

UNITED WAY
**MAJOR
DONOR
CIRCLE**

2022 Honour Roll

Recognizing those who gave generously
when our communities needed it most



United Way
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH
COMMUNITIES IN
PEEL, TORONTO &
YORK REGION



Land Acknowledgement

United Way Greater Toronto humbly acknowledges that it operates on the traditional territory of many Indigenous nations, such as the Wendat, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee. We recognize and uphold the rights of Indigenous communities, acknowledging the ancestral and unceded territories of the Inuit, Métis and First Nations peoples throughout Turtle Island. Tkaronto is home to a growing community of urban Indigenous peoples, including those from the Inuit, Métis and First Nations. We recognize that the Greater Toronto Area is covered by several treaties, such as Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Williams Treaties with seven First Nations, including the Chippewas of Georgina Island. We respect Indigenous teachings and commit to fulfilling our obligations to the land and one another. Our commitment is grounded in the principles of Truth and Reconciliation and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.



Daniele Zanotti

We are honoured and humbled to show our appreciation to everyone in our 2022 Honour Roll for your incredible commitment to community.

Through this strange period of overlapping crises, you have stood with us. As we've been faced with record inflation and a cost-of-living crisis before we could even recover from the impacts of the pandemic. As a homelessness emergency was declared, and affordable housing became even more elusive. As food banks broke records and as all of these crises took a devastating toll on the mental health of so many of our friends and neighbours.

But in the midst of all of that—all of that and more—you remained steady. You trusted us to invest your generous donations where they are most needed, for maximum impact. You stood united in your commitment, providing hope through a network of care for the people and places most vulnerable to poverty—ensuring programs remain open and staffed, food pantries are stocked for the next family, workplace training is available for youth eager to start their careers.

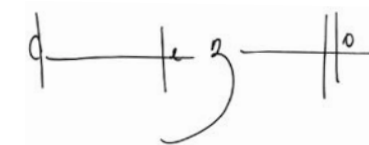
Steadfast, trusting, hopeful, you have enabled us to meet urgent needs while also focusing on systemic change to build a stronger future. At the neighbourhood level, that looks like access to safe housing, stable income, local services, recreational space, and opportunities for engagement.

And on a human level, it looks like Randee turning a corner after a lifetime of mental illness by finding a community of peers trained to support her; like Nafisa being able to rely on a food program as a widowed refugee prioritizing her daughter's welfare; and like Syed moving from precarious low-paid work to a stable position in which he is thriving and mentoring fellow newcomers.

It is thanks to your support that we can be there for them and for another two million people across Peel, Toronto and York Region throughout periods of instability and recovery.

Thank you for being with us, and with community, through it all—steadfast, with unwavering trust, hearts filled with hope. United.

Always, and only, thank you.



Daniele Zanotti
President & CEO,
United Way Greater Toronto



Damon Williams

When I reflect on the comfortable life I am lucky enough to enjoy, I can't help but recognize the good fortune that has aided my path—access to education, good health, love and support from family and friends, opportunity. And I know that not everyone gets access to the same opportunities or support I have had.

It was that recognition, many years ago, that first led me to get involved with United Way, and ultimately, to chairing United Way's Major Individual Giving Cabinet this year.

I, like many of you, feel a responsibility to give back. To create opportunities for successful outcomes for those with more challenging life circumstances. That is what it means to be part of a community. And it's what everyone named in these pages understands deeply—that we are part of a whole.

Through my experience with United Way, as a long-time donor and volunteer, I've come to really appreciate three things about the organization.

First, United Way has deep knowledge about the communities it supports and what is needed to help someone successfully and sustainably emerge from poverty. Poverty is complex, and issues like mental health, hunger, housing, racism and discrimination must be addressed in a holistic way to truly lift someone out of poverty. United Way understands these intertwined issues better than anyone, and helps people overcome multiple barriers.

Second, I can't imagine a better, more capable steward of our donations than United Way, uniquely bringing together community, donors, business and government to find new solutions to make our region great—for all.

And third, it attracts the best donors out there—people who care about their neighbours' well-being, and who have the patience and understanding to support the long, hard work of making true systemic change that allows people to live their best lives. I am honoured to be in your company and look forward to making critical progress in our region beside you.

Thank you for all the ways you stand for and with community.

