairieland United Way unites resources and people in Morgan, Cass, Scott, and northern Greene Counties, to meet human needs by boosting education, economic mobility, and health resources in our community.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



KAREN WALKER
Executive Director
Prairieland United Way

“Impact Through Unity: Our Year in Review”

This year’s success is measured not just in dollars raised or services provided, but in lives changed. Your investments have:

- Equipped children with educational opportunities
- Empowered families toward financial independence
- Built healthier, more resilient communities

In a year of both challenges and triumphs, your unwavering commitment has been our foundation. Whether through generous donations, volunteer hours, or advocacy efforts, you’ve demonstrated that positive change happens when community comes together with purpose.

This report reflects more than our organizational achievements—it showcases the power of collective action. Every milestone reached and every life improved bears the mark of your generosity.

As we look to tomorrow, we’re inspired by what we’ve accomplished together and energized by the possibilities ahead. Your partnership makes our mission possible, and your continued support will help write the next chapter of positive change in our community.

Together, we’re not just making a difference—we’re transforming lives. Thank you for being the driving force behind our impact.

With gratitude,
Karen Walker

VISION STATEMENT

Prairieland United Way will be a changemaker advocacy for social good by harnessing and mobilizing private, public, & nonprofit partners to empower individuals and improve LIVES in our community.

Register Your Child for

FREE BOOKS

Register your child in Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library and get a FREE BOOK every month until their 5th birthday.

Register your child in Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library and get a FREE BOOK every month until their 5th birthday.

If your child lives in Morgan, Cass, Greene, or Scott County, register for Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library at www.prairielandunitedway.org

This program is sponsored locally by Prairieland United Way & Bound To Stay Bound Books Foundation

www.btsb.com

Learn more at ImaginationLibrary.com

ILLINOIS • OVERVIEW*

United For ALICE calculates the cost of household essentials for all counties in Illinois. These costs, outlined in the [Household Survival Budget](#), are calculated for various household sizes and compositions.

Of Illinois’s 5,040,533 households in 2022...

- 12% earned **below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)**
- 24% were **ALICE**, in households that earned above the FPL but not enough to afford the basics in the communities where they live
- Together, 37% of households in Illinois were **below the ALICE Threshold** (poverty + ALICE divided by total households)

ALICE Lives in Every Community

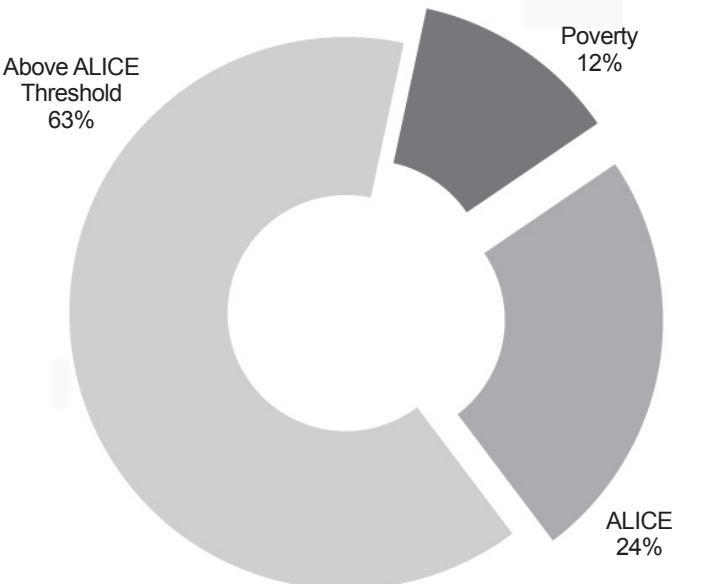
ALICE lives in rural, urban, and suburban areas across the state. ALICE household data for Illinois is available by County, Zip Code, Census Designated Place, and County Subdivision (on the [Maps](#) page) and by [Legislative](#) District. You can also compare states and explore national-level data on the [National Overview](#) page or download an Excel version of this data.

42% of Morgan County households live below ALICE Threshold.

44% of Greene County households live below ALICE Threshold.

37% of Scott County households live below ALICE Threshold.

39% of Cass County households live below ALICE Threshold.



