



## Volunteer SPOTLIGHT:



The **Learn for Life** Reading Program was piloted in the 2010-2011 school year through a partnership between United Way of Portage County, Rosholt Public Schools, and Portage County RSVP, a volunteer program for people age 55 and over.

*"The Learn for Life Reading Program helps third graders read better. Reading is such a basic necessity in life, and this program is essential for our community and the children. It just gives an extra push and a little extra attention to these really deserving kids."* -Phyllis Moore, Tutor

*"As a tutor for this program, I have enjoyed helping these kids better themselves. It's such a good feeling to come in every week and see the kids gain better reading skills and an increased level of confidence."* -Micki Anderson, Tutor

*"The Learn for Life Reading Program at the Rosholt School District is necessary for third grade students who are struggling to read, because after third grade, children 'read to learn.' I know firsthand how impactful it can be on a child's life."* -Kathie Grill, Tutor

### Education and Strong Families

- Achievement Center – Early Intervention Program
- Girl Scouts – Life Skills for Girls
- YMCA – Child Care Scholarship
- YMCA – Teen Programs
- Big Brothers Big Sisters – Community Based Mentoring
- Big Brothers Big Sisters – Site Based Mentoring
- Family Connections – Family Resource Centers
- Boys & Girls Club – Teen Programming
- Boys & Girls Club – Almond-Bancroft
- Boy Scouts – Scoutreach
- Volunteer Center

### Income and Self-Sufficiency

- Advocates for the Developmentally Disabled – Community Partners
- YMCA – Adapted Recreation
- Aging & Disability Resource Center – Adult Day Center
- Aging & Disability Resource Center – Rural Delivered Meals
- Aging & Disability Resource Center – Holly Shoppe
- Meals On Wheels
- Volunteer Caregivers of Portage County
- CAP Services – Skills Enhancement
- Portage County Literacy Council
- Community Industries Corp. – Respite Services
- CAP Services – Hmong Project
- Community Industries Corp. – Supported Employment

### Health and Basic Needs

- American Red Cross – Blood Services
- American Red Cross – Emergency Services
- CAP Services – Family Crisis Center
- CAP Services – Ministry Dental Center
- United Way's 2-1-1
- Children's Service Society – Counseling
- Epilepsy Foundation – Direct Client Services
- Portage County Child Passenger Safety
- Salvation Army – Hope Center
- YMCA – Scholarship Assistance

**SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY...  
GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.  
LIVE UNITED** 

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Get connected with volunteer opportunities throughout Portage County by visiting our website:  
**[VOLUNTEERSROCK.ORG](http://VOLUNTEERSROCK.ORG)**  
715-341-6740

Dial **2-1-1**   
To Give or Get Help.

CALL OR CLICK - the next time you have a question, need information about community services, or are looking for help with personal or family matters, or have other concerns, simply call 2-1-1 or visit [unitedwaypoco.org](http://unitedwaypoco.org) to GET CONNECTED and GET ANSWERS.

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**United Way  
of Portage County**



2011 Campaign Chairs  
Dennis and Sharon Peterson



**GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.  
LIVE UNITED** 

# Why Education, Income and Health?

United Way of Portage County is dedicated to advancing the common good by focusing on the areas of Education, Income and Health. These three areas impact everyone in our community because they are the building blocks for a good life. We bring people together from all across Portage County to tackle these issues and form a more cohesive community. Our goal is to impact our community and create a place where businesses, organizations and community members **LIVE UNITED**.



Families engage in healthy relationships and promote youth development.

Children & youth achieve academic progress at appropriate levels.

The early years of life are critical to child development. A successful future depends on many things including appropriate care and a quality education. **In 2010, 84 percent of the club members at the Almond-Bancroft Boys & Girls Club improved their reading skills.**



Increase independence of seniors and individuals to become financially stable.

Empower low income individuals to become financially stable.

The number of individuals in Portage County living in poverty continues to rise. The effects of financial stability are far reaching. Inability to provide basic necessities greatly influences success in all areas of life. **In 2010, 85 percent of the participants that completed the CAP Services Skills Enhancement program obtained a new job that increased their hourly wage by \$3 or more.**



Connect people with critical resources during crisis situations.

Increase overall health of uninsured and/or underinsured individuals.

The uninsured are less likely to access preventive care or seek early treatment of illness and therefore may miss more time at work or school. Protecting ourselves and preventing health problems are essential to our community's success. **In 2010, more than 2,300 low-income residents of Portage County received dental services from Ministry Dental Center.**

*“United Way has specific goals with a proven strategy. Academics, youth development, financial stability, and good health are critical issues. By focusing on these areas, they can help make a big difference in people’s lives. It isn’t just about giving people money, it’s about helping people stand on their own to improve their quality of life.”*

-Pat Wesenberg, President/CEO, Central City Credit Union

*“I am a strong believer in United Way and the important role it plays in meeting the needs of our community. You can be confident that the in-depth review process, administered by more than 40 local volunteers, will ensure that your donations provide a strong return on investment in our community.”*

-Jim Weishan, Sentry Insurance / Vision Council Chair



[www.unitedwaypoco.org](http://www.unitedwaypoco.org)