



July 2022

## United Moments with UWYC

### UWYC Fact of the Month

Our current mission statement was approved by the Board of Directors in 2004: To improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of our community.



### 60,000 Diapers and 40,000 Wipes Collected for Day of Action

#### DAY OF ACTION 2022: COMMUNITY DIAPER DRIVE RESULTS

**MISSION: HELP FILL THE COMMUNITY DIAPER BANK**

A great success thanks to our community!

DIAPERS:  
60,000

WIPES:  
40,000

THANK YOU!



On June 21, UWYC held a Community Diaper Drive as part of our Day of Action. All donated diapers go to the Community Diaper Bank which is housed by Family Promise. We were able to collect 30,000 diapers through donations from the community and were able to donate an additional 30,000 diapers via a grant from the Breakfast Exchange Club. In total, we were able to provide the Community Diaper Bank with 60,000 diapers and nearly 40,000 wipes. Thank you to all who generously donated!

## Thank You to Our Diaper Drive Hosts



A huge thank you to the companies who hosted a Diaper Drive for our Day of Action. Their efforts are the reason we were able to make such an impact in our community for our Day of Action. Thank you!

### Join UWYC's Campaign Cabinet!

During the peak campaign season, United Way calls on community members to volunteer their time and effort to the annual campaign. Campaign Cabinet members lend their expertise, energy, and time to help United Way expand solicitation efforts, reach new markets and broaden the base of community giving. Cabinet members are goodwill ambassadors for the campaign within our community. In doing so, Campaign Cabinet members help to improve the quality of life for all in Yellowstone County.

## WHO      BENEFITS      TIME COMMITMENT

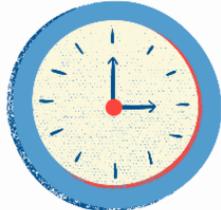
Campaign Cabinet members are active community members willing to lend their name, credibility, and reputation to United Way. They are willing to use their connections to help the campaign succeed and in turn make Yellowstone County a better place for all.



Being a Cabinet member better connects you to our community. Using your specific set of skills and connections to open doors for United Way will allow us to increase our impact in the community. You will become a champion for our underserved community members.



There will be five, one hour meetings from July-November. We will ask you to allow one hour for phone calls/meetings per company you will champion on behalf of United Way. Volunteering your time in this capacity will help make our campaign the best yet!



Contact Kelsie at [campaign@uwyellowstone.org](mailto:campaign@uwyellowstone.org) or 406.272.8504 to join us!

[Register Here](#)

## Montana VEAC Hosting Virtual Event for Veterans

Montana Veterans Experience Action Center (Montana VEAC) is hosting an event July 19-21 from 10am-3pm MST. The event will provide veterans, service members and their families with 1-on-1 assistance on VA health care, VA benefits, community services, peer-to-peer connection, memorial affairs, and crisis resources. Registration closes July 17th and there are limited spots available, so sign up today! Registration is only open to Montana residents.

UWYC helps to maintain 2-1-1 for Montana residence ensuring that all, including veterans, service members, and their families have access to the support they need to reach their full potential and avoid crisis.



**VA** U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

**MONTANA VETERANS: JOIN US FOR A VETERANS EXPERIENCE ACTION CENTER (VEAC)**

**JULY 19-21**  
**10 AM-3 PM MT**

Speak directly with VA and community experts!  
Get 1-on-1 assistance on:

- VA Health Care
- VA Benefits
- Community Services
- Peer-to-Peer Connection
- Memorial Affairs
- Crisis Resources

“Together, VA and our ecosystem of partners can work to deliberately and consciously change the way benefits, care, and services are delivered to marginalized and underserved communities.”  
-VA Secretary Denis McDonough

**REGISTER FOR THE MONTANA VEAC TODAY!**  
[www.va.gov/veac](http://www.va.gov/veac)

Limited appointments available. Registration runs through Sunday, July 17th. Please note this event is for residents of Montana only, all out-of-state registrations will be cancelled.

## Election of New Board Members, Officers and Acknowledgment of Retiring Members

UWYC extends our gratitude to board members Brenda Koch, K-12 Executive Director Leadership Support at Billings Public Schools and Matt Shafer, CPA at Montana Tax Group. As these two Board members complete their terms, we take a moment to acknowledge and recognize their contributions to United Way and our community.

UWYC is pleased to announce the addition of three new members: Kim Hayworth Vice Chancellor for Student Access and Success at Montana State University Billings, Casey Klein, CEO at Valley Credit Union, and Chris Olszewski, Executive Director of Curriculum at Billings Public Schools.

Recently elected officers include: Bret Rutherford, Chair; Pete Philippi, Chair-Elect; Casey Klein, Treasurer; Shawn Hinz, Secretary; and Katie Edwards, Past Chair.

If you are interested in becoming a board or committee member of United Way, contact Kim Lewis, President & CEO at [klewis@uwyellowstone.org](mailto:klewis@uwyellowstone.org) or 406. 272.8501.



