Despite a lot of negative noise, I see real movement toward building a 21st century society that reconnects people to place and to one another: community gardens, farmer's markets, local breweries and eateries, volunteer programs, pickle ball and more. I think the key to understanding change is by focusing on local communities and the people in them instead of national social media feeds and cable talk shows. This is where real change happens. And, it's beginning to be documented by those who are paying attention.

Rich Harwood's Institute for Public Innovation has been working for 30 years to engage and empower local community. Rich began his work at the same time Putnam was documenting social decline. “I am struck by just how much change comes from initially small actions that unleash a much larger chain of events that produce real change. Much of this change could never have been predicted—it only emerged over time, one step after another,” he notes.

Author and New York Times columnist David Brooks and the Aspen Institute have developed a project called Weave that is “repairing our country’s social fabric, which is badly frayed by distrust, division and exclusion...shifting our culture from hyper-individualism that is all about personal success, to relationalism that puts relationships at the center of our lives.”

How do we make our place better? We begin by engaging with one another. It’s true that technology will continue to drive communications and connections, but relationships develop in person in real time. Technology and innovation cause disruption and people have to adapt, but they eventually do adapt. Look around at the venues and activities designed for people to gather. As technology makes work more mobile, quality of place takes on new meaning.

United Way and other organizations are adapting these principles in order to build strong communities from within. However, I don’t believe organizations or governments have ever been the drivers of change. It always begins with people. “... step forward, engage, and let your small actions ripple out in all directions. This is how hope comes about.” – Rich Harwood. “To live better, we must live united.” – United Way.

Fifty year anniversaries seem to be more prevalent the past couple of years...the summer of love, Woodstock, landing on the moon. I suspect these are getting my attention because I remember them. The advantage of being able to look back over decades is a better understanding of how things change, but also the realization that too often, we don’t recognize change as it occurs. Today, the pace of change is so rapid that we can’t afford to wait to understand and respond.

In 2000 author and political science professor Robert Putnam published “Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community”. Dr. Putnam spoke to the national United Way conference that year, outlining his findings on the ways that 20th century urbanization and industrialization led to the fraying of our social fabric, and calling for organizations and leaders to come together to find new ways to connect. In the nearly two decades since I heard him speak and read his book, I have watched these scenarios play out in Madison County: the collapse of our industrial base, but also the beginnings of revival.
If you take advantage of the opportunities, the possibilities are limitless.

Tony Sovern was working in a factory as a machine operator when he along with many co-workers were laid off. Each hoped the "return to work" call would come, but it never did. In the two years following his lay off, amidst a struggling economy, Tony was only able to land part-time jobs that paid minimum wage. Things were tight and getting tighter as Tony and his wife welcomed their first child to the family. He knew he needed a new stable career that would allow him to provide a better future for his growing family.

Tony learned of a 12-week welding course at Hinds Career Center in Elwood. He decided to go for it and within 5 days he was enrolled. The program turned out to be a great fit for Tony and his goals. "I've always been good with my hands. I like seeing the pieces of things come together." Tony continues, "The program has completely changed my life."

Even before completing the course, Tony was offered a full-time welding position at Progress Rail. A job that put his family on the path to a financially stable life. He worked at Progress Rail for 5 years, adding to his skills and welding knowledge continually.

2018 was another life-changing year for Tony and his family. He and his wife welcomed their second child and Tony was offered the position of welding instructor at the D26 Career Center for Anderson Community Schools. The position gave him the opportunity to come full circle in his journey – teaching young students the skill of welding so that they could have a great career with a stable future of their own. Since working at D26, he has also had the opportunity to teach the same welding course that started it all for him at Hinds Career Center in Elwood.

Tony's story is a great example of United Way working with partners throughout the community to provide opportunities for individuals to increase their income, build savings and gain assets. This goal is central to all that United Way does. Through programs funded by United Way, like JobSource's Financial Stability program in 2013 which provided funding for Tony's welding course and today through United Way's THRIVE Network others like Tony can find the help and resources they need to become financially stable.

