

# **WATERTOWN AREA UNITED WAY AGENCY \$1 A WEEK STATEMENTS AND STORY BANK**

Updated September 2022.

**LIVE UNITED.**

## **WATERTOWN AREA UNITED WAY SOCIAL MEDIA**

Read through this document to find a \$1 a week statement or success story that touches your heart. Once you find one, share why it was special to you and parts of that story on your own social media. Be sure to share the link

[www.watertownunitedway.org](http://www.watertownunitedway.org) so others can find a story that speaks to them!

Each agency program has its own page and the format is as follows: agency program name, agency description, \$1 a week statement, and success story.

With any questions you are always welcome to contact our office at [director@watertownunitedway.org](mailto:director@watertownunitedway.org) or (605) 886-5815.



**Facebook: @WatertownUnitedWay**



**Instagram: @area\_united57201**



**Twitter: @area\_united**



**YouTube: Watertown Area United Way**



**LinkedIn: Watertown Area United Way**

## UNITED WAY WORLDWIDE

United Ways reach 40+ countries and territories across the globe—from Colombia to Korea . Through our international donor-advised giving fund, we've helped companies, foundations and individuals invest more than \$300 million in good solutions across 110 countries .

United Way makes it easier to make a meaningful difference, whether it's through time, money or by raising one's voice . We're helping corporate partners launch and grow employee volunteerism in key overseas markets . We're connecting people with easy and inspirational volunteer opportunities, staging volunteerism events, creating leadership—development opportunities and helping rising community leaders step into board service.

**But there is more work to do, because change doesn't happen alone. Hope isn't a one-man band. We have one life. To live better, we must LIVE UNITED.**

## UNITED WAY PRIORITY AREAS

United Way Worldwide (UWW) has three main focus areas: Education, Health and Financial Stability. As outlined in the annual public policy agenda, UWW also fights for Health, Nutrition, Education, Financial Stability, and Community Supports at the national level. Locally, Watertown Area United Way supports agency programs and efforts that meet our the needs of Watertown Area residents in one or more of our three priority areas: Education, Health and Financial Stability.



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## AMERICAN RED CROSS

The Red Cross supports disaster response and recovery, promotes disaster preparedness and provides emergency assistance to victims of disaster. Served over 30 individuals in Codington and surrounding counties last year!

### **\$1 a week can... provides a full day of food and shelter for one person**

**This service includes providing breakfast, lunch and dinner, the costs to mobilize and distribute a cot, two blankets and a comfort kit as well as the costs to support the Red Cross workers providing this service.**

In July, the Red Cross was asked to respond to a home fire in Watertown that impacted a family of five. The Codington County Emergency Manager, Jamie Torstenson indicated that a family had been displaced by a home fire and that because of this fire, the home was uninhabitable. There were five residents including three children aged 15, 9 and 7 years of age, and both their parents. However, the family pets were also affected by this fire, including two cats and one died, causing additional stress on the family.

The Red Cross provided individual disaster care, supplemental assistance, recovery planning and mental health support referrals to this family by Red Cross volunteers. The family did not have any renter's insurance and lost important contact information as their cell phones perished in the fire. Not only were the Red Cross volunteers there to provide comfort for the family in their immediate response, they also were able to provide for the family's immediate needs by providing a CAC card for their immediate basic needs and plans for phone replacement. At the request of the family, the Red Cross and community volunteers also helped the family remove damaged household items from the wreckage of the fire.

In the weeks that followed, the Red Cross provided additional Supplemental Assistance to them so they could purchase towels, cooking utensils, cookware, and other household items. Less than two weeks after the fire, the parents left a message with their Red Cross volunteer saying they were doing well and their case was closed.

## BEACON CENTER

Provides a 24-hour crisis line (605) 886-4300 or 1-800-660-8014 to victims of abuse, domestic violence shelter, rape crisis services, peer and professional counseling, information and referral, education and training, support groups, and more. Serving Clark, Codington, Deuel, Grant, and Hamlin counties.

**\$1 a week... Every dollar allocated to Beacon Center is used to provide the best possible services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking. The Family Visitation Center clients may incur a small fee, but all DV, SA, stalking and human trafficking victims have no charge for services they receive from Beacon Center. Each dollar may allow a victim to receive counseling, legal assistance/advocacy, medical advocacy, transportation, medical appointments, and case management. We assess each and every individual.**

A single young male came to the Beacon Center seeking safe shelter from his abusive home life. The client had marks on his face and hands and a bloody shirt when he checked into the shelter. The client came with only the clothes on his back, as he had walked to the center. Beacon Center staff provided the client with food and took him shopping for clothes. The client stayed in the shelter until he could secure his apartment through federal funding awarded to the Beacon Center for housing. While in the shelter, the client worked with the Life Skills Trainer to access local and state resources. Through repeated interactions with the Life Skills Trainer, the client was referred to other resources to better assist with mental health and developmental limitations. The client continues to work with Life Skills Trainer to build skills and remain independent.

## BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF WATERTOWN

Serving over 400 youth each day at eight locations, the Boys & Girls Club of Watertown helps inspire and enable all young people to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.

**\$1 a week can... provide a member with breakfast, lunch, and snacks for 1 month of all-day summer programs.**

At the Boys & Girls Club of Watertown, we teach kids and teens how to be responsible, engaged citizens and innovative leaders through mentorships, accountabilities, leadership programs, and volunteer opportunities. A young person's path at the Club can be the gateway to their success. As a 10-year member of the Club, Dylan O. learned from the very young age of 7 just how important this place with the big blue doors would be in his life. Growing up in a single-parent home, the Club became his safe haven. The Club has impacted Dylan's life by providing him consistency. He was able to compete in the Youth of the Year program, which fosters a new generation of leaders and celebrates the most inspiring teens. He was named our Watertown Youth of the Year in 2021 and serves as a youth representative in the community to display leadership, charisma, and integrity. In 2022, Dylan competed in the South Dakota State Youth of the Year competition and was named the winner. He then competed in the Midwest Regional Competition. Dylan has learned many new skills including how to prepare a resume, write essays, and experience rigorous interviews. These skills will be vital to him as he enters the workforce in the future.