Sincerely,

Damon Williams
Chief Executive Officer,
RBC Global Asset Management,
Chair, 2023 Major Individual Giving Cabinet



Leadership

2023 Major Individual Giving Cabinet

Chair: **Damon Williams**
Chief Executive Officer, RBC Global Asset Management

Christopher Abe
RBC Capital Markets

Jamie Anderson
Corporate Director

Nitin Babbar
RBC Capital Markets

Dominique Barker
Lithium Royalty Corp

Dany Beauchemin
Scotiabank

Paul Belanger
Blakes

Geoff Bertram
TD Bank Group

Bradley Black
CIBC

Wayne Bossert
RBC

Adam Burke
Deloitte

Norie Campbell

Nick Chan
BMO Financial Group

Jordy Chilcott

Chris Dale
National Bank

André de Haan

Sonal Doshi
TD Bank Group

Anton Erdody
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John Ferren
CIBC

Michael Flux
Connor, Clark & Lunn Private
Capital

Michael Foulkes
Corporate Director

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Conni Gibson
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Kim Harle
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Christian Hensley
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Alison James
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Emily Jelich
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Monique Jilesen
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Deland Kamanga
BMO Financial Group

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Stuart Kedwell
RBC

Erin Keleher
National Bank

Chint Kulkarni
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Vineet Malhotra
Corporate Director

Massimo Marinelli
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Troy Maxwell
RBC Capital Markets

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TD Bank Group

Jamsheed Mehta
BMO Financial Group

Eric Métivier
CIBC

Mike Miller
CIBC

Christine Morris
TD Bank Group

Lara Nathans
McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Jenn Ocampo-King
TD Bank Group

Brad Owen
KPMG

Nilesh Patel
TD Bank Group

Dave Pelletier
Corporate Director

Rose Porter
Scotiabank

Andy Pringle
RPIA

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Canada Pension Plan
Investment Board

Deborah Templer
McCarthy Tétrault LLP

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Corporate Director

James Wetmore
RBC Capital Markets

Robert Yeung
Corporate Director



“We put our trust in United Way because they understand the challenges that people are facing, the issues contributing to poverty in our community. But they also know that to address these challenges requires both immediate and long-term solutions. Which is why we give year over year, knowing United Way will invest where it is needed most, and where it will have the biggest impact.”

—George and Leanne Lewis

UNITED WAY MILLION DOLLAR ROUNDTABLE

Our Million Dollar Roundtable members have made a remarkable commitment to our community with their tremendous generosity. By cumulatively giving \$1 million or more to United Way Greater Toronto over the years, they have powered groundbreaking initiatives and critical services in every corner of Peel, Toronto and York Region.

Year over year, these donors have ensured that United Way can continue to tackle poverty in all its forms. Together, we are working to ensure that everyone in the GTA has their basic rights and needs met—housing, food, mental health—while building strong, vibrant neighbourhoods that are welcoming to all.

We are incredibly grateful for their long-term support and for caring so deeply about this place we call home.

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- Throughout the following pages, members of the Million Dollar Roundtable will be recognized by a blue square next to their name. We are honoured to recognize these incredible individuals for all they do for our community.

UNITED WAY
MAJOR
DONOR
CIRCLE

Our Major Donor Circle members gave \$10,000 or more to United Way Greater Toronto from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2022. Their generosity fuels United Way’s work tackling poverty and the forces that create it, including precarious work, the affordable housing crisis, the skyrocketing cost of living, racism and discrimination. Together, we are endeavouring to build stronger, more equitable neighbourhoods where residents across the GTA have what they need to thrive. We are proud to celebrate the extraordinary care these individuals and foundations show for Peel, Toronto and York Region.

Million Dollar Circle
(\$1,000,000+)

- The Barrett Family Foundation
- In Memory of Karen Green
- Donald K. Johnson, O.C.
- The Slight Family Foundation

■ Member of Million Dollar Roundtable who has cumulatively given \$1 million or more to United Way Greater Toronto, a tremendous show of commitment to our community

■ Member of Women United who has given generously in support of women in the GTA experiencing poverty and related issues

Innovator
(\$500,000-\$999,999)

- The Azrieli Foundation
- Bob Dorrance & Gail Drummond
- Bill & Bronwen Thomas
- Darryl & Cassandra White and Family
- and one donor who wishes to remain anonymous*

Visionary
(\$200,000-\$499,999)

- William & Lorna Anderson
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- Maureen & Victor Dodig
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- The Goldberg Family Foundation
- Al Green Family
- Katherine Kay & Michael Meltzer
- Estate of Thomas Charles Messecar Logan
- Gail MacNaughton
- Heather Mason-Wood & Michael Wood
- Shabnam & Bharat Masrani
- Stephen Smith & Diane Blake
- Hap & Barbara Stephen
- The Waugh Family
- and one donor who wishes to remain anonymous*