*Data from United for ALICE.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024-25

Trevor Huffman, President
Jacksonville Memorial Hospital
Stephen Symons. Vice President
Dimond Bros. Insurance
Sherri Richardson, Treasurer
CCK Automations
Amy Quigg, President
Reynolds Consumer Products
David Albers
Benton & Associates
Kim Andras
CNB Bank and Trust N.A.
Erin Becker
Turner Paint & Construction
Jeremy Briggs
Nestle
Ryan Byers
Rammelkamp, Bradney, P.C.
Janet Chipman*
Routt Catholic High School
Tyler Devlin
Illinois Electric Cooperative
Tim Flinn
Stifel Investment Services
Brian Hartsock
First National Bank of Arenzville
Lauren Hays
Illinois College
Peggy Hoots*
Bound To Stay Bound Books
Marcy Jones
Jones Meat & Locker
Brooke Stewart*
West State Title Company
Lauren Thomas
Philanthropist/Investor
Michael Woods
Midwest Agriculture
Karen Walker, Executive Director
Hannah Stephens, Administrative Assistant

*denotes retiring board member

ADVISORY CABINET 2024-25

Helen Baldwin
Ginny Fanning
Keith Lape
Shawn McCombs
Polly Pulley
Kai Schnitker
Gary Scott
Andy Smith
Kelly Staake

2024 CAMPAIGN CHAIR REMARKS

From Jodee:
As I reflect on this past year, I think about the people, businesses, and organizations that Kevin and I have met who share a passion for helping others. We had envisioned a community coming together when we decided on the theme “Just Imagine” and that is just what happened. This year’s goal was \$470,000 and I am pleased to say that the goal was surpassed by over \$22,000. This campaign was not a success because of campaign co-chairs. It was a success because of the people in the community. It was a success because Kevin and I were lucky enough to be surrounded by an amazing United Way staff, an incredible board of directors and an extremely generous community.

I want to thank all of our donors and the volunteers as none of this is possible without you. We can help fund 28 programs and 19 agencies over the next 12 months because of your support. Although this year’s campaign is over, our work is not done. I ask each of you to stay engaged with this amazing organization as they continue to give assistance to our fellow neighbors. Just imagine what we can do.

From Kevin:
Just imagine . . . we did it! It’s time to celebrate! We accomplished (and surpassed!) our campaign goal because of your thoughtful and generous contributions to the Prairieland United Way. Your support transforms our communities into better places. Thank you, donors!
Now comes the real work. As our local allocation panel begins their task, just imagine how many more individuals and families we can touch. These dollars will have a positive impact in the communities we serve. I encourage you to learn more, volunteer and experience the great work of the Prairieland United Way. Together, we ARE making a difference.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

CRISIS/INTERVENTION 41%
Crisis Center Foundation - Prevention & Intervention
Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault - Prevention
Midwest Youth Services - Counseling
Advocacy Network for Children - CAC
Advocacy Network for Children - CASA
American Red Cross - Disaster Services
The Salvation Army - Community Services
New Directions Warming & Cooling Center - Shelter
New Directions - REST
North Greene - Emergency Services

EARLY CARE/YOUTH DEVELOPMENT 11%
Presbyterian Day Care - Scholarships
North Greene Bright Futures - Diaper Drive
North Greene Bright Futures - Formula Drive
Bob Freesen YMCA - After School Program
Bob Freesen YMCA - Summer Day Camp

EDUCATION/GUIDANCE 10%
Big Brother Big Sister - One on One Mentoring
Boy Scouts - Traditional Scouting

Girl Scouts - Scouting Program
Cass County Health - Teen Reach
Bob Freesen YMCA - Youth Assistance
Fellowship of Christian Athletes - Youth Programs

HEALTH/WELLNESS 37%
Cass County - Food Pantry
Prairie Council on Aging - Bread of Love
Prairie Council on Aging - Doorbell Dinners
The Salvation Army - Food Pantry
The Salvation Army - Meal Programs
North Greene - Food Pantry

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Prairieland United Way aims to create a prosperous community with equal access to basic needs, education, finance, and healthcare. We achieve this by supporting exceptional programs and services that align with our community identified priorities through a competitive grant process, evaluated by volunteers.