As the President of the Keystone Leadership Club, Dylan assists with planning teen events and is responsible for member recruitment. His platform as the Youth of the Year is to encourage more teens to become involved with the Club. Dylan's organization, decision-making, and teamwork skills have been increased because of his involvement with Keystone. In his Youth of the Year speech, Dylan said, "As Youth of the Year, I encourage everyone to go through the experience of being a Club member. It will change your life for the better. " As you can see, the Club's impact on Dylan's life has been monumental. We are proud to share stories like these, as the United Way partnership allows our organization to provide quality programs and services like the Youth of the Year program.

## CODINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Funding used is for children's educational programming. Programming will incorporate art activities, songs, games and presentations to educate youth on the history of Codington County.

**\$1 a week can...provide programming for 13 children.**

The Codington County Heritage Museum has been a wonderful addition to our Summer Kids on Target (KOT) Program at Immaculate Conception School. They are always prepared and ready with activities for our group attending the museum. They provide well rounded activities of Cultural History that relates to our area.



## CODINGTON COUNTY DRUG COURT

The Codington County Drug Court works to enhance public safety with the goal of developing sober, productive, law-abiding citizens by holding the offender accountable while providing supervision, treatment and life skills in a judicial setting.

**\$1 a week can... allow for one item from the Dollar Store for one participant as incentive for complying to the rules of Drug Court for that week.**

The Codington County Drug Court has had thirty-four graduates since inception, July 2014. The graduation rate for our Drug Court is 46%. For every one graduate, is one more life helped, one more father, mother, son, daughter saved for a family. We have given them the tools to succeed a positive, sober lifestyle.

"We have a recent graduate from drug court whom I will identify as K.P. When K.P. graduated from drug court, he wore a T-shirt that had the Serenity Prayer on it. I couldn't imagine a more fitting illustration of the progress he made in drug court. K.P. is a co-parent of two children. When he started drug court, he had alienated his family, he had a difficult time co-parenting his children and his life was a shambles. When K.P. graduated drug court, the mother of his children and his kids were there to help him celebrate. K.P. had established a strong relationship with Watertown's recovery community. He had a good job and steady employment. He was especially close with his mother and had done much to repair that relationship. One of the lessons K.P. taught me as a drug court judge was to be careful not to expect our clients to be strong all of the time. I had to learn to do a better job of supporting clients when they struggle. When a client makes me a better drug court judge, I cannot underestimate the effect that has on the success of our entire program. In addition, the idea that we have made life better for his children and can do what we can to break the cycle of addiction for another generation means more than I can say. K.P. found his support and his serenity through his time in the drug court program. I am very proud of his success." - Judge Means

## CODINGTON COUNTY SEARCH & RESCUE

Provides a trained team of volunteers ready for search and dive rescue or for recovery of persons and evidence, and promotion of water safety.

**\$1 a week can... train Search & Rescue volunteers to be safe and to save lives (i.e. open water diving, advance open water diving, ice diving, rescue diving, certifications, and re-certifications).**

It was a late evening in September 2021, Codington County Search and Rescue was dispatched for an emergency response to assist in locating an endangered missing juvenile. The juvenile was last seen at a farm home hours before and was believed to be endangered. A number of agencies were on the scene and assisting in the search. CCSAR arrived on the scene and immediately deployed search teams to search the local area and surrounding buildings. A drone with thermal imaging (Flir) was deployed to search the area from above. On a second flight with the drone, an object of interest was located in a cornfield not very far from the last scene point. Members of CCSAR and local law enforcement were directed to the area. The missing juvenile was located in the field on the ground and was returned safely to their family.

## COMMUNITY TRANSIT OF WATERTOWN

Provides dependable, affordable public transportation to the people in the Watertown area as they travel to meet their needs for shopping, medical appointments, employment opportunities, educational, nutritional, and recreational purposes.

**\$1 a week can...contribute to 14 rides a year for someone who is in a financial need.**

Since Community Transit became involved with the Highly Rural Transportation Grant in 2019, we have provided transportation for many veterans. Many of these men and women have been transported multiple times to destinations ranging from Minneapolis to Pierre to Sioux Falls to Fargo. No destination is out of reach of this grant.

Ronald of Garden City, SD has been a frequent traveler with Transit in the past year. He has been dealing very serious leg injuries which required extensive medical attention. Much of his doctoring has been done in Watertown at Prairie Lakes Healthcare facility. Ron has had appointments in other locations around the state, but our Watertown vehicles have provided the majority of the transportation.

His daughter-in-law often traveled with him to his various appointments. They have often commented to me how attentive our drivers are to Ron and how well he has been treated by our drivers. Ron is in a wheel chair so travel expenses would be quite high (\$2.15 per mile vs. \$0.75 per mile for ambulatory riders). The cost would be a tremendous strain on himself and his family. These factors make the Transportation Grant for Highly Rural Counties a very important part of our service. The need for transportation for veterans in South Dakota has been well documented - plenty of vehicles for which to provide rides, but very few drivers. The number of rides provided by transportation projects around the state has risen dramatically in the past two years. Transit veteran rides more than doubled in Fiscal Year 2021. The number of rides provided in the second quarter has surpassed the total rides provided for all of Fiscal Year 2021.

"This program has been wonderful for our family," said daughter-in-law Danielle.

"Transporting Ron in our vehicle would be very difficult at best, but the accessible vans they (Transit) use make the process so much easier for everyone, especially Ron."

## EAST CENTRAL CASA (COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES)

CASA seeks to promote and protect the best interest of abused and neglected children involved in court proceedings through the advocacy efforts of trained dedicated, passionate volunteers.

**\$1 a week can... allow us to provide children with items that provide a sense of value, importance, and normalcy by celebrating birthdays, first days of school, graduation, or for any day that warrants a little something extra.**

A 14- year-old girl and her sister were removed from their father due to neglect, alcoholism and abandonment. The mother had a stroke and was placed out of state for care and unable to care for her daughters. These girls had not seen or spoke to their mother for six months. When CASA was assigned to the case the volunteer set-up weekly zoom calls between mom and the girls through the facility social worker and this young teen was able to see her mom's face. Eventually CASA was able to do an in-person visit with mom and the girls. The teen told her CASA volunteer "Without you I would be afraid, You have made sure I got to see my mom, even though it scares and hurts me to see her like that. It makes me feel better knowing she is alive. I can hug her and tell her to get better". As the family worked toward reunification with father and he made huge strides, CASA was able to pay for a weekend in the hotel so dad could begin to re-establish a bond with his girls. Dad sent CASA an email thanking them and he said, "I never knew my girls. I always left everything to their mom and was selfish. Thank you for helping me play with them this weekend. This is the beginning of something beautiful I would have missed without CASA".