Student participants in United Way Greater Toronto's Career Navigator program

Guardian
(\$100,000-\$199,999)

- The Estate of Jane Armstrong
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- Karen & Bill Barnett
- Diana Belevsky & Al Meghji
- Charles Brindamour & Josée Letarte
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- Troy & Janine Maxwell
- Derek & Sherri Neldner
- Bill Peckford & Linda Colpa
- Martha & Mike Pedersen
- Rod & Francine Pennycook
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- Andrew & Valerie Pringle
- Robbie Pryde
- Jan & Paul Sabourin
- Jane & Tom Sabourin
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- Jad & Roula Shimaly
- Irina & Yury Shmuylovich
- ■ Paul & Patti Shugart
- David & Michelle Skurka
- Peter Snucins Family
- The Estate Of Helen Stacey
- William & Gail Szego
- The Tory Family – Elizabeth Tory, John Tory & Barbara Hackett and Jennifer Tory
- Tripp Smith Family Foundation
- Kathleen & Bill Troost
- ■ Beth Wilson
- Chuck & Libby Winograd
- Ron Woods
- Bob & Joan Wright

and six donors who wish to remain anonymous

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(\$75,000-\$99,999)

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- The Bickle-Wilder Foundation
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- Paul & Susan Clark
- Bruce Cooper
- Tom Curry & Lori Monteith
- The Dabydeens
- Steve Dent & Janet Maclaren
- Harry & Cecile Erlich
- Flatt Foundation
- Erminia (Ernie) Johannson
- ■ Colleen & Brian Johnston
- Blair & Kathy Keefe
- Jane & Michael Lay
- Nadia Liam & David Regan
- Keith Mashinter
- The McLean Foundation
- Ken Miner
- Carol Mitchell, Richard Venn & The Venn-Mitchell Family Fund
- Gilles & Julia Ouellette
- Brad & Kathy Owen
- William & Linda Quinn
- Tony & Denise Randell and Family
- Steve & Tina Tennyson
- and one donor who wishes to remain anonymous

PAUL BRADLEY

Bringing others along on the journey

Paul Bradley (right)
Operating Partner at Northleaf Capital,
and Chair of 2022 Major Individual
Giving Cabinet, and Zack Lum



If you ask Paul Bradley how he began supporting United Way Greater Toronto, he'll tell you about two distinct experiences. The first happened in the 1980s when, like many donors, he joined a United Way workplace giving campaign at his first job at a large accounting firm. "It was very competitive. It was expected that everybody participate," he recalls now. "But it opened my eyes. It was the mid-'80s and at the time, I think I was making \$19,500 a year. That wasn't a lot, but it was enough to pay for a halfway decent apartment and a small car payment. The workplace campaign helped me realize that I was probably a little more fortunate than some people."

That awareness—and Paul's support—only grew over the years. But until 2020, his contributions

"I thought, 'Okay, well, here's a chance to do something,'" he says. "But what I didn't plan on was just how joyful the interactions would be. A lot of clients with Meals on Wheels had autoimmune diseases serious enough where they had to be isolated; even putting on a mask and going into the elevator was too risky. So, suddenly, they're in a level of isolation that they had never been in or planned to be in. Sometimes I was the only person they were talking to that day. Within a couple of weeks, I really started to feel a bond with people. And eventually, I realized what it had done for me; it not only got me out of the house and gave me something impactful to do, it also allowed me to make people's lives better. That's been very validating."

"I am not someone who sits at home in a crisis with my doors shut when I know that people are out there suffering, I needed to be part of the solution in an active way."

to United Way were mostly financial. Then, the pandemic hit and everything changed.

"I am not someone who sits at home in a crisis with my doors shut when I know that people are out there suffering," he says. "I needed to be part of the solution in an active way."

That's when the second experience happened. In March 2020, he asked United Way to help him find a way to support members of his community. The organization connected him with Dixon Hall, a United Way-funded agency that provides children and youth services, employment services, settlement services and more. But where they really needed a hand was with their seniors' services, and especially the Meals on Wheels program. Paul jumped at the chance to do something tangible to help—but he didn't anticipate how transformative an experience it would be.

That role was so rewarding that Paul felt inspired to do even more. So, when he was asked to join the Major Individual Giving Cabinet in 2021, it was an easy yes. Then, he agreed to chair the 2022 Major Individual Giving Cabinet and realized he enjoyed applying his professional experiences to fulfill his philanthropic goals. Most recently, that has looked like mentoring people who were new to Cabinet and to fundraising in general, which sometimes caused anxiety around the possibility of rejection. ("We all get rejected, it's part of life," he says. "I had to raise a lot of money during my career, so I had to hear a lot of nos.")

