

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023

# Executive Director Report



I am pleased to present the 2023 annual report for the United Way of South Central Massachusetts (UWSCM). This year marks significant milestones, including our 85th anniversary and the continued dedication of our staff, volunteers, and donors in addressing critical community needs.

Our annual campaign exceeded its goal, raising over \$600,000 locally to support local partner programs. This collective effort ensures critical services reach those who need them most. We strategically allocated funds through a rigorous grant application process, focusing on three core areas:

**Education:** We awarded grants to initiatives promoting early childhood education, academic success, and career readiness.

**Health:** Programs funded addressed mental health support and healthy living initiatives.

**Financial Stability:** Grants supported essential needs assistance, shelter programs, and literacy education.



We had many additional accomplishments in 2023 that have impacted the communities we serve in more ways than ever before. The Town of Southbridge requested that the UWSCM administer \$75,000 of ARPA funds to support the homeless and residents in need of rental and utility assistance. Another special grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts allowed for expansion of after school programs and out of school time programs for students in pre-K - 12th grade. Severe weather devastated some local farms and throughout Massachusetts. A special fundraising effort was made in conjunction with the United Way of Central MA to create the MA Farm Resiliency Fund and two local farms received financial assistance to overcome their loss of crops. Day of Caring saw over 125 volunteers tackle 13 projects in South Central MA. And the most exciting event was our 85th Anniversary celebration held on March 29, 2023, at Samuel Slaters in Webster. It was a wonderful event honoring many donors, companies and individuals who have made significant impact to this United Way.

While we celebrate our achievements in 2023, we acknowledge the ongoing challenges faced by our community. Rising costs and economic uncertainties necessitate continued focus on supporting vulnerable populations.

## In 2024, UWSCM will:

- Continue our pursuit to address housing instability, access to affordable early education, opportunities for education success, mental and physical health programs that improve an individual's outcomes, and access to programs that will increase the ability to reach financial stability.
- Foster deeper collaboration with local businesses and organizations to leverage combined resources.
- Launch innovative fundraising campaigns to reach new donor bases.

The unwavering support of our community is the cornerstone of UWSCM's success. Through the collective efforts of our staff, volunteers, and donors, we remain committed to making a lasting difference in the lives of individuals and families throughout South Central Massachusetts.

Sincerely,  
**Mary O'Coin**  
Executive Director



# Board President's Report

Our 2022-23 year was a busy year with many challenges as our organization continued to grow, along with the growth of needs in our community. As we began our 85th year in a difficult economy, there was concern about how we would achieve our campaign goal. We had allocated the highest amount ever to our member agencies, thus requiring a higher goal than we had ever had. However, our initial worries about the success of the campaign were for not. With the help of foundations such as the Fels Foundation and Mapfre Foundation, excellent workplace campaigns that saw significant increases in employee donations and company matches, and some generous donors in our 5 towns, we exceeded our goal and raised over \$600,000 to support our partner agencies' programs. With this financial goal achieved thanks to the help of our donors, the UWSCM was able to support programs that improved lives for many in our community, as we have been doing for the past 85 years.

With 2 years behind us since the merger of the 5 towns of Charlton, Dudley, Southbridge, Sturbridge, and Webster, one of the important focus areas for the Board was on the needs of the organization for the next 3 years. The Board created a committee to develop a strategic plan that addressed the organizational needs to be able to provide the best support to our community. The plan addressed staffing, competitiveness, infrastructure needs, development, fund raising, and marketing. Initiatives that help to achieve our mission/vision as a collaborator focusing on health, education, and financial stability were also highlighted. Over the past months the Board and Executive Director have been working on implementing many of the actions identified in the strategic plan to strengthen the organization and prepare the UWSCM to be ready for the future challenges and needs of the community.

With the continued support of our donors and the forward thinking of our Board and staff, I am confident that the UWSCM is in a strong position to remain committed to our mission and make a measurable difference in addressing the needs in our 5 towns.