## EMBE, GIRLS ON THE RUN

Girls on the Run is an afterschool program, serving girls in grades 3rd -6th. Girls on the Run inspires girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running.

**\$1 a week can... provide a healthy snack for a girl, these snacks are needed to provide fuel for the girls for their 75-minute session.**

An independent study of Girls on the Run showed that 97% of participating GOTR girls said they learned critical life skills including conflict resolution, helping others or making intentional decisions; 85% of participating girls improved in confidence, caring, competence, character development or connection to others; and a 40% increase in physical activity among girls who were least active at the start of the GOTR season.

"I have been participating in Girls on the Run for two years. It is a lot of fun. We learn many things that help us grow up to be strong and empowered while we are having fun running too. I decided to sign up for Girls on the Run because I thought it sounded like fun. Running is not super easy for me since my left hip and leg are abnormal. I've had surgery and it has helped some but there are days when it bothers me more than others. Sometimes those days may be Girls on the Run days, but I never give up. By going to Girls on the Run, I let myself know that I can do it if I believe in myself. The coaches are awesome! They make me feel good about myself and they are very encouraging and nice to spend time with. For example, when we did our practice 5K this Fall, I took several minutes off of my time and they were SO EXCITED and made me feel very special. If you are a girl and looking for a fun after school activity to participate in, I definitely suggest joining Girls on the Run. You won't be disappointed!"

- Letter from a Girls on the Run Participant

"Being a Girls on the Run coach brings incredible joy to my life. It breaks me out of my routine, getting me up and moving! The whole atmosphere of impactful curriculum along with physical running is well designed. Being an example of positivity and motivation is important to me. I get to connect with the girls through conversations, which might seem small but actually have significant impact. And let's be real, I need to hear the lesson content just as much as my girls! My spirit craves GOTR!" -Quote from GOTR Coach

## GIRL SCOUTS DAKOTA HORIZONS

Girls in K-12th grades discover their leadership potential as they make the world a better place through community service projects improving the quality of life in the Watertown Area. Find out more about the Girl Scout Leadership at [www.gsdakotahorizons.org](http://www.gsdakotahorizons.org).

**\$1 a week can... provide a girl needing financial assistance the chance to belong to Girl Scouts, the world's largest organization dedicated to building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Your donation will help cover the cost of membership dues, learning materials and other program essentials.**

More than just pins on a vest, Girl Scout higher awards set the foundation for a lifetime of leadership. In the past year, Girl Scouts in the Watertown area have achieved the highest awards in their age group – including Madison Park of Watertown.

Throughout her Girl Scout journey, Madison has demonstrated her leadership abilities with her most recent achievement of earning the prestigious Girl Scout Gold Award. She is among 10 extraordinary Girl Scouts in Girl Scouts – Dakota Horizons to be recognized this year for their efforts to make the world a better place – the ultimate mission of Girl Scouting.

For her Gold Award project, Madison has been volunteering at the Bramble Park Zoo and has crafted nine different activities and sensory toys for the animals. Her interest in zoo animals began in grade school when she was part of a Girl Scout overnight camp. When she was in middle school, she decided to become a volunteer member of the Zoo Crew. That's where she learned how to care for the animals and overcome some fears. At first she didn't like holding spiders or snakes but now it's a favorite.

She credits Girl Scouts for giving her the chance to try new things, build self-confidence, and to make lasting friendships. After graduating from high school, Madison plans a career in elementary and special education with a minor in Spanish and coaching. This talented young woman also is the recipient of the Girl Scouts – Dakota Horizons Scholarship, along with many other honors to her credit.

In the Watertown area, more than 200 girls in kindergarten through 12th grades are discovering their talents by participating in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

## GLACIAL LAKES MULTICULTURAL CENTER

The Center welcomes and embraces those who enter our community as a stranger to celebrate diverse cultures through promoting understanding and respect for all and by providing education, referrals, and multicultural resources.

*(No \$1 a week statement provided.)*

Darling, who was in her 37th week of her pregnancy; a woman from the South of the boarder, courageously made it through an intense two-week journey to the US. She was knee deep in freezing-cold water, terrified, exhausted and in pain, but she needed safety and asylum for her and her little family. She made it to South Dakota with just the clothes on her back, not knowing anyone, while knowing she needed help.

Through some initial contacts, she was given the name and contact information of Yesika, our assistant director at the GLMC. She came into our office, trusting us with her story, trusting us with her future and trusting us for help. Our mission is to 'Welcome the Stranger,' and we did just that with Darling. We welcomed her, offered her something to drink, a place to sit and someone to care and listen. One of the very first things we did to help our new client was to offer translation and interpretation services—this woman was very pregnant and needed medical attention. With the collaboration of others, we helped her get an appointment at the clinic, after finding her medical records and getting them sent over. These first steps took a lot of work.

We then accompanied Darling to her first prenatal appointment in the us, offering her comfort as we translated for her. Discovering something was wrong, we advocated for Darling, transported her to a specialty appointment in Sioux Falls and we stayed with her as she soon delivered her healthy and happy baby, Samay. During this incredible journey, in-person and over the phone we continually interpreted and translated for her, while offering words of comfort and wisdom. We were also able to help this young mother with a baby shower where we provided her with a car-seat, stroller, clothes, diapers, formula and more! We celebrated with Darling and Samay as they were worth celebrating! This is just one of many stories we (the GLMC) helped a client by Understanding the Understated!

## HUMAN SERVICE AGENCY, SERENITY HILLS

Serenity Hills is a residential halfway house for men who are dually diagnosed with both a mental health and an addictions diagnosis. Individuals receiving services at Serenity Hills participate in aftercare programming, seek employment within the community and receive ongoing therapeutic support from staff and other residents.