Paul's involvement in United Way now looks very different than it once did, but in a way that makes him feel both proud and validated.

"I feel like I'm where I ought to be, given the time, the energy, the background and training and the financial resources I have," he says. "And I feel like I brought several people along on the journey, or at least helped move them to think about giving back a little more deeply."

Trustee
(\$50,000-\$74,999)

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■ Shelagh & David Wilson

Patricia Younger

and eight donors who wish to remain anonymous

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Christian & Florence Exshaw

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Janice Farrell Jones & Dave Jones

Robert & Dagmara Fijalkowski

Rob Forbrigger

■ Jeremy Fraiberg & Martha Hundert

Opening doors to giving

From growing up in a small town in Manitoba to becoming one of the most successful bankers on Bay Street, Donald K. Johnson knows how to make an impact.

The Donald K. Johnson Major Gift Challenge Grant, a \$10-million commitment to United Way Greater Toronto over ten years, will provide much-needed, impactful, unrestricted funding for United Way's work fighting poverty in Peel, Toronto and York Region.

Donald K. Johnson, O.C.
BMO Capital Markets

Donald, a decades-long United Way supporter, hopes his match will inspire others to give.

"I deeply believe in giving back and my two favourite sayings sum this up: It's better to give it away with a warm hand than a cold hand and, he who gives while he lives also knows where it goes," he says.

Giving unrestricted dollars appealed to him because it enables United Way to respond to ongoing community needs as well as emerging ones. As made evident through the pandemic and then through record inflation, community needs can change in an instant, without warning, and flexibility is vital.

"Anna's love of giving and my values on helping my community came together in our philanthropic work. We both believe deeply in helping others, and I continue to do this work in Anna's memory."

"In the years I've worked with United Way, I have seen them help so many local causes," says Donald, who has been a member of United Way's Major Individual Giving Cabinet for almost two decades. "I believe we all have a responsibility to support the communities within which we live and work."

Donald credits growing up in the tight-knit community of Lundar, Manitoba for instilling in him the value of working together for the greater good.

"My family taught me the importance of working hard, supporting my family and friends, and giving back to your community," he says. "I never really thought about this as charity; it was just what we did in our small community."

Donald never forgot those early lessons. After he moved to Toronto to pursue his professional ambitions, he continued to give back, committing to transformative advocacy work supporting four key areas: social service, the performing arts, education and healthcare. His passion for philanthropic work was shared by his beloved late wife, Anna McCowan-Johnson.

"Anna was the most kind and generous person I ever met," he says. "She had a big heart and always wanted to help everyone."

It was Anna, who had been a dancer with her own ballet company, who inspired Donald to lead an advocacy campaign to remove tax barriers for gifts of publicly listed securities. After 12 years of persistence, the capital gains tax was cut in half in 1997. In 2006, the tax was eliminated entirely, redefining the charitable landscape in Canada by bringing an additional \$1 billion in donations annually ever since.

"This was one of my most impactful initiatives," says Donald, who is presently on a mission to eliminate capital gains for donations of private company shares and real estate.

Creating the Major Gift Challenge Grant is another way he is continuing his wife's philanthropic legacy. Like their work around capital gains, this donation aims to make it easier—and more appealing—for others to give.

"Anna's love of giving and my values on helping my community came together in our philanthropic work," he says. "We both believe deeply in helping others, and I continue to do this work in Anna's memory."

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Pacesetter
(\$15,000-\$24,999)

Inspiring others through personal giving



Darryl White
Chief Executive Officer,
BMO Financial Group, and wife
Cassandra White

When Darryl and Cassandra White introduced their Gift Match* for new Leadership donor gifts, timing was a key factor.

“The need right now is clear and dire,” says Darryl, Chief Executive Officer, BMO Financial Group, 2022 Community Campaign Cabinet Chair, and the Co-Chair of the Inclusive Local Economic Opportunity (ILEO) Leadership Table—an integral part of United Way’s neighbourhood work. “Inflation, compounded by the lingering effects of the pandemic, has widened the fairness gap in our society. The rising costs of basics like groceries, gas and housing is threatening our most vulnerable communities across the GTA hard hit by the pandemic,” he says.

“The problem isn’t just that the need is growing,” echoes Cassandra. “It’s also that capacity at many United Way-funded organizations has shrunk due to funding shortfalls, overextending staff and volunteers.” The couple understands that organizations supported, funded, and often convened by United Way make a tangible difference in people’s lives, and recognize the need is only growing. They are passionate supporters for this reason.

