

MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

BILL AND PEGGY HECHT



Lower Macungie Township, Pa.

Members for almost three decades

“We donate to United Way for several reasons. Their emphasis on education and building strong families aligns with our values. Additionally, the ease of donating, as they identify the most effective organizations, and their excellent fund stewardship make us confident that our contributions have a meaningful impact.”

MARY LISICKY AND AMBER SIMCHAK



Allentown, Pa.

Members since 2022

“We’re passionate about giving back to our community through service, volunteering and philanthropy. United Way’s unique approach to assessing community needs and measuring local success stood out. They pinpoint the programs that have the greatest impact in our community at any given time, making our United Way donations the most effective choice.”

MIKE AND MELISSA SHAFER



Upper Saucon Township, Pa.

Members since 2021

“We have always donated our time and money to organizations that provide a positive benefit to our community. Because PPL matches employee gifts, we have been able to double our United Way impact on the causes that we care about and be a part of this tremendous mission-driven organization.”



United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley
Tocqueville Society
1110 American Parkway NE, Suite F-120
Allentown, PA 18109



<<FormalHouseholdSalutation>>
<<Street1>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

SAVE THE DATE

We hope you’ll mark your calendars and join us for this upcoming engagement opportunity.

For more information, contact Amy Golding at AmyG@unitedwayglv.org or 610-807-5722.

Thursday, April 11, 2024
Celebration of Caring
ArtsQuest Center at SteelStacks

United Way of the
Greater Lehigh Valley



TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER • FALL 2023



TODAY IN THE GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY:

43%

of teens report feeling depressed most days

25%

of seniors report feeling isolated from their community

The suicide rate is

34%

higher than the state average (Carbon County reports the highest suicide rate among veterans in Pa.)

UNITED FOR mental health

In response to the growing mental health crisis in the Greater Lehigh Valley, United Way has launched the *UNITED for Mental Health* initiative. This multi-year campaign will increase awareness and raise much-needed funds to support a wide variety of solutions that increase access to services, address social isolation and destigmatize mental illness throughout the Lehigh Valley.

“We heard it loud and clear from our donors and partners that mental health is a major area of concern. It substantially affects all parts of life including physical health, quality of life and even students’ ability to learn in school. They want to be part of the solution, and so do we,” said United Way President David Lewis.

2023 United Way Campaign Chairs Tony and Adrienne DaRe have observed the growing mental health crisis through their work at BSI Corporate Benefits. To show their commitment to addressing the crisis, BSI has pledged to make an additional gift up to \$500K to *UNITED for Mental Health* in honor of every new or increased donation to United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley through March 31.

“Mental health challenges impact every family and every person in the community. So many people are struggling, and we can make a real difference by working together.”

– Tony and Adrienne DaRe

DONATIONS TO UNITED FOR MENTAL HEALTH WILL PROVIDE RESOURCES ACROSS THE LIFE SPAN.



EARLY CHILDHOOD

In-home services equip new **parents** with skills and support in raising healthy **babies** and decrease their chances of developing mental and behavioral problems. Programs such as Nurse-Family Partnership and Unconditional Child Care address behavioral and social-emotional delays in young children before they negatively impact academic outcomes.



SCHOOL AGE

United Way Community Schools integrate preventative approaches to **student** mental health care, such as mindfulness and peace corners, into schools. Behavioral health providers link students and their families with the interventions they need to address depression, anxiety and other mental health challenges that can lead to disability and poor life outcomes.



ADULTS AND VETERANS

A new grant making initiative for **veterans** will improve access to housing, shelter and case management, reducing isolation, stigma and mental illness in the veteran community. Trauma-informed care and resiliency workshops give caregivers tools to mitigate compassion fatigue and burnout among those in helping professions, law enforcement and parents.



OLDER ADULTS

Healthy Aging Community Hubs combat social isolation and connect **older adults** to critical resources that can boost their life span and reduce the chance of developing Alzheimer’s, dementia and cancer. Trainings for dementia family caregivers decrease caregiver distress, burden and depression.



COMMUNITY-WIDE

Community-wide efforts encourage social connection to improve **community** health, success, resiliency and economic prosperity; and to reduce crime and violence. The *UNITED for Mental Health* Training Institute provides resilience and trauma-informed trainings to thousands of people across the age spectrum. Meanwhile, a new grant making initiative will ensure equity and cultural sensitivity in mental health care.

PLANNED GIVING



BILL SCHANINGER

Bill Schaninger is both an active volunteer and a generous philanthropist in his community. While serving on United Way’s Board of Directors and chairing the marketing committee, Bill has helped guide the organization’s record-breaking success over the past decade.

As a Tocqueville member, Bill knows the importance of supporting current initiatives and planning for the future.

An ardent supporter of education and UWGLV’s Community School work, Bill knows the way to a brighter future is to ensure that all kids are afforded the same educational opportunities so they are prepared for high school graduation and beyond.

“I wanted to help long into the future. That is why I have a bequest in my estate plan to endow a Tocqueville-level gift in perpetuity.”

– Bill Schaninger

FROM YOUR CO-CHAIRS

We extend a heartfelt thank you to our Tocqueville Society members. Your commitment to our mission remains unwavering as we continually challenge ourselves to expand our reach, accomplish more and serve a broader constituency. As our campaign progresses and moves beyond the halfway mark, we are thrilled to announce the successful addition of over 40 new Tocqueville households.

We stand alongside 21,000 Tocqueville members worldwide, who since 1984, have contributed over \$9 billion – a testament to the transformative power of collective giving.

Lasting impact starts with asking questions and listening to what people have to say about their community: the kind of community they want to live in; what’s in the way of making those hopes real; and what we can do together to overcome those obstacles. We’ve had a chance to speak with many of you, to volunteer and to participate in impact tours. Through these conversations, we gain a deeper and richer understanding of the community we all hold dear. Your participation in creating the change you aspire to see in the world is greatly appreciated.

Colleen and Mark Gilbert
Committee Co-Chairs

Adam McMahon
Committee Vice Chair