**\$1 a week can... contribute to offset the daily room and board paid for by each resident. Many times these men come to us from treatment centers or prison and do not have any disposable income as they have not yet received disability benefits or they are unemployed. The United Way funding helps offset this obligation so they can focus on their recovery and seeking employment.**

Serenity Hills aims to provide the best care possible to assist individuals to become sober and begin a life of recovery. In calendar year 2021, We provided this service to 64 individuals.

"I came to Serenity Hills (SH) over 5 years ago because I had no other choice. My counselor and family did an IVC on me and I had to be detoxed before going to Treatment. I stayed until I went to Aberdeen for Treatment. After leaving Treatment early, I continuing to drink and use drugs. I continued to lose more things that were important to me like the relationship with my son, repeated jobs, friends, family, dignity and health. I finally reached the point that I was ready to either give up or succeed. I contacted SH and they accepted me back into detox. This time I completed detox and followed the recommendations. I continued counseling, both Addictions and Mental Health, I obtained a sponsor, attended meetings and my life gradually improved. I now have been sober for 5 years, I have a steady job, a home, a fiancé and a beautiful daughter. My relationship with my son has rekindled as has my relationship with others that are positive in my life. I will always be grateful for Deb, Amber and the rest of SH staff and what they do. My life was saved." - Anonymous Serenity Hills Participant



## HUMAN SERVICE AGENCY, WATERTOWN HEALTHY YOUTH PROJECT SUCCESS

Project SUCCESS (Schools Using Coordinated Community Efforts to Strengthen Students) is a school-based prevention program, implemented in the Watertown Middle and High schools, to prevent and reduce substance abuse and other high-risk youth social issues.

**\$1 a week can...be invested in school-based substance abuse prevention programs has the potential to save up to \$18 in costs related to treatment of substance use disorders.** So your \$1 a week actually becomes \$18 a week for prevention services; which is a \$936 investment a year for the future of our Watertown youth and community. Your dollar a week is going to impact the lives of at least 12 young people. Your dollar a week will give students FREE access to another helping professional on campus, who will help them make better choices, develop healthy coping skills, build resilience and to provide them with the opportunities to become successful and thriving community members.

Research tells us, that if students have goals (whether short term or long term) and feel they belong and/or involved in activities that deter participation in high risk behaviors. In 2021, almost 70% of Watertown students in grades 7-12 reported that teens choose not to drink or use drugs because they know it can impact their future choices.

Joining a club is always scary at first; however, I loved Peer Helpers from the first second. I joined Peer Helpers during my junior year. Two of my closet friends were in it and told me to join. I signed up and everyone in the club was so friendly. They always made me feel so welcome and it was great to have all of them as friends. My favorite memory was when we made a video about vaping and the bad consequences that came with it. It took us months to complete but it was one of the best and most rewarding things I have ever done. It helped me get much closer to the other members and we felt like one big family. Peer helpers has grown so much since last year. We lost one due to graduating, but we gained eight new members from younger grades to keep our club going strong. I have meet tons of new friends and I can not wait to see what they accomplish in life. I will miss them greatly and hope the club remains strong. As I graduate, Peer Helpers will be one of the things I miss that most as the atmosphere was always encouraging and our advisor, Wendy, made sure everyone was heard and had a place. My time in Peer Helpers will always have a special place in my heart and I hope more kids join to keep the experience going." - Madison, WHS Senior

## INTERLAKES COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, DELTA DENTAL MOBILE

Funding from the United Way provides needed dental care at no charge to underserved children ages 0 to 21 who do not have access to a dentist or dental care.

**\$1 a week can... provide 65% of the cost of one appointment on the dental care mobile.**

One hundred percent of children aged 0-21 (34 of 34) attending the Dental Care Mobile will maintain overall wellness by having access to dental care. One family that came to see us at the dental mobile had 6 children ranging in ages from 4-14 and Mom was very grateful to be able to bring them in all at once for cleanings. Her three oldest needed follow up care and were able to get that done on the bus. She said she might not have been able to get appointments for all in the same day at a dental office and definitely would not have been able to afford to pay for them all to get an exam at the same time. She is very thankful for the dental mobile to be able to come to Watertown. Her twin boys are also HS students and that is how she heard about it.

## **INTERLAKES COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, HEAD START RENT SUPPORT**

Provides administrative support to the ICAP Head Start program serving low-income children allowing children to attend development classes enabling them to be prepared for school.

### **\$1 a week can... provide direct services or linkages to other service providers for one Head Start individual client.**

One-hundred percent of Head Start Families that participate in the program will make measurable progress toward stabilizing their families and move closer to self-sufficiency and their children will be ready for school. There is a family we have worked with in Early Head Start and Head Start where mom was a single mom with dad in and out of the home. While we were going into the home with Early Head Start, mom disclosed that she was going to not have visits for a while as she needed to go into treatment for substance abuse addiction. She asked that we hold her spot so she could continue with the program after she got out. When mom returned to town, she held her home visits on a regular basis and commented that having the consistency and knowing someone who would be coming in to her house contributed to helping her stay sober. She signed her child up for Head Start and with one going to school all day, she was able to look for a job to help pay her bills. With the support of EHS coming into the home and HS for the other during the day this mom was able to continue to work on staying sober. She has found a job and is consistent with her work schedule.

## INTERLAKES COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, HEAD START SUPPLIES

Locally raised funds provide school supplies needed by children from both Hamlin and Deuel counties using the school provided lists. Staff and volunteers bundle supplies and provide them to participating families in late summer before school starts.

### **\$1 a week can... provide 1.5 boxes of diapers for the Head Start Pre-Birth to Five Program.**

100% of Head Start children will be provided the needed supplies to fully engage in child development activities at the Head Start center. ICAP has worked with a family in Watertown for 3 years. When they first enrolled in our program, the mom was very hesitant and shy about supporting her children. Mom had always been hesitant to take her boys to any appointments as friends had told her that her boys did not act appropriately. Her reaction to that was just keep the boys at home and away from people. In working with the family we discovered that the boys, who were 3 and 4 at the time, had not been to the doctor since they were babies. As part of our Head Start program we encouraged her to take them to the doctor and dentist to see if they had any medical needs. Dental needs were found and we helped her set up appointments and get the boys dental needs taken care of. While in our program our teachers had some concerns that they boys were not speaking and seemed to have trouble socializing with other kids. We referred mom to have them screened by the local school district. Our staff helped mom understand that different kids have different needs and encouraged her to advocate for her kids to get the help they may need. With the help of our teachers and staff mom took them to the screening process. We supported mom through the process and encouraged her to advocate for her boys. She gained confidence to fill out the forms and would ask for assistance when something was confusing to her. She started advocating for her boys and got them on an IEP. With support from staff she gained confidence to apply for a job and work outside the home. She found housing that was big enough for her family to have their own space. We currently work with the younger sister and mom does not hesitate to reach out to staff with any concerns she has. She will ask questions for assistance when she needs information on housing or employment.