“I’ve seen the impact firsthand: United Way is a highly effective channel for reaching directly into communities and supporting the most impactful local charities and not-for-profit organizations,” Darryl says. “They combine the real experiences they have at the frontlines with meticulously gathered data to find the best ways to provide assistance. They are the right partners to translate our efforts into the right solutions.”

But the Whites’ support for United Way isn’t new. In fact, they’ve been involved with United Way for nearly 30 years—long before the pandemic, record inflation, and the current cost-of-living crisis. They first became involved with the organization in 1995 thanks to the BMO Employee Giving campaign and have continued to increase their involvement every year since. Darryl has played important roles on both United Way Greater Toronto’s Major Individual Giving Cabinet and Community Campaign Cabinet, as well as having co-chaired Centraide of Greater Montreal’s 2021 Campaign. As a couple, he and Cassandra have donated more than \$1 million to United Way and have raised much more through their leadership as community builders.

“Personal giving and building a network of fellow givers are a part of putting our purpose into action,” says Darryl. “We know that matching helps encourage others to give. As Chair of last year’s United Way Community Campaign, it’s one of the ways Cassandra and I wanted to make a difference. As leaders in our community, we need to reach beyond and help in the ways in which we are best equipped.”

* The Darryl and Cassandra White Gift Match matched new Leadership-level donations between \$1,200 and \$9,999 from Sept. 1 to Dec. 15, 2022, up to a total of \$1 million.

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Goldie Feldman

Legacy gift uplifts future generations

With a lifelong passion of helping others, Karen Green-Fischer’s work is continuing in her memory.

When Karen passed away in 2021, she left a transformative \$2 million legacy gift to United Way Greater Toronto.

For Karen, caring for community was instilled by her family. Born in Toronto in 1950, her dedication to philanthropy and her passion for social issues were largely shaped by her late parents, Goldie Feldman and Abraham Green, who impressed upon their children the importance of enriching the lives of others.

“Helping others became a family philosophy,” says Lindy Green, one of Karen’s siblings, who remembers experiencing first-hand her parents’ “charitable activism and commitment to making their communities a better place.”

Lindy says their parents came from modest means, which fortified their empathy and commitment to working with charitable organizations dedicated to ending poverty and improving the health and wellness of community members.



Karen Green-Fischer

Goldie, who passed away in 2022, was a long-standing supporter of a myriad of communities across Toronto and was highly active in United Way’s community hubs, which offer a range of programs and services all under one roof.

Both Goldie and Karen were deeply moved by the plight of struggling families.

“I think Karen’s passion to help women and children came from witnessing our mother’s profound concern for this demographic,” Lindy says. “Karen was involved with many organizations during her lifetime, but first and foremost she believed in providing women and children with opportunities that would better their lives. The giving of both her time and resources made her a compassionate and caring human being, ultimately enriching her and our families’ lives.”

Karen lived a full and impactful life. She was a singer in the JCC community choir and, after working as a primary school teacher, ran an art gallery and dedicated herself to charitable work near and dear to her heart.

“If there are any lessons to be learned from Karen’s life, it is the importance of communities. We cannot thrive as a whole when so many others are struggling.”

Remembered as a devoted community champion, Karen’s incredible gift will continue to support the causes she was so deeply passionate about for years to come. Meanwhile, Karen’s generosity serves as a lasting inspiration to others, including George Fischer, her husband of 33 years, their two grown sons, Ryan and Sean, their siblings, and many friends.

“Seeing Karen’s legacy continue to help others inspires and reminds the family of the importance of thoughtful and strategic philanthropy,” Lindy says. “If there are any lessons to be learned from Karen’s life, it is the importance of communities. We cannot thrive as a whole when so many others are struggling”.

“All of Karen’s family and friends feel extremely proud and happy to know that Karen’s legacy gift and memory will continue to positively impact the lives of others for years to come. The family hopes that Karen will be remembered for her beautiful, lively, and compassionate spirit. We hope too, that Goldie will be remembered for being a loving mother and a major supporter of the many communities in Toronto.”

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Sarah Hunter
President,
The K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation



A relationship built in trust-based philanthropy

The K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation has been supporting United Way for at least 35 years. Through that long, close relationship, the Foundation saw how strategically their gifts were being allocated and the incredible impact they were having, which is one of the reasons they chose to make a three-year unrestricted gift to the organization.