Sincerely,

**Denise Gorski**  
**2022 Campaign Chair**  
**2023 Board President**



*"My passion for the United Way began over 20 years ago when I was first introduced to the organization and participated in my local UW Executive Loan program. What made the UW stand out among other non-profits was that my donation and volunteer efforts supported a wide range of different programs in the community. I find it personally inspiring to see the impacts of the UW's efforts in supporting all age groups from pre-school to seniors in our community and I am proud to serve on the Board." - Denise Gorski*

# Board of Directors 2022-2023

<b>Jenna Androlewicz</b>	JLA Contracting	<b>Christine Lee</b>	Self-Employed
<b>Shana Bandlelean</b>	Webster First Federal Credit Union	<b>Christopher Mallon</b>	Capstone Financial
<b>James Beaudry</b>	Webster First Federal Credit Union	<b>Kris Marier *</b>	Incom, Inc.
<b>Christina Blackwell</b>	Center of Hope Foundation	<b>Lori Morrill</b>	Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home
<b>Michelle Cristo</b>	KARL STORZ	<b>Jose Ortiz</b>	Southbridge Public Schools
<b>James Croteau</b>	Starkweather and Shepley Insurance	<b>April Parzych</b>	UMass Memorial Health - Harrington
<b>Jay Detarando</b>	Incom, Inc.	<b>Betsy Peppel</b>	UMass Memorial Health - Harrington
<b>Scott Dungey</b>	Cornerstone Bank	<b>Rosemary Picard</b>	Savers Bank
<b>Alycia Dzik</b>	Webster First Federal Credit Union	<b>Lisa Prince</b>	Tri-Valley, Inc.
<b>Denise Gorski **</b>	Retired	<b>Nicole Riley</b>	Dexter - Russell, Inc.
<b>Liz Hamilton</b>	Boys and Girls Club of Worcester	<b>Michael Shaw</b>	Webster Police Department
<b>Halina Jachimczyk</b>	Webster First Federal Credit Union	<b>Brenda Sullivan</b>	Webster Five Cents Savings Bank
<b>William Keefe</b>	Self-Employed	<b>Richard Thomas</b>	KARL STORZ
<b>John Kokocinski</b>	MAPFRE Insurance	<b>Esther Vargas</b>	Southbridge Public Schools
<b>Kristina Leduc</b>	Nichols College	<b>Alan Whitney</b>	Cornerstone Bank

\*2022 President

\*\* 2023 President/2022 Campaign Chairman

# Our Network

United Way of South Central MA partners with agencies and effective programs that create fundamental change in our community. Below are the funded organizations for fiscal year 2022-2023.