"If you take advantage of the opportunities, the possibilities are limitless," shared Tony. These words are part of his story that he shares with his students. He wants them to know the importance of taking advantage of the same opportunities he had and that they keep working hard to reach their goals.

One of the greatest joys we receive at United Way is when we get an unexpected phone call from someone we helped years ago, sharing with us how much their lives have changed because of the support they received.

This is one of those stories. This is Tony's story.
New THRIVE, CKF outreach office opens in Alexandria

This past year, United Way partnered with the Church at Broadway Park in Alexandria, to open an new outreach office for its THRIVE Network and Covering Kids and Families enrollment assistance services.

THRIVE, United Way’s network of bundled services has worked with individuals and families since August of 2016 to increase their capacity to earn and build assets. “We have been working to establish a regular presence in Alexandria for a while, and are very happy to be part of the centralized services located in the Church at Broadway Park,” said Karen Hemberger, United Way vice president of impact. United Way also operates a satellite outreach office at the Hope Center in Elwood.

THRIVE clients work with coaches in the areas of income supports, employment, financial and family support to develop goals and a plan toward achieving financial stability over a period of months or longer. “The specific plans are as varied as the people,” said Hemberger.

Initially, potential clients meet with an Income Supports Coach to assess their current needs and connect them to appropriate benefits and supports. Meetings with Employment and Financial coaches follow. Employment coaching assesses educational and training needs, and assists clients with resumes, interviewing and job searches. Financial coaching provides assistance with budgeting, credit and debt counseling, and building savings toward larger goals such as education and home ownership.

Family Support Coaching is available for clients with young children and focuses on child development, connection to quality childcare, parent-child relationships and problem solving. We also work closely with childcare providers across the county to enhance high quality early childhood education with our Born Learning Connection programming.

Current partners in the THRIVE Network are the Anderson Impact Center, PathStone Corporation, Alternatives, Inc., Dove Harbor, Children’s Bureau and Stripped Love. We are also developing a partnership with Ivy Tech to offer on-site outreach and with NTN and Community Hospital Anderson to pilot Thrive@Work, a new employee outreach service.

Along with the THRIVE Network, United Way has sponsored the CKF Coalition since 2009, facilitating outreach and enrollment for public health insurance coverage and the Federal Marketplace. Our new office location in Alexandria also offers free healthcare enrollment assistance to those that need it.

“VOLUNTEERS MEET THE NEED IN PENDLETON WITH THE HELP OF THE MADISON COUNTY VOLUNTEER RECEPTION CENTER

On Memorial Day 2019, the community of Pendleton was hit by a tornado that damaged many parts of the community. First responders converged and got to work on the safety of the community. Working alongside first responders was the Madison County COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disaster), led by United Way’s Kim Rogers-Hatfield. The COAD quickly set up a Volunteer Reception Center to organize and direct volunteers to where they were needed.

In just 2 days, an amazing 430 volunteers registered through the Volunteer Reception Center at Pendleton Community Church. Volunteers removed debris from all across the community.

"We took a stand to make a lasting impact for the people we seek to serve through this innovative and collaborative approach to services. Response has exceeded our expectations and our challenge now is to build our capacity to meet the need."

- Nancy Vaughan
President
United Way of Madison County

MOST PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW

As a part of this group we help provide and coordinate disaster volunteer efforts and relief funding in the event of a disaster, like the Pendleton tornado. Throughout the year, trainings take place that include training volunteers to set up and manage a Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) to coordinate recovery volunteer relief efforts and how all groups can work together to the benefit of the community in a disaster.

- Nancy Vaughan
President
United Way of Madison County
United Way provides a vast array of integrated supports throughout Madison County. Our financial support of programs in 2018 is outlined below.

**THRIVE Network: Total Investment $316,822**
An integrated approach to education, income and health.

**THRIVE Partner Direct Funding $250,240**

- Anderson Impact Center
- Operation Love Ministries
- Dove Harbor
- Alternatives, Inc.
- PathStone Corporation

THRIVE Partners may access client funds below, and use the database to track clients and services. They are also provided coaching and training.