“We want to maximize our donations as much as possible, so we try to find organizations that are doing really good work and can use the donations properly,” says Sarah Hunter, the Foundation’s President and a former member of United Way’s Major Individual Giving Cabinet.

Doug Hart, the Foundation’s Vice President, agrees. “We had been very impressed with the programs that United Way offers and the breadth of its work,” he says, noting that the Foundation’s support of United Way has spanned decades for good reason. “The community hubs we were proud to fund have worked out very well, and the organization continues to be well managed.”

That’s why, when United Way asked the Foundation to consider an unrestricted, multi-year gift, the board listened.

“Many foundations require that the money they donate be spent only on programs, not on administration. But very often, work needs to be done that is not attributable directly to programs, so that kind of funding is very valuable too,” Doug says. “We feel it’s more effective to start with an assumption of trust and effectiveness on the part of United Way, rather than trying to direct where funding goes.”

The term for this approach to giving is trust-based philanthropy, and it describes a style of giving that empowers non-profits to make decisions about how gifts can be used based on their expertise, and treats the funders as well as community members as partners.

“We feel it’s more effective to start with an assumption of trust and effectiveness on the part of United Way, rather than trying to direct where funding goes.”

— **Doug Hart**
Vice President,
The K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation

“One thing that came up over the pandemic was the need for more immediate assistance and flexibility for organizations to direct the funds themselves,” says Andrea Holtslander, a member of the Foundation’s board. “United Way knew where the help was needed, so we could just go, ‘Okay, you’re doing work in this area and you know where this money needs to go.’”

Approaching philanthropy in this way is both relatively new and, in some ways, radically different. But both United Way and the K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation see the value in this more equitable approach to giving to ensure that more people receive the help they need, faster.

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		Nancy Ramalho & Jeff Graham

15 years of uplifting women

For the past 15 years, engaged and determined women have come together to rally support across their networks and inspire others to uplift women experiencing poverty. First launched as Women Gaining Ground in 2008, and now known as Women United, this initiative has raised more than \$16 million, and many of the original visionaries have remained connected through the years. To mark Women United’s 15th anniversary, we asked some long-time donors about their involvement.



Why give through Women United?



Doris Stamm: I joined this group years ago because its mission resonated with me: women helping women get out of poverty. And it resonates deeply still, because the need to support women and their families continues. For me, being part of Women United continues to be the best way to empower women in our community who are facing barriers to build strong, secure futures. When we help women, we help their families, and as a result the entire community is stronger. We trust United Way to ensure that the money raised goes to great programs, and we know that we are making a difference. I love that I am in such good company.

Why is contributing to Women United so important right now?



Martine Irman: I continue to support Women United because the pandemic exposed and exacerbated the issues many women are facing in our community. The need to help is greater, and that’s more reason to give. Helping focus on women in need is part of our social responsibility as women and I believe giving as a group is even more impactful than individually.



Godyne Sibay: The pandemic disproportionately affected women and lower-income families, while natural disasters and civil unrest have brought many newcomers to our communities. Even with the impact that United Way has had, the demand has not abated. Our communities, composed of people from around the world, are filled with untapped potential. Time and again, history has told us that when you make women successful, the whole community rises with them.



Heather Mason-Wood: There are so many women who are struggling to raise their children and provide food and shelter while also sometimes dealing with abuse or mental health challenges—and the pandemic led to an increase in need. Mental health issues have increased, food and housing supports are inadequate, and many women and their families are in crisis. I believe it is incumbent on those of us who can afford to help to do so. I hope that the women who benefit from the support know that Women United members truly care about every one of them. We hope they can use the support to move forward with their lives.

What kind of impact do you hope you’re having?



Jennifer Witzel: I believe the Women United initiatives provide the right level of support and encouragement to help women overcome difficult situations and improve their circumstances for themselves and their families. It is very gratifying to hear how those programs have supported women, and the real stories of the personal growth and expansion of the possibilities for young women is a joy to witness.



Laura Isidean: Contributing to Women United is very important to me because when you lift women up, everyone benefits—women, their families and our communities. I trust that I am supporting women with opportunities for a better life, where they can find safety, resilience and financial independence. For my community and the GTA as a whole, I hope for a level playing field, where everyone has an equal opportunity to be successful and happy.

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THE ATANGAN FAMILY

Building stronger communities

When Eugene Atangan immigrated with his family to Canada from the Philippines in 1989, community settlement programs helped them lay down roots here. That warm welcome they received is one of the reasons he gives generously to United Way Greater Toronto today.