United Way  
United Way of Yellowstone County

2022 Thursday, September 15  
4:30-7PM  
2173 Overland Ave

A community gathering to celebrate Days of Caring and Operation Supply Drive, as well as to Kick-Off the Annual Workplace Campaign.

Join us and enjoy:

- Food Trucks
- Soda & Beer
- Yard Games
- Live Music

## Operation Supply 2022: Help Youth Succeed



**Help launch United Way's fall season of giving and caring with this popular Caring in Action project.**

Operation Supply is an annual collection drive that helps stock schools with supplies and hygiene items that are available for students needing them throughout the school year. As you are shopping for school supplies *buy one to use and buy one to give* Or take advantage of back-to-school sales to contribute to this effort. Delivery dates in both Billings and Laurel will be on Thursday, September 15.

You will find a supply list [HERE](#).

To sign-up and receive more details go to the preferred link below:

[Billings](#)

[Laurel](#)

## CEO Kim Lewis Graduates DEII Program



The DEII classes were guided by an advisory board, pictured above.

UWYC's CEO and President, Kim Lewis graduated from the Billings Chamber of Commerce's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Implementation (DEII) class. Kim was one of 92 participants from 28 organizations that committed their time to growing their knowledge in DEII. Participants were credited with 10 continuing education credits through Society for Human Resource Management. Kim also earned UWYC the Chamber's Designation of "A Workplace of Choice" through her completion of the course. UWYC is committed to promoting DEII for all community members in Yellowstone county. Congratulations Kim!

## Staff Spotlight: Meet Sonja



Please join us in welcoming Sonja Clayton, our new Finance Director. Sonja joined us in early April after spending several years at Billings Clinic as both an accountant and internal auditor. In her role at UWYC, Sonja provides fiscal leadership to ensure UWYC is financially healthy and aids in implementing procedures to ensure fiscal responsibility.

Outside of work, Sonja enjoys spending time with her husband, John and their two children Evan, 9 and Spencer, 5. They keep busy by playing games, going swimming, and watching *Finding Bigfoot*. Please join us in welcoming Sonja to the team! Learn more about her below:

**What are three words that describe you?**

*Cautious, thoughtful, and introspective.*

**What is your go to pump up song?**

*Umbrella by Rhianna*

**If you could send a note to your future self, what would it say?**

*Just hold on.*

**Where is your favorite place?**

*Chico Hot Springs*

**The world could use more...**

*Hobbits*

**What is your motto?**

*There's some good in this world and it's worth fighting for.*

## UWYC Supports Flood Response



**CLICK HERE** for updated flood information and ways to help. To volunteer in neighboring counties that have been greatly impacted by the flooding check out United Way's YouCanVolunteer.org site.

As the convener for Yellowstone County Organizations Active Disaster (YCOAD), regular UPDATES are being prepared and shared with the 39 agency and organization members. These keep members informed and connected by sharing area flooding situations and needs, members' activities and other related information including that received via active participation in Montana VOAD calls.

UWYC is also providing complimentary space to Red Cross to stage supplies to support their flood response and distribution for impacted areas.

**Thank You Real Estate Roundup!**

**REAL ESTATE**



**ROUNDUP**

Thank you to those who donated to our first ever industry specific campaign- Real Estate Roundup!

**UWYC Gives Away Books at Drag Queen Story Hour at ZooMontana**



UWYC was able to attend the Drag Queen Story hour hosted by ZooMontana and 406 Pride. The event featured drag queens reading to children while they took a break from exploring the zoo. Nearly 2,000 individuals attended the event. UWYC was there in support of ZooMontana, 406 Pride, and literacy for children in Yellowstone County and gave out free books to children and provided information on the programs we offer while attending. UWYC aims to promote an equitable future for all in our community.

## Monthly Honor Roll

Shout out to these donors who have invested in Yellowstone County's health, education, and financial stability efforts this month! We appreciate your support and generosity!

- Barbara Schneeman
- Cheryl Pfau
- Craig Hall
- Doug Anderson
- Elizabeth Gordon
- Eric Owen
- Gayle Espeseth
- Heather Fink
- Jace Dyckman
- Jamie Doyle
- John Felton
- Josephine Verlanic
- Judy Stewart
- Megan Littlefield
- Melissa Synder
- ONEOK, Inc.
- Patricia Zellar
- RBC Wealth Management
- Richard & Cheri Cox
- RiverStone Health
- Shawn Hinz
- Shelli Ritz
- Western Security Bank

See Your Name Here Next Month



Does your family, service organization, social group or company want to give back to our community through volunteering? Click the picture above to view current volunteer opportunities in Yellowstone County!

If you would like your organization's opportunities listed, contact Pam at  
[psanderson@uwyellowstone.org](mailto:psanderson@uwyellowstone.org) or 406.272.8510

DONATE

# United Way of Yellowstone County



**United Way of Yellowstone County**  
406.252.3839  
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Connect with us