<p><b>Big Brothers Big Sisters of CM</b> Southern Worcester County Mentoring Programs <a href="http://www.bbscm.org">www.bbscm.org</a></p>	<p><b>Girl Scouts of Central and Western MA</b> Girl Scout Leadership Experience <a href="http://www.gscwm.org">www.gscwm.org</a></p>	<p><b>Open Sky Community Services</b> South County Recreation Program South County Homeless Assistance Program (SCHAP) <a href="http://www.openskycs.org">www.openskycs.org</a></p>
<p><b>Boys and Girls Club of Webster-Dudley</b> Youth Development Programs <a href="http://www.bgcwebsterdudley.org">www.bgcwebsterdudley.org</a></p>	<p><b>Guild of St. Agnes</b> Behavioral Health Counseling for Pre-school Aged Children <a href="http://www.guildofstagnes.org">www.guildofstagnes.org</a></p>	<p><b>Our Bright Future, Inc.</b> After-School Enrichment, Homework Help, Sports and Robotics Program <a href="http://www.ourbrightfutureinc.org">www.ourbrightfutureinc.org</a></p>
<p><b>Boy Scouts of America Heart of New England Council</b> Scouting and Learning for Life - Explorers Program <a href="http://www.heartofnewenglandbsa.org">www.heartofnewenglandbsa.org</a></p>	<p><b>Literacy Volunteers of South Central MA</b> English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) <a href="http://www.lvscm.org">www.lvscm.org</a></p>	<p><b>Pathways for Change, Inc.</b> Sexual Assault Youth Education Program <a href="http://www.pathwaysforchange.help">www.pathwaysforchange.help</a></p>
<p><b>Care Central - VNA &amp; Hospice, Inc.</b> Telehealth Remote Patient Monitoring in South Worcester County <a href="http://www.carecentralvnahospice.com">www.carecentralvnahospice.com</a></p>	<p><b>MASS 2-1-1</b> 24 Hour Service that Connects People Who Need Vital Resources in Their Community <a href="http://www.mass211.org">www.mass211.org</a></p>	<p><b>St. Luke's Guesthouse</b> Homeless Shelter for Men, Women, and Children <a href="http://www.stlukesguesthouse.wordpress.org">www.stlukesguesthouse.wordpress.org</a></p>
<p><b>CASA Project, Inc.</b> CASA Child Court Advocacy Volunteers <a href="http://www.thecasaproject.org">www.thecasaproject.org</a></p>	<p><b>New Hope, Inc.</b> Southern Worcester County Violence Prevention Program and Counseling <a href="http://www.new-hope.org">www.new-hope.org</a></p>	<p><b>Tri-Valley, Inc.</b> Nutrition Program (Meals on Wheels and Community Dining) <a href="http://www.trivalleyinc.org">www.trivalleyinc.org</a></p>
<p><b>Catholic Charities</b> Emergency Stabilization and Homelessness Prevention Program <a href="http://www.ccworc.org">www.ccworc.org</a></p>	<p><b>Old Sturbridge Village, Inc.</b> Learning Through Experience (LTE) <a href="http://www.osv.org">www.osv.org</a></p>	<p><b>YMCA of CM</b> Tri-Community Family Branch Childcare for All Financial Assistance Growing Stronger Together Teen Program <a href="http://www.ymcaofcm.org.locations/tri-community-family-branch/">www.ymcaofcm.org.locations/tri-community-family-branch/</a></p>
<p><b>Community Legal Aid, Inc.</b> South Worcester County Legal Assistance Project <a href="http://www.communitylegal.org">www.communitylegal.org</a></p>		<p><b>Worcester Community Action Council</b> Behavioral Health Counseling for Pre-School Aged Children Attending Head Start in Southbridge and Webster <a href="http://www.wcac.net">www.wcac.net</a></p>

# Finance Committee Report



2022-23 Community Investment Committee

The United Way of South Central Massachusetts (UWSCM) 2022-2023 campaign was an exciting year as it also coincided with our 85th Anniversary. The Finance Committee is focused on maintaining financial transparency, accountability, and maximization of our overall impact to the community. In order to meet the needs of our community, we set an ambitious goal of \$584,000 for our organization. I'm proud to announce that we were able to not only meet but exceed this goal by raising over \$615,000! In addition to this, we managed and allocated more than \$298,000 to local school districts and local after school and out of school programs. At the close of our fiscal year, the UWSCM remains in a financially strong position. Assets increased by nearly 11% to a total of \$1,077,000, while our liabilities remained relatively flat at \$56,000. With the continued generosity of our donors and volunteers, the UWSCM is in a great position to continue serving our community for many years beyond this 85th milestone.

While financial stability is of the utmost importance, evaluating and deciding how much we have to donate and to whom we allocate our funds too is equally important. The Community Investment Committee (CIC) is the group tasked with this responsibility. This dedicated group of volunteers are responsible for allocating UWSCM to those local 501 3C agencies who need financial support. Over a two-day period, the CIC interviewed, debated, and allocated \$435,000 to 21 different agencies. In the end, the CIC was confident these funds will be directed to those organizations who address the needs of the most vulnerable in our community.

The need for basic services only increases each and every year. Budgets are stretched impossibly thin as people and organizations try to stave off the rising costs for all goods and services. Inflation has only exasperated the problem, making the importance of the United Way today even more critical than it has ever been. We ask that you continue to support the UWSCM with your financial gifts and volunteerism so that we may continue to make impactful changes to the community we all call home.