“I want to be one of the many helping hands that support members of our community and give them the same opportunities and second chances we were given,” he says.

“Just like United Way, we believe everyone deserves to be given opportunities to live a good life, regardless of social identity and income.”

Eugene credits his late father for teaching him the importance of hard work, perseverance and giving back.

“My father had humble beginnings as the son of a farmer and he worked his way through university without buying one single textbook because he could not afford them,” he says. “I wonder how his life would have changed had youth development programs been available to him.”

“Having a support network nearby goes a long way in helping promote mental and physical wellbeing,” Eugene says. “Connecting people locally and encouraging participation empowers community members to look for and implement solutions together. No one should ever feel that they are alone.”

Eugene Atangan (above left)
Partner, Technology Risk Consulting, KPMG, and family

Robert Vogel	Sarah Weind	■ Jennifer Witzel
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Gauthier Webanck	Ray Williams	and 86 donors who wish to remain anonymous
Robert & Mary Webb	Matt Willis	
Larry & Debbie Weinberg	Rodey Wing & Christopher Lucki	

The Tomorrow Fund™

While many of today’s social challenges will be overcome, others will persist, and new ones will emerge. Contributions to United Way’s endowment program, The Tomorrow Fund™, ensures stable and ongoing funding that will empower us to meet these challenges as they arise. We thank the following donors for their contributions. They have made a tremendous commitment to the future of our entire community.

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Bringing healthy meals to Canadians

As visits to food banks reached record highs, The Slight Family Foundation rallied to support those in need with a significant \$7.5 million gift to six organizations dedicated to tackling hunger and food insecurity—needed now more than ever.

Soaring grocery prices, job insecurity and high inflation have contributed to an increased demand for food programs while the organizations providing those supports have seen a decrease in government funding and have felt the impacts of burnout and inflation themselves.

The transformative Slight Family Foundation donation made during the 2022 holiday season in support of United Way Greater Toronto, Daily Bread Food Bank, Second Harvest, Community Food Centres Canada, Breakfast Club of Canada, and Food Banks Canada continues to have a profound impact on communities across the GTA.

With the generous support of the Foundation, 15 programs within United Way's own network facilitated access to healthy and culturally relevant foods through meals and packages, coordinated the purchase and distribution of bulk food, and even provided employment and income-generating opportunities.

"We hope our gift to provide nourishing foods can help to alleviate the incredible stress so many individuals and families are under right now in

this crisis of deepening poverty," says Gary Slight, President and CEO of The Slight Family Foundation.

The Foundation's gift allows United Way and its network of agencies to create the vital, community-led solutions that are needed so that everyone can eat fresh, nourishing food—during the holidays and throughout the year. It resulted in charitable organizations working together to distribute both purchased and rescued food to hundreds of community agencies, a mission that continues throughout 2023.

In addition to the gift for food supports, a trailblazing \$15-million donation made in 2019 through the Allan Slight Seniors Fund continues to support GTA seniors by connecting them with community resources to help them stay in their own homes and live healthy, active lives as a vital part of their neighbourhood.

The Foundation was established in 2008 by the late Allan Slight, a prominent Canadian broadcasting entrepreneur, volunteer and philanthropist, and a long-time supporter of United Way. The Foundation's dedication to bolstering the lives of others honours Allan's legacy and decades-long history of philanthropy and community service, which included volunteering with the United Way Greater Toronto Board of Directors for nine years and later serving as chair of the 1985 United Way campaign.

The Betty Howson Family Fund

The Helen Kearns Family Fund

The David & Sheryl Kerr Family Fund

The Harry & Henrietta Kostman Family Fund

The Spencer Lanthier Family Fund

The Edward and Lavinia Lees Fund

The Peter LeBlanc and James Ip Fund

The Ben Le Fevre Mental Health Impact Fund

The Stephan & Sophie Lewar Family Fund

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The Robert & Margaret MacLellan Fund

The Saker Madhani Fund

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The Viresh Mathur Family Fund

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The Susan McIsaac & Norm Brignall Fund

The Carol Mitchell, Richard Venn & The Venn-Mitchell Family Fund

The Lou Odette Family Fund

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The Isaac Osipovicz Memorial Endowment Fund

The Yezdi & Jennifer Pavri Family Fund

The John & Penelope Pepperell Family Fund

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The Bob Rae & Arlene Perly Rae Family Fund

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The Heather Reisman & Gerald Schwartz Family Fund

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The Allan Slaughter & Emmanuelle Gattusso Family Fund

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The Kathleen Taylor & Neil Harris Family Fund