- THRIVE Client Funds: $10,000
- THRIVE Childcare Fund: $35,000
- THRIVE Expansion Support (UW managed outreach offices): $15,000
- THRIVE Network Support (training & technology): $6,582

**Community Access Network: Total Investment $48,500**
An integrated approach to basic needs and safety net services.

Coordinated response to basic needs includes support for 2-1-1 24/7 Information & Referral line, local shared database for partners to quickly share and store client service information, and access to shared funding pools for Utility Assistance and Exceptional Needs.

- Community Access Partners (CAN) - Alexandria Community Center, Anderson Impact Center, Carrie Mae Hyatt Westside Community Food Pantry, Central Indiana Mothers, CICAP, First United Methodist Church, George Morrissett Center, Interlocal Community Action Program, Lafayette Township, Nurse Family Partnership, Operation Love Ministries, Park Place Community Center, Salvation Army, St. Vincent Anderson Regional Health System, St. Vincent Mercy Hospital, St. Vincent de Paul, The Christian Center, The Help Center, Trinity Episcopal Church

**Covinger Kids & Families: Total Investment $79,500**
An integrated approach to health access.

**Volunteering Partners and Coalition Members**
- Anderson Impact Center, Anthem*, Ascension*, Aspire Health, Born Learning, CareSource*, Clean Slate, Community Hospital Anderson*, Healthy Families of Madison County, Hopewell Center, Huffer CCR&R, Indiana Department of Child Services, Indiana Commission for Higher Education, Indiana Division of Family Resources, Indiana Rural Health Association, Indiana 2-1-1, Ivy Tech, Jane Pauley Community Health Center, Madison County Community Health Center, Madison County Health Department, MDWise*, MHS*, Nurse Family Partnership, Purdue Extension, Open Door Health Services, St.Vincent/RUAH, St. Vincent Hospital*, WIC

*Funding partner of CKF

**Volunteer Projects: Total Investment $63,200**
An integrated approach to community volunteerism and disaster response.

- RSVP 55 + Volunteer Services Support: $57,200
- MyFreeTaxes Mentors, Are You OK?, Pre-K Buddies, Money Talk and other support volunteers.

United Way of Madison County is the sponsor of the RSVP program through a federal grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). RSVP engages persons 55 and older in volunteer service to meet critical community needs and to provide a high quality experience that will enrich the lives of volunteers. For the fiscal year, April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 CNCS funded $40,000 and United Way provided 30%, in cash or in-kind match.

- Operation Weatherization: $5,000

**Additional Direct Support: Total Investment $57,333**

Donor designations to agencies: $46,933
- United Against Opioids: $3,200
- Anderson Trustee Youth Center Summer Program: $7,200
**2018 Board, Committees, Sponsors & Donors**

**Board of Directors**
- Jonathan Cook, Chair
- Beth Tharp, Vice Chair
- Gary Erskine, Treasurer
- Brett Spangler, Secretary
- David Happe, Ethics Officer
- Scott Deetz, Community Impact Chair

**Campaign Volunteers & Workplace Champions**
- Teresa Amburgey, Jaami Bailey, Andrea Baker, Heather Bigoss, Emily Blue, Cathy Boerner, Sterling Boles, Ryan Bond, Esther Bryant, Joe Buck, Schneida Burgess, Ella Carson, Mike Casusculli, Christy Clark, Kimberly Cleaver, Kim Cleaver, Michelle Connell, Scott Deetz, David Dodd, Brian Donahue, Trent Dowling, Kelly Durr, Cheryl Eddy, Pam Erwin, Mary Erwin, Mark Evans, Michelle Ferguson, Gayle Gendron, Shari Gleeson, Beth Harpe, Mark Hayville, Stacey Hinton, Lynn Hobs, Beverly Hocker-smith, Heather Hodson, Kelly Hodson, Adam Hofrenkema, Heather Jacks, Jeff Jenness, Bev Joyce, Kristen Lemerick, Marissa Little, Janice Marley, Lillian Martin, Scott Mellingor, Loretta Mock, Stephanie Morin, Paul Partesana, Annette Phillips, David Retherford, Joe Royer, Mike Schroyer, Amanda Shepherd, Michelle Skenne, Ruthie Smith, Brett Spangler, Rob Speulding, Alissa Stanton, Paisley Tatum, Nick Theohares, Tyrone Thomas, Jessica Whitworth, Adam Wilhoit, Adrienne Wise, Jessica Wirsch, James Wood, Kris Zinser