Because of your ONE donation...

... Laura has more than just stability.

Laura came into shelter due to physical and emotional abuse from her boyfriend and the father of her children. Laura had not had a stable living situation for most of her life due to her mom being in a domestic violence relationship also. Laura’s goal was to get a place of her own to be safe and raise her children. While in shelter, she received assistance with counseling, employment and transportation. Once employed, she was assisted with finding daycare. She was referred to a program that assisted with rent until she could get her finances in order. Laura had a few setbacks but stayed in contact with the Center and received support throughout. She is currently housed, employed and is not reliant on the father of her children for monetary support.



This individual felt she didn’t have any options for assistance and that she would always be stuck living in her car. She even stated that she was contemplating taking her own life.

...Carol has a home.

Carol, an elderly disabled individual, came in for food assistance stating that she was living in her car after her most recent eviction. In working with her, it was determined that she did not understand how to work her finances to make her limited income work. Our team determined that Carol would benefit from a more long term solution to help her understand her finances. With this knowledge in mind our team went to work. With the assistance of other programs we were able to work together to assist Carol to obtain a place in the Supportive Housing Program. Carol felt she didn’t have any options for assistance and that she would always be stuck living in her car. She even stated that she was contemplating taking her own life. After working with our team, she was able to realize there were many options and that life isn’t what we see today but the whole of our being. Carol has been ever thankful for our teams work and dedication to every member of our community.



Names have been changed to protect privacy.

... this family has peace of mind.

This family program has truly been a blessing for me and my family. They’ve helped me in so many ways like giving me parenting tips, providing diapers and wipes and even helping me get a stroller when I really needed one. They also have this little store where I can get things like soap or laundry detergent and work it off just by going to my appointment which has been such a huge help. But it’s not just about the stuff they’ve helped me connect with my community and encourage me to set goals not just as a parent but as a person. What really stand out to me though is how much my home visitor truly cares about me and my family. When I go to my appointments, I never felt judged only supported and encouraged. I look forward to each appointment it’s the highlight of my week. That kind of caring and understanding means so much and it’s made such a difference in my life. Knowing I have that kind of support has been life changing. It’s made me feel like I’m not alone in this and I’m so grateful for everything they’ve done for me.



That kind of caring & understanding means so much and it’s made such a difference in my life. Knowing I have that kind of support has been life changing.

... David gained confidence.

David had been spending time with older youth, skipping school and causing trouble. Initially, he attended our program only because his parents forced him to. He thought it was just another boring program where people tried to “fix” him. However, as time went on, David realized something important: one particular mentor didn’t just talk at him - she listened to him. She gave him the space to figure things out independently while helping him set goals, whether it was improving his grades or trying out for a sport he had always been too scared to attempt. Now David is an all-B student and is running cross country.



A special THANK YOU...



... to our business partners for their support
of our community.

AgriSompo
Ameren Illinois
Bank of Springfield
Benton & Associates
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Bluffs School/Scott Morgan CUSD 2
Bound to Stay Bound
Buchanan & Cody Funeral Home
Cargill
Caterpillar
City of Jacksonville
CNB Bank and Trust
Delta Foundation
Dimond Brothers Insurance
Dollars for Doers
Dot Foods
Edward D. Jones & Co.
Eli Bridge
Farm Credit Services

Farmers State Bank & Trust Co.
First National Bank of Arenzville
Grojean Real Estate & Insurance Agency, Inc.
Heartland Bank & Trust
Hertzberg
Hutchison Engineering
Hyvee Grocery Store
Illinois College
Illinois Electric Cooperative
Illinois Road Contractors
Jacksonville Area Chamber of Commerce
Jacksonville Memorial Hospital
Jacksonville School District #117
JBS Meats
Kerber, Eck & Breckel LLP
Morgan County Courthouse
Nestle
Our Saviour School
Pathway Services Inc.

Peak Ins. Agency
Petefish Skiles & Co Bank
Rammelkamp Bradney, P.C.
Reynolds Consumer Products
Routt Catholic High School
Sikich, LLP
Stifel Nicolaus
The Source
Triopia School
US Bank
Walmart
Wessler Bros Agency
West Central Mass Transit District
West State Title Co.
Westown Ford
WLDS/WEAI
Worrell Land Services
Zumbahlen, Eyth, Surratt, Foote & Flynn, Ltd.