Sincerely,  
**John Kokocinski**  
**Treasurer and Community Investment Committee Chairman**

# Year in Review

**\$2,500**

Mini-grants for one time purchase of a needed supplies, professional development or training for local non-profits

**\$425,000**

Community Impact Grants to Member Agencies

**\$298,135**

Awarded to local school districts and local after school and out of school time programs to overcome learning loss due to the Covid-19 Pandemic

**127**

Number of **Day of Caring** volunteers who participated in community service projects throughout the region, tackling tasks like beautification, painting, and maintenance at non-profit agencies and recreation areas.



**85**

Celebrated the 85th Anniversary of United Way's unwavering commitment to our community partners and celebrating our collective impact.

**6,800**

Number of calls to MA 2-1-1 Information and Referral Service connecting individuals with critical resources like childcare, shelters, and healthcare services.

**\$20,000**

Massachusetts Farm Resiliency Fund granted to local farms

# Campaign Awards 2022-2023

## Good Neighbor Award

\$10,000 or more

bankHometown

Hyde Tools

UMass Memorial Health-Harrington

Webster First Federal Credit Union

## Giving Excellence Award

For increases of 25% or more

Savers Bank

KARL STORZ Endoscopy-America

## Community Partner Award

St. Luke's Guesthouse

## Silver Award

79-99% Employee Participation

Savers Bank

## Un-Sung Hero (Volunteer)

Shana Bandeleian

## Diamond Award

\$30,000 or more Campaign or Donation

Cornerstone Bank

Dexter Russell, Inc.

Incom, Inc.

KARL STORZ Endovision

Fundacion MAPFRE

## Beacon Award

Cornerstone Bank

## Foundation Award

Fels Family Foundation

## President Award

William Keefe





# Circle of Friends 2022-2023

## Levels

**\$0-49 - Friend      \$50-\$249 - Neighbor      \$250-\$499 - Impact**  
**\$500-\$999 - Advocate      \$1,000 and \$9,999 - Leader**  
**\$10,000 and above - Touqueville**

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## Touqueville

**\$10,000 and above**

Randy & Donna Becker

## Leader

**\$1,000 - \$9,999**

Mrs. Herman Becker  
Jeffrey & Patricia Burdick  
Richard M. Clemence  
Richard R. Clemence  
Robert B. Clemence  
Joseph A. Coderre  
Michelle Cristo  
Anthony J. Detarando  
Anthony M. Detarando  
Michael Detarando  
James Donahue  
Donald Doyle  
Thomas Dufresne  
Todd P. Fitzmaurice  
Denise Gorski  
Richard Hardy  
John Jawor  
Donna Kentley

Christine Lee  
Jason Main  
Kris Marier  
Michael Minot  
Edward Moore  
Thomas Murray, Jr.  
Dennis & Jane Neslusan  
Terence & Mary O`Coin  
Alan & Elizabeth Peppel  
Brian Perry  
Dalen Pham  
Rosemary Picard  
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur J. Remillard III  
Brenda Sullivan  
Todd Tallman  
Richard Thomas  
Bruce Watkins

# Advocate

\$500 - \$999

Jenna Androlewicz James Beaudry John Boniface Jessica Calcidise Ronald Carlson Lynn Carmody Angela Chviek Ernest & Judith Colognesi Michael Couture Jacqueline Croft Peter & Linda Didonato Kathleen Dow Scott Dungey Marion Egan Jim & Lisa Faust Clifford Fontaine Gary H. Goldberg Maura Grossman Jason Galloni	Liz Hamilton Jason Johnson William Keefe Robert J. Keith Joseph Krans Arthur R. Longden Jr Lynn Looby Brian Loveless Gregory Lynskey Christopher Mallon Jenne McGinnis Cynthia Michener Steven Morrill Margaret Morrissey Hoang Nguyen John O`Keefe Sam & Evelyn Pappas Maria Frances Perea-Beaulieu Robert D. Peritz	Tammy Rawls James Robertson Michael Roy David Sabourin Kerrin Servais Gary Servideo Mary E. Silverberg Patrick Spinelli Annamaria Stamos Denise A. Steeves Ryan Stolle Michael Sullivan Pawel Szymborski Katherine Theodoss Marc Tremblay Pauline White Francisca Williams Renee Winiewski
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# Impact