**Committees**
- **Community Impact Committee**
  - Scott Deetz, Chair
  - Melissa Briscoe, Angela Cassidy, David Dodd, Ben Evans, David Retherford, Darla Sallee, Jan Kaye

- **Finance Committee**
  - Gary Erskine, Chair
  - Stefani Leifer, Chair
  - Anita Corley, Elizabeth Murray, Kelly Partlow, Vicky Savage, Kevin Sheward, and Obadah Smith

**EROS Program**
- **Campaign Cabinet**
  - Noah Rosen, Chair
  - Greg Bramwell, Brian Donahue, Matthew Happe, Bev Joyce, Michael Schroyer, Beth Tharp, Tyrone Thomas

**Strategic Fundraising Committee**
- **Campaign Cabinet**
  - Noah Rosen, Campaign Chair
  - Greg Bramwell, Brian Donahue, Matthew Happe, Bev Joyce, Michael Schroyer, Beth Tharp, Tyrone Thomas

**Corporate Partners**
- These businesses and organizations pledged their support for the work of United Way of Madison County with a donation of $500 or more

**Loyal/Leadership Donor Sponsors**
- ClipZone Salon and Spa
- Edgewater Woods Community Hospital Anderson
- Hoosier Park Racing & Casino
- St. Vincent Anderson & St. Vincent Mercy Hospitals

**Signature Event Sponsor**
- Carter Express, Inc.
  - Presenting Sponsor

**Operation Weatherization Sponsor**
- Vencent Foundation, Presenting Sponsor
  - Reflectix, Inc.

**RSVP & Volunteer Madison County Gold Volunteers**

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**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**ASSETS**

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**LIABILITIES**

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**Total Liabilities**
- $143,125
- $162,535

**NET ASSETS**

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**2017 & 2018 FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

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**Total Liabilities and Net Assets**
- $2,129,618
- $2,099,908
NEW THIS YEAR!

A VIRTUAL CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF!

NOON, SEPTEMBER 17 - NOON, SEPTEMBER 18
@ MADISONGIVESUNITED.ORG

This year’s United Way of Madison County campaign will kick off in a whole NEW way with our FIRST virtual campaign launch on September 17. We’re working on lots of virtual fun for the day including a 24-hour giving campaign, videos from the community, match opportunities, fun challenges between community partners, prizes and lots of ways to get involved through social media.

HERE’S HOW YOU CAN BE A PART OF MADISON GIVES UNITED DAY:

• Save the date and make plans to be a part of it.

• Be a part of our banner campaign. Put a “Madison Gives United” Virtual Campaign Kick-Off banner at your home or building and help us build excitement and awareness for the Kick-off.

• Make your own plans to make it a United Way “Give Where You Live” Day. Wear a LIVE UNITED shirt, help us raise money on your social media pages, send us a short video and why you give. We’ll share it on social media during the Virtual Kick-Off. Need a shirt? Let us know.

• Help us make the most of giving for the day with a prize donation or a monetary donation that can serve as an incentive or match for any new donor that gives during our Virtual Kick-Off.

• Be a Madison Gives United Sponsor. Several sponsorship options available.

For more information on any of the opportunities to get be a part of our Virtual Kick-off, Madison Gives United Day:

Contact: Kim Williams -VP, Resource Dev. for United Way of Madison County
k.williams@unitedwaymadisonco.org
765-608-3064