CONTACT US IF YOU'D LIKE YOUR BUSINESS TO BECOME A PRAIRIELAND UNITED WAY PARTNER

The Prairieland United Way Workplace Campaign

The workplace campaign brings employees together to donate, volunteer, and advocate for their community. By fostering teamwork and supporting meaningful causes, it empowers individuals across all industries to make a lasting impact where they live, work, and play.

CORPORATE LEADERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Prairieland United Way received \$201,342 in donations from local corporate partners as matching donations to their employee's donations or as corporate gifts.

Bound To Stay Bound Books	Hertzberg New Method	Walmart
Ameren Illinois	Reynolds Consumer Products	Illinois Electric Cooperative
CNB Bank & Trust, N.A.	Nestle	Blue Cross Blue Shield
The Farmers State Bank and Trust Company	Benton & Associates	Delta Foundation
	Cargill	

MATCHING GIFTS

A hidden benefit of United Way funds is the way they are leveraged to bring additional dollars into our community. Many agencies depend on their United Way grant to secure additional funding from the state and federal governments and foundations. Several United Way funded agencies will receive an additional \$1,020,250 by leveraging their United Way grants. That means for every United Way dollar awarded, another \$3.00 is received from outside funds.

DONOR ROLL – LEADERSHIP GIVING

The donor roll consists of community individuals who make leadership gifts to United Way. Levels range from Young Leader to Winners Circle. This group raised \$166,058.68 in Campaign 2024.

YOUNG LEADER (35 & YOUNGER) \$300-\$599

Amanda Bangert
Amanda Beddingfield
Bailey Cooper
Brian Borgman
Cameron Jones
Cole Burke
David & Taber Albers
Emily Hess
Erick DeBolt
Hannah Portwood
Jessica DeOrnellas
Jodi Nordwall
Kayla Reno
Kristine Schulte
Lauren Hays
Melissa Bramblett
Melody Wear
Nichole Dyer
Paul Herring

PACESETTER \$600-\$749

Bev & Glenn Coats
Brittany & Brett Henry
Bruce & Sara Roegge
C. Matththew Smith
Dan & Connie Beard
Dona Leanard
Elta (Beth) Johnson
Francis Nelson, Jr.
Ginny Fanning
James McGownd
Jason Fricke
Jason Wheeler
Jeff Whitten
Jodelle Nell
Joe Hutchison
John & Lois Herbst
Karen Walker
Kathy Fellhauer
Kelly & Karen Doyle
Kelly Staake
Ken Zumbahlen
Larry Flynn
Laurie Peak
Lorie Morris
Marcy Patterson
Matthew Hardy
Michael Langdon
Mr. & Mrs. Kai Schnitker
Neal & Dianna Hart
Peggy Hoots
Robert Thomas Jr.

Roger Shaw
Ron Hance
Scott & Lisa Musch
Theodore Deen
Thomas Winkelman
Tim Flinn
Tyler Devlin

STRIDER \$750-\$999

Amy Gillespie
Amy Jackson
Donald Pigg
Jamie Headen
Katherine Doyle
Kevin Heitz
Mayor & Mrs. Andy Ezard
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Ganz
Pam Nichols
Sharon Zuiderveld
Stefanie Ballinger
Susan Wood
Suzanne Steckel
Teresa Ware
Thomoas Meehan
Todd Evans

GATEKEEPER \$1,000-\$1,499

Alban Haxhinasto & Elizabeth Becker
Amanda Meyer
Amy Coats
Barb & Greg Lindsey
Brad & Therese Wilson
CD Davidsmeyer
Charles Savage
Clifford Bumgarner
Donald Olendski
Dr. & Mrs. Peter & Kathy Roodhouse
Dr. Darr & Dawn Leutz
Dr. Eric Giebelhausen
Dr. James Green
Drs. Keith & Phyllis Lape
James Burke
Jan Schumm
Jeff Coultas
Judy & Rich Morrison
Kristan Becker Hoffman
Marcy & Terry Jones
Mark & Barb Whalen
Martha & C. Louis Vache
Mike & Trish Halsne
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Beard
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Albers

Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Cors
Mr. & Mrs. Shawn McCombs
Nancy Taylor-Porter
Phil Langdon
Polly Pulley
Pres. Barbara Farley
Robert Bonjean
Russell Kerr
Ryan Byers
Steve & Vicke Meyer
Terry & Sharon Maggart
Tim & Stephanie Chipman
William Gardner
William Sleeman

GOLDEN CIRCLE \$1,500-\$2,499

Andy & Lori Smith
Barbara Suelter
Emily & Cory Winters
JJ & Sherri Richardson
Joe Racey
Keith & Karole Devlin
Matthew Snodgrass
Michael Bonjean
Michael Lansden
Mitchell White
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew F. Applebee
Mr. & Mrs. Reg Benton
Mr. & Mrs. Rich Foss
Trevor & Monica Huffman

VICTORY LANE \$2,500-\$4,999

Adah Mitchell
Angela Leach
Helen Baldwin
Karen & Bob Sibert
Margaret Crump
Nicole & David Meyer
Rabbi Rob & Lauren Thomas
Stephen & Cammie Symons
Toni Surratt

WINNERS CIRCLE \$5,000 - \$9,999

Drs. Charles & Margaret Wilson
Eddie Carpenter
Jane Hadden
Janet Chipman
Joy French Becker

We apologize if we missed your name. Thank you to each and every one of you!

HELEN BALDWIN AWARD

The Helen Baldwin Distinguished Service Award was developed in 1994 to recognize individuals who go above and beyond in their volunteer activities for the Prairieland United Way cause. This award was first given to its name sake, Helen Baldwin who chaired two campaigns, and served as residential and business committee chair for many years.



HELEN BALDWIN

Helen Baldwin was a long-time board member who helped develop the allocations process and the Pacesetter Leadership giving group. She continues to give to the United Way both financially and with her time.

Past recipients include:		2010	John Cox
1994	Helen Baldwin	2012	Bev Coats
1995	Linda Donovan	2013	Chet Wynn
1996	Barbara Wooldridge	2014	Tom Atkins
1997	Richard Freudenberg	2015	Brad Leighton
1998	Joy French Becker	2016	Robert Sibert
1999	Rosemary Tendick	2017	Lori Hartz
2000	Renee Fox	2018	Paul White
2001	Coy Burnett	2019	Bob & Janet Chipman
2002	Mike Halsne	2020	Gary Scott
2003	Joy French Becker	2021	Drs. Charles & Margaret Wilson
2004	Gilbert Todd		
2004	Kelly Staake	2022	Andy & Lori Smith
2006	Jean Jumper	2023	David & Nicole Meyer
2007	Helen Downey	2024	Kai Schnitker
2008	Shawn McCombs	2025	<i>To be announced</i>
2009	Ernie Downey		

2024-25 SPONSORS & IN KIND DONORS

Ace Hardware, Ashley's Furniture, Beard Implement, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Brandt's, Bob Stambaugh, Burger Board, Central Park Dentistry, City of Jacksonville, Club Carwash, CNB Bank & Trust, N.A.,Dot Foods, Edw. Jones Agents: Brent Bordenkircher: Tom Hill, Tony Moore, Will Whalen, Jack Whalen; Evandy's Boatel, First National Bank of Arenzville, Future Champions Sports Complex, Guse's, Hampton by Hilton, HyVee, Jacksonville Journal-Courier, Jones Meat & Locker, Kim's Place, Leo's Pizza, Matthew Martin Consulting, Mulligan's, My Buddy's BBQ, Papa Murphy's Pizza, Petefish Skiles & Co Bank, Plum Creek Golf Course, Proud Richards, Reynolds Consumer Products, John & Rachel Rohn– Midwest Athletic Center and The Plaza, Rural Cyclery, Schiraz, Steve Varble, Steve Weber Films, The Corner Deli, The Source, Turner Tree Service, Twisted Tree Music Hall, Walmart, Walton's Appliances, WJVO/WJIL Radio, WLDS/WEAI Radio, World Travel, York Tire.