## INTERLAKES COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, SIXTIES PLUS DINING

Sixties Plus Dining assists individuals aged 60 and older, without regard to income, to maintain optimal health and nutritional status. Services are available at 25 locations in Coudington, Clark, Deuel, Hamlin, and Grant counties.

**\$1 a week can... contribute would provide approximately 7 meals in the Sixties Plus Dining Program.**

Proper Nutrition will enable 100% of individuals to maintain physical health and independence, allowing them to live in their own homes. We can feed 1 senior for an entire year for less than it costs for 1 visit to the hospital or 1 week in a nursing home. We serve a lady on one of the Home Delivery routes that has been in the hospital 3 times in the last year. She calls when she gets home and says the only reason she can come home is because we bring her a meal at noon. She said she doesn't have anyone in town and depends on us. Because of our program, she is able to stay in her own home.

## INTERLAKES COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

VITA is a free program to help low and middle-income workers have their Federal and State personal income taxes prepared and filed electronically at no cost. VITA also ensures that workers receive all the tax credits to which they are entitled.

**\$1 a week can... provide partial assistance (80%) for income tax filing assistance for individuals.**

100 percent of eligible VITA participants (216 of 216) will have their income tax returns filed receiving the maximum refunds and credits due to them with no fees charged to them. In June 2021, a client came in needing her 2019 and 2020 tax returns filed. I prepared the returns and they were reviewed and e-filed. The same client came in this past month to work on her 2021 tax return. She was very grateful for the income tax assistance.

## LAKE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE, ADULT EDUCATION & LITERACY PROGRAM

Offers services to residents of Codington and surrounding counties in order to meet educational needs. Services include in person tutoring for basic literacy skills, adult brush up, GED completion and workforce readiness.

### **\$1 a week can... provide 13 GED Ready Official Practice Tests for our students.**

Samantha, a 29 year old woman, came to the Watertown Adult Education office in need of the GED early in 2021. As a single parent of two beautiful children, she worked at a local restaurant and took care of a relative's child. This busy young woman worked diligently on her GED instructional materials. She followed our guidance progressing through the numerous packets and books assigned. We customized her study plan where she would work one-on-one with the Math Instructor, increasing her academic level. Within one year, she accomplished her goal of earning her GED! Samantha is now enrolled in post-secondary education!

She demonstrated perseverance while coping with multiple personal challenges. Some of these challenges included a father with severe medical issues requiring several weeks in the hospital. She was left with no transportation after someone ran into her car. Thankfully our local DLR was able to help finance the damage repair. COVID also challenged her family with quarantine periods.

This student is an inspiration and an example to others. No matter what a person's age, how long one has been out of school, or what obstacles get in the way, their goals can be achieved!

"Because of the flexibility of the Adult Ed program, I am now able to pursue my dream. Don't give up!" - Samantha

## LAKE AREA ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Helps bring zoo programs to those who don't normally have the opportunity. The zoo's on-site and outreach programming reaches Boys and Girls Club members, children at risk, nursing homes, those with special needs, Watertown schools, and more.

### **\$1 a week can...**

**"A dollar a week allows a local nursing home group to receive an Outreach program at their facility.**

**-or-**

**A dollar a week helps 17 local students attend a field study trip to the zoo.**

**-or-**

**A dollar a week allows 2 schools to receive free 30 min Animal Encounter presentations during their visit."**

Addie is a remarkable young lady. At only 5 years old, she is absorbing all of the educational opportunities around her and she knows what she wants to be when she grows up. Addie has attended Zoo School classes since she was 2-years-old and for career dress-up day at school she dressed up as a zookeeper at Bramble Park Zoo. Her outfit was complete with rubber hosing boots, zoo staff shirt, animal ambassador snake and of course her keys. Young people know about zoo careers as well as employment possibilities much earlier today. That is due to the extensive educational offerings at zoological facilities. Addie's family will attest that she often makes them sit down and listen quietly as she tells them about her stuffed animals and how to safely touch the "animals" during an Animal Encounter presentations.



## LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

LSS Behavior Health Services provides mental health counseling for people of all ages. LSS accepts Medicaid, Medicare and most insurance, and our sliding fee scale makes counseling affordable.

**\$1 a week can... support a counseling session using a sliding fee scale at Lutheran Social Services for a couple who has trouble communicating, which will help strengthen their marriage and reduce the likelihood of divorce.**

OUTCOME: 80% of clients will make progress toward completion of their individual treatment plan goals or will complete their goals.

Client Success Story #1: A woman in her 30s was able to use the sliding fee scale, supported by United Way funding, to receive counseling to help her deal with trauma in her past and current relationships. The client has been able to use pieces of the Grief Recovery Method to work towards healing her past trauma and abuse. Additionally, the client has worked on identifying what healthy boundaries look like and applying them to

her personal and professional relationships. The client has talked about her progress since beginning therapy, and feels happier, less stressed, and less burdened through utilizing assertiveness skills and setting boundaries. The client is continuing to move forward in her personal and professional life.

Client Success Story #2: A man in his 40s who doesn't have mental health insurance has been able afford services through the sliding fee made possible through United Way support. He has been stressed with a family situation that he is now able to address. Without the sliding fee, this client would most likely not get the help he needs to cope with his situation. He has been making progress in self-care and improving the relationship with his family.

## LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES, CENTER FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES

The LSS Center for Financial Resources provides financial, housing and home buyer counseling and education, and debt management, provided by certified credit and housing counselors.