The Mary Taylor & Tim Burkholder Family Fund

The Toronto Hong Kong Lions Club Fund

The Martha Tory Family Fund

The Wanda Tse Family Fund

The Marla & Larry Wasser Family Fund

The Mark & Lorraine Weisdorf Family Fund

The Kevin Whitaker & Marie Moliner Family Fund

The Linda Mae Wilson Family Fund

The George Wong Family Fund

The Leon & Susan Wong Family Diamond Wedding Anniversary Fund

The Don & Jane Wright Family Fund

The Marcia & Arthur Zalev Fund

CONNIE REEVE

Giving
for today and the
years to come

What inspires someone to give to an organization for more than 30 years? For Connie Reeve, the answer is simple: [confidence](#).

“I’ve always had a high level of trust in United Way as an organization and its ability to direct donations to the most critical areas of need,” Connie says. “Everything I’ve seen about United Way has given me confidence in what it does.

“I’ve gone on tours of agencies funded by United Way, and I’ve heard lots of United Way leaders speak and they’ve been impressive and committed individuals,” she says. “I’ve always observed that everyone I’ve interacted with from United Way has been very committed to improving the lives of people in the GTA.”

Connie started donating to United Way in the early ‘90s thanks to a workplace giving campaign at Blakes, the law firm where she got her start and built a successful career as a lawyer. At the time, she saw more senior lawyers enthusiastically giving back and realized it was something she wanted to do, too. Over the years, her level of support grew in tandem with her income. She made sure to give monthly, which she knew would offer the organization some stability. And she not only maintained that support after she retired from Blakes to start her own mediation business, but she also increased her giving in response to the pandemic. She has even committed to supporting United Way through planned giving.

“When I recently updated my will, I decided to give to United Way because it funds so many important issues and organizations, and it’s likely always going to be there, making good decisions about how the money is used,” she says.

Connie Reeve
Mediator,
Reeve Resolutions



Promises for Tomorrow

Promises for Tomorrow donors have made a commitment to support United Way with a future gift through their estate. The thoughtfulness and care they show today will have a significant and lasting impact that will benefit communities across Peel, Toronto and York Region for years to come. With their support, United Way will ensure that neighbourhoods across the GTA are equitable, inclusive and thriving communities for future generations.

Gifts Made by Bequests

Babak Abadi	Joe & Laura Hohertz	Mary Prime
MS Archibald	Helen Huang	Connie Reeve
Karon C. Bales	Fiona Innis	Paul Richards
Catherine Berthiaume	Vicki Janes	John Richardson
Diane Boyle	Emily Jelic	Michael Royce
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Veronica Bric	Neville & Lorraine Kirchmann	Hoda Samater
Norie Campbell	Carol Kirsh	Sarah Schwartz
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Sandy Chan	Elaine Lindo	Mario So Gao
Jennifer Chegus	Janet MacInnis	Lucia Stephenson
James Chen	Claude Marchand	The Larry & Judy Tanenbaum Family Charitable Foundation
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Carmen Clayton	Susan McIsaac	Lars Thormann
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The Flux Family	Stan Neal	Kevin White
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Ted Garrard	Kira Pashkovsky	John Wong
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Gary & Marilyn Harding	Cynthia Peters	William Young
Robert Harding	Susan Pigott	Lindsay Zier-Vogel & Adam Hess
Rev. Dr. Nancy E. Hardy	Courtney Pratt	

Gifts Made by Life Insurance

Jennifer Babe	Janet MacInnis	John & Pamela Richardson
Randy & Pat Billing	Bob & Patricia Martin	Gella & Paul Rothstein
Donald Carefoot	Ellen Michelson	Joseph & Mary Frances Sheehan
Mary Anne Chambers	N. Jane Pepino, Q.C.	Andria N. Spindel
Bruce T. Humphrey	Cynthia Peters	Linda Young
David Kerr		



Photo courtesy of Native Child and Family Services of Toronto.

Front cover:

The Atangan family at United Way's Family Day of Caring event

About United Way Greater Toronto

As the largest non-government funder of community services in the GTA, United Way Greater Toronto reinforces a crucial community safety net to support people living in poverty. United Way's network of agencies and initiatives in neighbourhoods across Peel, Toronto and York Region works to ensure that everyone has access to the programs and services they need to thrive. Mobilizing community support, United Way's work is rooted in ground-breaking research, strategic leadership, local advocacy and cross-sectoral partnerships committed to building a more equitable region and lasting solutions to the GTA's greatest challenges.



WORKING WITH
COMMUNITIES IN
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YORK REGION

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