



**United Way
of Lamoille County**

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www.uwlamoille.org

Fall 2019 Newsletter

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2020 CAMPAIGN

It's that time of year again, where donors like you make a HUGE impact in our community by donating to local organizations.

Over the next three years we will be looking for creative programs to meet the challenges our community faces in the following areas; Housing and Homelessness, Substance Misuse, Transportation and Life Skills Education, while we continue to offer our current programs like New Foundations, the Lamoille Firewood Project and Shoveling for Seniors. If you have already donated, we thank you, and if not, we hope you will. Great things happen when we "Live United."

My office is always open if you want to talk about how you can help us accomplish this.

- Jim Curran, Executive Director



To learn more about how you can help, please visit www.uwlamoille.org
or send your donation to:

20 Morrisville Plaza, Suite B, Morrisville, VT 05661.

Advocating for the health, financial stability and education of Lamoille County residents.

YOU make it possible!



Thoughts from our Board...



I have always considered myself someone who has a big heart. Someone who is a good person that cares about others cares about those who were not blessed with the privilege and good fortune that I was. But I noticed that I was failing to take action and affect change. As I have gotten older (and wiser perhaps??), I realized that good intention and care for others is not enough. I started to examine the difference between my intentions and actions and realized I needed to do more.

We are often inundated with messages that we need massive scale changes in this country and world. It can feel quite overwhelming. How are we to begin to tackle such big issues?

In my opinion, it comes down to the impacts that we can make on individuals. Positive impacts on individuals ultimately affect the community and therefore the state and country. A country that makes decisions about the future of our existence. It's a lot less intimidating to make a difference on the individual and community levels. You get the gratification of seeing the results of your efforts and also knowing that those small scale differences do indeed affect the greater whole.

The reason that I connected so strongly with United Way of Lamoille County is that their goal is not simply to help people stay healthy, educated, and financially stable. It's to assist people in getting to a point where they aren't relying on organizations or the government for stability. It's not a handout, it's a hand up. By helping individuals become more self-sufficient we benefit the entire community and therefore make an impact that ultimately leads to global change.

There is a multitude of ways to get involved with the United Way of Lamoille County. From volunteering at the wood project to showing up to seal and stamp envelopes. It's not hard, it just takes a bit of time. I encourage members of our community to join us in our efforts at making our community and therefore the world, a better place.

- Savannah Brown, Board Member

Volunteer Spotlight

Marci Young

When Marci Young began volunteering with the Firewood Project about 12 years ago, she began as an acquaintance to some and a stranger to others. After finding a place around one of the wood splitters, she began to find a sense of rhythm with the people she was working with. She found a team of people who worked together safely and efficiently, and who she now looks forward to seeing every year at the Project. "It's like Christmas for us, when we run into each other out and about we often say, 'I can't wait for the Firewood Project!' Doing the wood project for me is about giving back to the community, volunteering is part of who I am", she says. She enjoys getting to know people in their different roles, like the woman from the bank who is normally dressed professionally but comes to the wood project in rugged attire ready to work.

Recently, Marci was at a local community breakfast and mentioned to a fellow breakfast goer that she was headed to the Firewood Project. The person looked at her and mentioned that they were a recipient. "It was really good to follow the thread and see that it was keeping a person's house warm."

She says, "Once you get into the rhythm, processing firewood doesn't feel like work rather it feels like a meditation. It's a lot like weaving or any loved hobby, it has a satisfying outcome."

Marci Young grew up on a dairy farm here in Lamoille County and spent her career in Environmental Protection. Now retired, she spends the majority of her time volunteering for various community organizations in both Morrisville and Bozeman, Montana.



Photo Credit: Savannah Brown Photography

If you would like to volunteer, call our office at (802) 888-3252 or visit our website uwlamoille.org.



Yay Hannah!

Hannah is a New Foundations Participant. She has two young children and this is her first experience living on her own. Before Hannah came to New Foundations, she and her children were living in overcrowded short-term housing. Recently Hannah opened a savings account and made her first deposit. A savings account, and the subsequent habit of saving, is an important step toward financial independence and stability.

Saving money has a wide range of benefits including emergencies, job-loss situations, financing further education, paying for housing and transportation expenses, and reducing debt. Saving money also has emotional and health benefits.

Moving can be a real budget buster, often requiring first and last month's rent and a security deposit. In addition, the costs of moving (truck, boxes, etc.) and the items needed to set up a home can break the bank without savings. By having a savings account and savings habit, Hannah can break the paycheck to paycheck cycle, have an emergency fund, and plan for her future large expenses including her move to stable housing after her time with New Foundations.

If you would like to apply for the program, or if you'd like to donate, visit our website uwlamoille.org.

Upcoming...

Bash Badge Offer

October 1st - 31st

Fundraiser @ RIDE in Stowe

October 25th

Family Photos &

Professional Headshots

*Photography by
Savannah Brown & Grant Wieler*

November 9th

Check us out on



@uwlamoille

*or visit our website www.uwlamoille.org to
find out more!*

Lamoille Valley Gleaning Program Renovation Project

We did it!

It's been two years since Salvation Farms and United Way of Lamoille County sat down to find a home for the Lamoille Gleaning Project. Over the past two years, UWLC has worked to raise the \$90,000 needed to renovate an unused barn attached to our building on 110 Portland Street.

Once renovated, the barn will be a volunteer and distribution hub, allowing Salvation Farms to expand their services by increasing the quantity of produce handled and diversifying their distribution methods while offering more volunteer and community education opportunities. Thirty-three separate organizations, that serve those most in need of healthy food, will be directly impacted. Construction will begin this fall. Thank you for the support!

Project supported by:

Community Bank, NA Foundation: \$10,000, **City Market:** \$7,000, **The Green Mountain Fund:** \$4,000, **The State of Vermont Dept. of Buildings and Grants:** \$15,000, **USDA Rural Development Grant Program:** \$34,000, **rk Miles:** \$5,000 in-kind support, and \$11,126 from **individual supporters** in our community! **THANK YOU!**

Lamoille Firewood Project

**Thanks to over 80 hardworking volunteers,
55 cords of firewood (and counting) were
processed and 37 cords were delivered to
those who need it!**

**THANK
YOU!!**

***There is still more firewood to process, if
you'd like to volunteer please call our office
at (802) 888-3252, we'd love to set up a time
with you!***



Photo Credit: Savannah Brown Photography

THANK YOU!

*We'd like to thank these businesses and organizations for their support of the Firewood Project!
Without their help, it wouldn't be possible!*



**Bishop James A. Marshall School
Breitmeyer Logging
Cady's Falls Nursery
Concept 2
Green Mountain Tech Business School
Green Mountain Trailer Sales
H.A. Manosh
Meals on Wheels of Lamoille County
Menard's Hardware and Rental
MSI
North Country Cakes
People's Academy Boy's 6-8th grade soccer
Pete's Equipment**

**Tatum's Totes
Teen Challenge
The Bagel
Town of Cambridge
Town of Hyde Park
Town of Johnson
Union Bank**