\$250 - \$499

Christina Abbotts Kwasi Acheampong Kristen M. Alicea Ineida Alves Tiesha Aponte Jose A. Aviles Shana Bandeleian Debra Barbour Megan Barnes Aloma Barsaleau	Victoria L. Bates Marc Becker Timothy Bell Ronald Benvenuti Sheri Bibinski Christina Blackwell Jeffrey Blanchard Nancy Blogg Robert Bouchard William & Jocelyn Bouvier	Arthur Breault Melissa Caisse Jeffrey Canniff Kevin Caplette William M. Carney Sylwia Carrier Lynn Carter Michael J. Checkosky James Croteau Marysol Cruz
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# Impact

(cont.)

Jeffrey Cubberley  
Thomas W Cutler  
Chuck O. Cyr  
Stephanie Cyr  
Robert J. Czennicki  
Dawna Dagenais  
Michele Dauphinee  
Richard J. Defranco  
Jaclyn E. DelPrete  
Edward & Irene Desrosier  
Daniel Desy  
John B. Dirlam  
Peter & Joan Dirlam  
Juli Doggart  
David Doustou  
Christine Dubeau  
Heather Dumais  
Alycia Dzik  
Betty M. Edwards  
Gary Elian  
Lynne Ellis  
Lynne Esposito  
Richard H. Foster  
Karri Freeland  
Ms. Ellen M. Ganley  
James Gauvin  
Christine Gaze  
Jonah D. Glickman  
Keri Gonzalez  
Lorraine Grammatikakis  
Miranda A. Grendell  
Diane Grondin  
George Hanlan  
Hope Hartland  
Justin Hence  
Darlene Heywosz  
Rachael Holden  
Jody Houghton  
Jaime R. Houle

Cynthia Howard  
Andrew R. Ijams  
Kevin Jolicoeur  
Scott Kasper  
Keith Kirkland  
Robert & Christina Knight  
Elizabeth Krans  
Jason T Landis  
Michael Lefebvre  
Meaghan Leighton  
Thomas Lizotte  
Michael P. Mahlert  
Brian Mailhot  
Diane E. Masse  
Kelly McDonald  
Jennifer McKenna  
Marcy McNaboe  
Alan Melidossian  
Lori Morrill  
Monika Moskwa  
Kathleen Murphy  
Denise Navaroli  
Mai Nguyen  
Mary Nguyen  
Roseanne Noga  
Meredith Nordstrom  
Nicole Orrell  
Daniel Ortiz  
Erika Ortiz  
Thomas Ouellette  
Barbara Palmer  
Sarah Parks  
April Parzych  
Mary Jane Perkins  
Logan Peterson  
Gina Petruzzi  
Hong Pham  
Sara Phouthavong  
Monique Pierangeli

N. William & Genevieve Pioppi  
Jan Plonka  
Mark Popecki  
Kristin Powers  
Tina Puzo  
Angel Rivera  
Jodi Ropi  
Warren Rose  
April Rosebrooks  
Priscilla Ross  
Gerard Roy  
Katie Roy  
Kathleen Russell  
Peter & Joanne Sagansky  
Patricia Salvas  
Mr. James Sandagato  
Richard Santora  
Christine Santos  
Michael Shaw  
Estela Shingleton  
Rhonda Silvestri  
Christina Sluhocki  
Jeffrey Solari  
Marcia Szymanski  
Susan Tagman  
Huong T. Tang  
Maria Thomas  
Maryann L. Tivnan  
Miurka Torres  
Sarah Tower  
Catherine Twing-Irish  
Laura Vigeant  
Holly Waleski  
Eric G. Webb  
Randy Webber  
Kimberly J. Williamson  
James Wise  
Mrs. Jessica Wisniewski  
Shane Woodson