**\$1 a week can... allow two people will be able to attend a financial literacy class through videoconferencing to help them learn options available for student loan repayment.**

A client came to the LSS Center for Financial Resources feeling very overwhelmed. His spouse had just had a major medical event and through the process he discovered a very large amount of debt he wasn't aware of. He was trying to find a way to deal with this, while also coping with anticipated medical bills and the reduced income of his spouse given their inability to work because of the recent medical condition. He was left to navigate this situation on his own because his spouse was too affected by the medical event and the stress over the debts to engage in discussions about their finances.

When he initial met with his counselor, they had a very large budget deficit to cover basic monthly expenses, before even considering debt payments. He also did not know how to access his credit report to truly understand their total debt load.

During their session, his counselor showed him how to access his credit reports and laid out their various debt options along with the pros and cons of each option specific to their situation. Through several appointments, they were also able to work on individualized budgeting strategies and they were able to eliminate their budget deficit.

Now, the client has chosen and begun implementing a strategy to address the debt and is now tracking their expenses regularly. At a recent appointment, the client said he finally sees the light at the end of the tunnel and feels strong enough to handle their finances on his own going forward.

## SALVATION ARMY OF WATERTOWN

Operates the food pantry, provides lodging and meals to the homeless, assists travelers, provides clothing and household items, plays a vital role in disaster restoration and response, and offers character-building programs and music programs.

**\$1 a week can... provide a meal for one person within our feeding program or 52 meals in one year.**

Last June a woman came to The Salvation Army to see what services could be provided to help her. She had been staying at The Beacon Center as she had recently left an abusive relationship. This woman was unfamiliar with Watertown and had no friends or family nearby. Our case manager has been doing strength-based case management with her since that time. They meet regularly for continued emotional support and to address current goals and action steps to meet them. Since first coming to The Salvation Army she has grown in confidence and learned how to access many of the available resources within the community. The Salvation Army has also provided her with food, financial assistance and spiritual support. She has currently met three of her identified goals: to identify/access community resources, to apply for subsidized housing, and to grow in spiritual development. This is the first time she has lived on her own in many years and is beginning to feel stronger and more determined to continue to improve her circumstances.

## SIoux COUNCIL BOYS SCOUTS

Helps local boys and girls learn to say no to peer pressure, feel good about themselves, develop into participating citizens, and become responsive to the needs of others.

\$1 a week can... provide a meal for one person within our feeding program or 52 meals in one year.

**\$1 a week can... provide four low-income youth an age appropriate Scout Handbook for their yearly programming and rank advancement.**

Brian was introduced to Boy Scouts when he was 11 years old and earned his Eagle Rank in 1991. He remembered the many adventures of camping at Lewis and Clark Scout Reservation. Those memories encouraged him to sign his son up in the first Grade with pack 319 out of Jefferson Elementary. On that first sign-up night not only did my son become a Cub Scout he became a Den Leader for his son's Den. His son crossed over in the 5th grade to Troop 209. After a year with the Troop, I was recruited to be the Scoutmaster. Our time with the Troop includes adventures to summer camp, canoeing, exploring different merit badges, service projects and so much more. It has been an amazing time.

Recently, Brian's daughter became interested in joining a Scouts BSA Troop, and can proudly say she has recently joined Troop 8g. Her first camp out was in March of this year and on the drive home said "I'm sure glad that I decided to give Scouts a try, I really had fun." Those of you with teenagers know how hard it is to get that much feedback!

Having the opportunity to share a program Brian grew up with his children is important to him. We know the skills he learned as a kid in Boy Scouts has helped advance his life and now both his son and daughter have the same opportunity.

## WATERTOWN AREA PEOPLE AGAINST CHILD HUNGER (PACH)

The Watertown Area PACH (People Against Child Hunger) Program works with school staff to provide complimentary snacks and meals to students who may need an additional food resource over weekends during the school year.

**\$1 a week can... provide 10 PACH bags for 10 youth in need.**

Our success story each year is being able to continue our program and provide the additional food resources to families who need it. You will see the impact this has on these families from some of the survey responses below.

"Great job! Knowing that our daughter has something to eat when money is tight is a comfort."

"Helped put food in our family's home."

"I am a single mom of two and it's hard to keep their tummies full. The PACH program helps supplement. Thank you!"

"It has made our weekends a lot smoother and removed a lot of grocery pricing anxiety."

"It provides a nutritious variety the kids can choose from. Promotes healthy eating habits."

"-We really like them because it helps us out thru the summer. So, thanks again."

## WATERTOWN AREA SWIM CLUB

Helps children develop life skills through swimming. Scholarships are provided to children/families who cannot afford the coaching fees. Funds are also used to help cover the cost of home meet fees for all Watertown Swim Club participants.

**\$1 a week can... pay for 3 months of swimming on swim team for a swimmer.**

Watertown Area Swim Club helps swimmers to not only become good swimmers, but also teaches the kids life skills. We teach kids to set goals and to work hard to attain them. Swim team teaches that everything doesn't always go the way you want it to and that you can only control how you train and perform in your lane. Swim team teaches keeping things in perspective.

"Thank you so much for providing grants to Watertown Area Swim Club of Watertown, SD! It has been such a blessing to our family! All three of my girls love swimming and being a part of the Dolphin swim team. Without scholarship funds they would Not be able to be on the team so Thank you again for the grant money! Without it, children, such as mine would Not get to experience the joy of being on swim team. We really appreciate the grants!" - Letter for Swim Club Parent

## WATERTOWN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

By providing quality coaching, well maintained fields, equipment and transportation, and the opportunity to participate and compete in a challenging schedule, this agency provides youth in Watertown and the surrounding area with a positive environment and the opportunity to develop baseball skills.

**\$1 a week can... would equate to one of our Junior/Teener League teams getting uniform tops for the season.**

While every year our biggest success story is that we never turn anyone away from participating in our baseball program, this last season had another major accomplishment. We held our very first Hall of Fame banquet where we inducted four former players-contributors and one team into the newly created Watertown Baseball Hall of Fame. We had a committee of community members vote for the inductees after nominations from the community were completed. We then held a banquet and ceremony for the inductees, which doubled as a fundraiser for the WBA. The idea of the Hall of Fame banquet was to recognize past players and contributors who have gone through the Watertown baseball program in the hopes of building a strong baseball tradition in Watertown.

