



Karla Krehbiel, Regional President, Johnson Financial Group

For over 40 years, I have had the privilege of supporting United Way, and in that time, I have witnessed the profound impact they have on our community. Their dedication to addressing the most pressing needs of our neighbors is truly inspiring.

Carolynn Friesch from United Way of Kenosha County brings together individuals, organizations, and resources to tackle issues like education, health, and financial stability. I've seen firsthand how their programs uplift families, provide essential services to those in need and foster a sense of hope and community spirit.

What sets Carolynn from United Way of Kenosha County apart is her commitment to collaboration. She works tirelessly to unite various sectors—businesses, nonprofits, and volunteers—creating a powerful network of support that amplifies our collective efforts. This holistic approach not only addresses immediate needs but also lays the groundwork for long-term community resilience.

I am proud to stand behind United Way of Kenosha County, knowing that my contributions directly support initiatives that change lives. Together, we are building a stronger, healthier community for everyone.

Nick Smith, Vice President – Operations (Racine/Kenosha), Aurora Health Care

United Way of Kenosha County is an organization that truly lives to serve others in Kenosha. The team at UWKC routinely devotes their time, effort, and focus to issues that are important to Kenosha County residents and gives back in a way that is meaningful and often necessary. As part of their yearly efforts, their Live UNITED Spectacular is a tremendous event that recognizes those who have a passion for giving back to the community and brings together many leaders from our area to celebrate success and generate additional fundraising for those in need. I value the time I've spent with UWKC and look forward to their continued success.

Kahlil Griffin, Simmons & Uptown Library Branch Manager, Kenosha Public Library

As a volunteer at the United Way's Centennial Jubilee event, I witnessed firsthand the profound impact of the United Way of Kenosha County, which was evident in the large number of people who attended. The event demonstrated the significant strides the organization is making in the city of Kenosha. The overwhelming support from the community at the event is a clear reflection of UWKC's growing influence and dedication to creating positive change. This celebration served as a powerful testament to the organization's ongoing success and its promising future.

Sarah Marbes, Impact Program Coordinator, Gateway Technical College

United Way of Kenosha County is a powerful, positive force in our community. It is an organization run with energy and care. I have been a tutor at Kenosha Literacy Council, one of the agencies UWKC funds. Every week this organization is helping immigrants and refugees learn English and helping Americans who have fallen behind build their literacy skills. Programs like this across Kenosha are lifted up by the support of UWKC. They are feeding families that do not have enough money for groceries. They are supporting our LGBTQ community through support groups. They are teaching children to love reading.

I have been honored to serve on the event planning committees for the Centennial Jubilee and the Live UNITED Spectacular. A team of volunteers works with the United Way staff to plan a program to showcase and celebrate UWKC's impact and to bring more support for the great work the organization and its partners are doing. This chance to host a gala at the Baird Ballroom would take UWKC's impact to new heights. UWKC's staff would make the most of this opportunity, utilizing your support to help Kenosha's most vulnerable families and individuals.

Sierra Dlamini, Director of Resource Development, United Way of Kenosha County

The Live UNITED Spectacular Gala is simply put—Spectacular. It's unlike any other event or gala I've attended. It was truly inspiring to see so many individuals, community leaders, volunteers, and partners come together to support UWKC's mission and to stand UNITED for our community. The energy, passion, and commitment in the room were undeniable, making it a true night to remember!

Becky Noble, Director of Marketing, Kenosha Area Business Alliance

United Way of Kenosha County always delivers impactful and high-energy events. They engage the community in the planning process and are intentional about every detail of the attendee's experience - ensuring they leave with an understanding of the challenges the community faces while maintaining a positive outlook for the future. Their events – especially their annual gala - are full of fun, education, connection, and celebration.

Robyn Heathcote Doersch, volunteer

I am a United Way of Kenosha County volunteer. I have been involved with Readers-are-Leaders, the Community Investment Committee, and most recently the Live UNITED Spectacular as a member of the planning committee and auction items acquisitions team.

I continue to be moved by the generosity of our community and willingness to donate to the United Way. Whether it be time donated by fellow volunteers, or money, services, and merchandise from our sponsors and donors, the willingness to help is exemplary! This year's Spectacular was a great success in large due to the support of those I just mentioned but also because of the stellar leadership of the United Way of Kenosha County Staff and especially Carolynn Friesch! She has done a great job connecting with community stakeholders clarifying the United Way's purpose and commitment.

The Spectacular highlighted the caring power of the Kenosha community and the incredible impact in improving the future of the residents of Kenosha County.

During this year's special gathering, the stories of individuals and organizations whose dedication has helped shape a brighter future for Kenosha County were highlighted and the transformative power of unity and generosity was showcased. The event was fun, informative, and inspiring! How often do you get to formally, including the attire, recognize the great people and organizations in your community, and leave feeling great about your collective accomplishments?!

From bolstering education to supporting families in need, our collective efforts have truly made a difference.