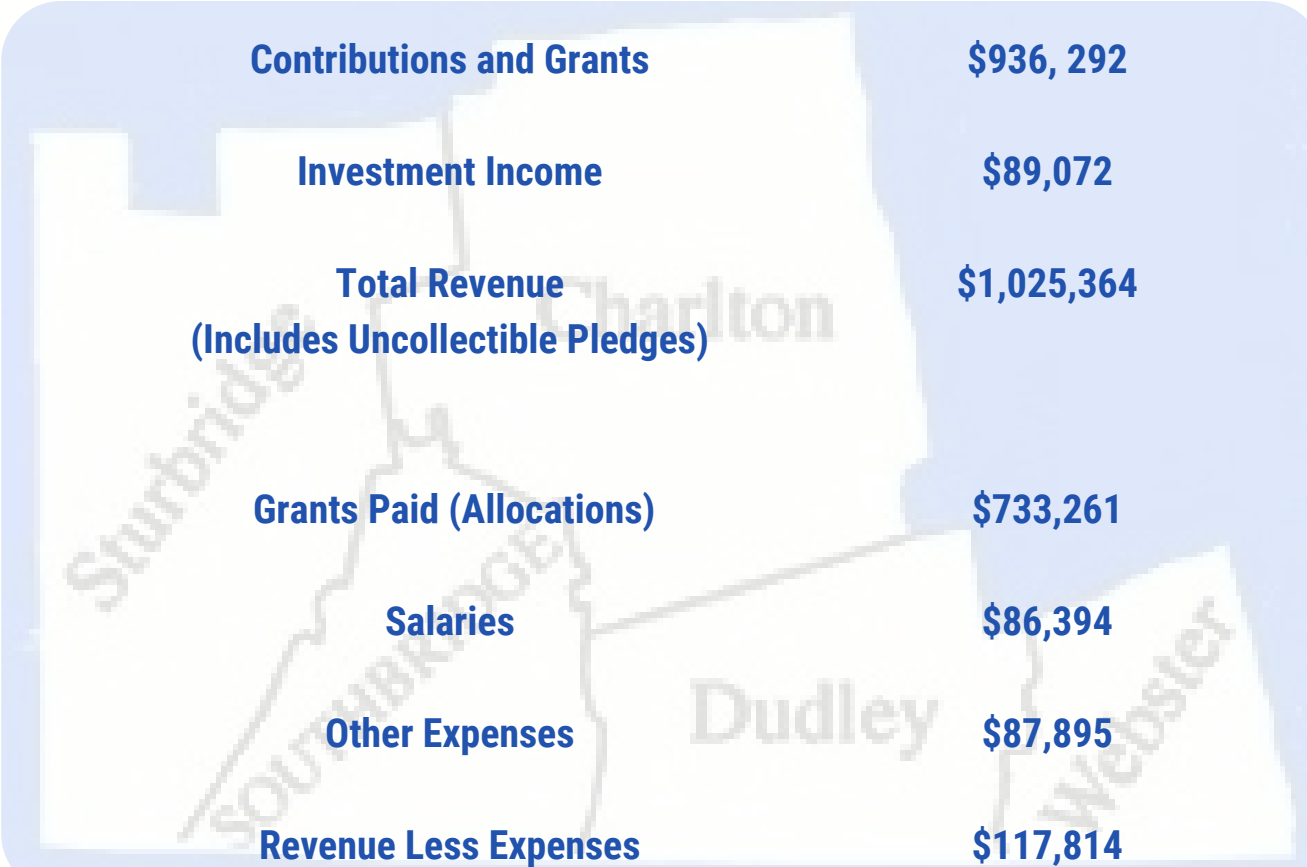
Since 1937, United Way of South Central MA  
has distributed a combined total of

**\$28,565,162**

to local agencies that address the health, education and  
human services needs of residents in the Charlton, Dudley,  
Southbridge, Sturbridge, and Webster

**OCTOBER 2022 – SEPTEMBER 2023**

**Income and Expenses**



<b>Contributions and Grants</b>	<b>\$936,292</b>
<b>Investment Income</b>	<b>\$89,072</b>
<b>Total Revenue (Includes Uncollectible Pledges)</b>	<b>\$1,025,364</b>
<b>Grants Paid (Allocations)</b>	<b>\$733,261</b>
<b>Salaries</b>	<b>\$86,394</b>
<b>Other Expenses</b>	<b>\$87,895</b>
<b>Revenue Less Expenses</b>	<b>\$117,814</b>