The success of the newly created Watertown Baseball Hall of Fame could clearly be seen at our banquet we had to honor the inductees. The public attendance and support the WBA received was tremendous. Not only did baseball enthusiasts show up for the banquet, other members of the community, who knew the inductees, were in attendance as well to show their support. The event turned into our biggest fundraiser of the year – all while building a brand and bolstering the strong baseball tradition we have in Watertown.

## WATERTOWN FIGURE SKATING CLUB

The program targets skaters ages 4 – 35 from Codington and surrounding counties. Teaching skaters the fundamentals of ice skating with progressive curriculum promotes health while building self-confidence and skills.

### **\$1 a week can... provide 20 skaters a financial scholarship**

Katherine wanted to take her MIF Senior test and pass, which would have resulted in a Gold Medal. She has trained for a lot of years to get to this point. She was struggling with nerves and just the right technique to pass the test. She took it several times to no avail.

Enter Jason Dilworth, guest coach. Jason was brought to WFSC via United Way Funds. Jason trained and worked with Katherine each month. He critiqued her technique and pushed her.

Early this season, Katherine passed her Solo Free Dance test, making her a gold medalist in that category. But Katherine wanted more. It's almost unheard of to pass more than one senior test in a season, but Katherine was set on that goal.

Again having access to Jason, she trained and worked, She took the test two times, and nerves would get her. Jason worked not only on the ice, but off the ice with her mentally. Preparing her to get the nerves out of the way and just skate. Later this season, Katherine Pfaff became the first double gold medalist at WFSC when she passed her Senior MIF test! Everyone had tears of joy for her!

Now, Katherine is determined to pass as many dance tests as she can. Again, working with not only our guest coaches, but our club coaches who have been able to train/mentor under the likes of Jason Dilworth. Katherine passed four dance tests in April, with honors, She is well on her way to another gold medal.



## WATERTOWN FIRE RESCUE, COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM

Provides early warning for residents on fire and carbon monoxide emergencies, allowing for safe evacuation. Early evacuation decreases the risk of death and injury. Funding from United Way will help with the goal of covering the entire city of Watertown with these, life-saving warning systems.

**\$1 a week can... buy 4 smoke alarms or 2 carbon monoxide detectors.**

Smoke Alarms provide an early warning of a fire, giving people additional escape time. In 2012-2016, smoke alarms were present in three-quarters (74%) and sounded in more than half (53%) of the home fires reported to U.S. fire departments. Almost Three of every five home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms (40%) or no smoke alarms that were working (17%)

Watertown Fire Rescue Started the Smoke Detector Program in 2015. After this first year one of the homes we installed smoke detectors in, had a fire. It was winter time and the home was a trailer house which had one of the doors sealed up to keep the winter elements out. The fire started in the early morning hours while a large family was asleep. The detector awoke a family and all made it out safe. If the trailer would not have had a working smoke detector the fire could have been very tragic. With result like this after the first year we realized how important this program is and we need to expand and continue with the Smoke alarm program.

In 2021 we had a Carbon Monoxide call and the levels had been lethal. The house the call came from had a CO detector that was provided from this program as well.

## WATERTOWN LAKER HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Provides youth, an opportunity for recreational and competitive skating, and helps develop hockey skills in a fun and exciting environment along with teaching lifelong lessons. Funds received are used to provide scholarships to those children/families that may not otherwise be able to participate.

**\$1 a week can... provide open skate opportunity for any skater for the entire season - typically 2 times a week for 22 weeks.**

This year, we had 5 girls that wanted to try hockey this year for the first time. We have equipment available for rent through the Park & Rec program, but this is all geared towards smaller children. One of the biggest expenses with hockey is equipment and as kids grow they need new pieces constantly. Most parents do not want to take on this expense just to try something new. United Way funds to purchase larger sizes of equipment giving more kids an opportunity to play. We want kids of all sizes and ages be able to give hockey a try, without having a financial barrier. We are anticipating our growth to continue with the new hockey rink coming, which means we will continue to have more needs for equipment.

We have also used United Way funds to purchase additional hockey skates to rent for open skate. This year, we had an overwhelming response to open skate. So much so that we had to turn kids away at the beginning of the year because we were completely out of ice skates for them to use. The funding of United Way was used to purchase additional skates, and without the help of United Way, would not be possible. Lastly, United Way funds were used to pay the registration fee for 16 individuals. This allowed them to still be able to play hockey, without placing a financial strain on their family.

"I've been playing hockey for three years. My parents said no to playing hockey for a long time until Try Hockey for Free day. I never skated before. None of my friends played hockey. I just always wanted to play hockey. Really nice people helped me find equipment and told my parents how things worked. Eventually I got to play hockey when my parents said yes. Hockey can be really expensive but Laker Hockey helped me make it less expensive. I love hockey and now have a lot of new friends that also play hockey." -

Anonymous Child in Hockey

## WATERTOWN LACROSSE CLUB

Lacrosse plays and teaches lacrosse using a great and very passionate volunteer base.

**\$1 a week can... \$1 a week would cover a scholarship for USA Lacrosse registration fees for up to two players.**

One of our initiatives has been to establish and maintain interest in an introductory lacrosse program for youth between the ages of 5-11 called Lacrosse Academy to introduce the sport and to also use it as a feeder program for our competitive levels. We are in our 3rd season of doing this and we have increased our numbers by 30%.

When Watertown Lacrosse Club partnered with the Watertown Park and Rec to offer Lacrosse Academy we were both unsure what level of success we would have. The Park and Rec graciously budgeted money to purchase equipment for the program with the understanding that WLC would provide all the coaching and instruction. This has allowed youth the opportunity try lacrosse at a minimal cost while renting equipment.

We had a great turn out the first two years and our numbers for this are looking to be consistent if not better than last year. Last year we had so many kids sign up that we actually ran out of equipment. We had six players that signed up to play Lacrosse Academy last year turn around and join our U12 division in league play this year. This has been a great partnership. We also have many of our Varsity players volunteering with the younger Lacrosse Academy players which both they and the participants have enjoyed. Our Varsity players are learning the joy and accomplishments of volunteering their time and talents and the younger players love learning from the older players that they look up to. This program has been a great way to promote lacrosse in our area and has helped us to leverage the limited resources of our association.

## WATERTOWN PARKS AND RECREATION, YOUTH BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

Building character, this program teaches lifelong skills and abilities to children. Registration Fees for the program are kept as low as possible with funding from the United Way.

**\$1 a week can... provide 15 participants a league shirt.**

The 2021 success story was that we were able to get back to normal. The year 2020 brought a lot of uncertainty to many people and it most definitely effected the youth baseball/softball program. In 2020, half the season did not happen and it was more of an controlled environment. In 2021, we were able to get back to normal sending the kids out to the field and allowing them to play games again. The Park and Rec staff struggled through Covid-19 as they were unsure what was going to happen. They were unsure if they were going to have summer programs and thankfully did. The staff did a fantastic job making the most out of the situation, still providing a safe and productive program for the youth in our community.

## WATERTOWN PARKS AND RECREATION, ADULT/SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Provides innovative, physical, educational, and social activities for seniors and adults 50 plus years of age. Funding received helps with equipment supplies and staffing.

**\$1 a week can... provide one senior citizen with the ability to participate in a variety of programs throughout the year at the Senior Activities Center.** In fact that \$1.00 would include covering the cost for a Wii Bowling League, Pool League, Shuffleboard League, Dart League, Bean Bag League, Line Dancing Classes and two special one day tournaments during the calendar year. That is a lot of programs that just \$1.00 a week covers, that makes a huge difference in the life of a senior citizen.

Adult/Senior Activities provides over 70 different programs to adults and seniors of all ages. Each activity provides a fun and safe way to interact with others no matter their age. There has been a steady number of participants, despite COVID. More adults/seniors are finding their independence to join for the active/social aspect.

Skip has been in the Watertown community for a long time, and a very active member of the community, as well. Skip lost her husband a few years ago, which is something very hard for someone to handle. From being in this position, you see the downfall of someone losing a loved one quite often. Whether it is their own health or the social aspect, not coming to programs anymore. Skip has not only overcome such a loss, but continues to stay active and involved in many things, which is great to see. By providing over 70 programs for 50+ year olds, it's a great way for everyone to get out and be active even in their darkest, most painful times.

## WATERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT, D.A.R.E.

The mission of D.A.R.E. is to teach students good decision-making skills to help lead safe and healthy lives.

**\$1 a week can... provide a D.A.R.E. t-shirt, extrinsic rewards, educational materials, and other supplies for at least 4 children.**

Our area of impact will be in education. The program is aligned with the National Common Core 5th grade standards. The students will be taught the following topics: Drug Information, Responsible Decision Making, Risks, Consequences, Peer Pressure, Dealing with Stressful Situations, Basics of Communication, Non-Verbal Communication, Listening, Bullying, Helping Others, and Getting Help from Others.

In D.A.R.E. class, we have a D.A.R.E. box where students can put questions or notes for the D.A.R.E. officer. Each day before class, I read through all the questions and answer them. This past school year, I had a note in the D.A.R.E. box from a student asking to speak to me privately about something going on at home. I talked to them about this and learned that their parents were divorced and they rotated living with each parent weekly. The student confided in me that their mother had a drinking problem that significantly affected her home life during the weeks she stayed at her house. By working with the student and the school administration, we were able to come up with a plan to make sure she was safe and properly cared for. The student's mother was also provided with treatment options to address her substance abuse.

The relationships that are formed with students through D.A.R.E. are what make the program so successful. The student had been dealing with this stress for a very long time, and the D.A.R.E. program gave them an outlet they felt safe to confide in to reach out and get help with the situation finally. I know that the time I spent speaking with this student helped them better understand what was going on, and the student now lives with their father full time until their mother gets the help she needs.

## WATERTOWN YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

Funds received provide scholarships to those who may not have the resources to participate. WYSA provides a positive environment and promotes health, exercise, and good character; builds teamwork and socialization and helps each player to reach their desired potential.

**\$1 a week can... pay a registration fee for a child to play and experience the fun of soccer.**

WYSA's goal is to provide all kids regardless of income, ability, or background the opportunity to play soccer. WYSA makes every attempt to keep registration fees low but sometimes families are not able to afford any type of fee. This is where we are excited to offer those individuals the opportunity to participate free of charge because of the generous donation of the United Way. A portion of our United Way dollars goes to supporting those who cannot support themselves.

When families suffer a financial hardship, for many families and youth activities tend to be one of the first items cut when money is tight. When funds are limited, we rely even more on the support of the United Way so we are able to support our families with scholarship monies to ensure the kiddos have an opportunity to participate in a team activity, get necessary exercise and even more so now than ever, needed positive social interaction with their peers.

"The beginning of the year we were hit with some major medical expenses and thanks to United Way and their gracious help my 3 little boys were able to participate in soccer this year for the first time. They have been wanting to do soccer for some time now but we just weren't able to afford it. Thank you so much for making it possible for my boys to fulfill their dreams." - Mother of WYSA Youth

## WATERTOWN VOLUNTEER CENTER

The Watertown Volunteer Center promotes and advocates volunteerism and one way we do that is through educational outreach. Additionally, we educate and train volunteers for each volunteer opportunity to set them up for success. Volunteering has physical and mental health benefits such as: confidence, gratitude, physical activity, social interaction, and more. The mission of the Watertown Volunteer Center is to serve, improve and connect our community through volunteerism. We match, connect and empower individuals based on their interests and skill sets to help businesses and organizations with opportunities to serve in the community, all while encouraging self-worth, and confidence for our volunteers, and we have fun doing it.

**\$1 a week can... help organize and execute 5 volunteer outreach/educational programs in our community.**

NSAA Volleyball Championship Tournament is one of the events that we help supply volunteers for every year at the Watertown Civic Arena.

This tournament welcomes many visitors to town and the volunteers are one of the first people they see when they come to the tournament. The volunteers play an important role by helping to welcome and sell tickets at the tournament.

This year, the Watertown Volunteer Center provided 28 volunteers for the NSAA Volleyball Championship Tournament for a total of 64.5 hours.

According to the Independent Sector, the national average rate for a volunteer per hour is \$29.95. For this event alone, \$1,931.75 was realized as a cost savings using volunteers.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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**(605) 886-5815**

**Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**To find dates when the office will be closed visit [www.watertownunitedway.org/events-calendar](http://www.watertownunitedway.org/events-calendar).**