



United Way of Abilene

PO Box 82
Abilene, TX 79604
(325) 677-1841
www.unitedwayabilene.org

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UNITING WORKPLACES FOR SOMETHING BIGGER

United Way Workplace Campaigns unite employees in all departments of a company and gives them an opportunity to contribute to a cause that matters to them. It feels good to be a part of something bigger and work together to provide solutions. During the campaign season, United Way volunteers, community partners, and staff visit more than 100 workplaces in the area.

Employee Campaign Coordinators, the link between United Way and our partner companies, have rocked the house with creative and fun ways to participate in their company's Workplace Campaign. Jeans days were a hit at Prosperity Bank. AbiMar's leadership team took on service projects at our partner agencies. Several employees at Hendrick Health System took a pie in the face or were "admitted" to the hospital to raise money for their campaign.

Hendrick's efforts, lead by Loaned Executives Kirk Canada and Jason Eaves, included special events and incentives that allowed the entire campus to get involved and work together. This resulted in a more than 20% increase in employee giving this year. Great work, Hendrick!

From Employee Campaign Coordinators to members of our speakers bureau, you have all united together for something bigger in our community. United Way of Abilene thanks those volunteers, donors, and friends for their continued support and initiative in improving our community!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR
#GIVINGTUESDAY AND
NO SHAVE NOVEMBER SPONSORS



LIVE UNITED TODAY

DECEMBER 2018

IT IS GOOD TO BE A BLESSING

*"It's good to be **blessed**. It's better to be **a blessing**" - Author Unknown*

Our work focusing on education, financial stability, and health is changing stories. Because of your generosity, United Way was able to develop a partnership between Communities in Schools and REACH for a Difference. This partnership allowed students with autism, like Phoebe, to be better served on our school campuses. Phoebe, an 8th grader, had serious mental, emotional, and behavioral issues that resulted in being withdrawn from school during the last school year. Phoebe's mother writes of Mr. Thurmond Metters, a Communities in Schools Student Success Coach, "Mr. Metters has been open to help Phoebe achieve her goals and has given his full belief and support to a girl that was on the edge." This year, she was chosen as a campus leader at Madison Middle School.

Thank you for helping change stories for students like Phoebe.

Across Abilene and our 19-counties we are changing stories and helping our most vulnerable families. We have been blessed.

Your local United Way of Abilene has been blessed in 2018 by our volunteers and donors!

- Efforts by teams of volunteers, corporate partners, and individuals helped United Way of Abilene raise \$67,781 on Giving Tuesday! Thank you for our match gifts from Aaron Watson Music, LoanStar Loans, Happy State Bank, and an anonymous donor.
- Over sixty men banded together for No Shave November and raised over \$30,000! In addition, Scott Dueser, named Most Valuable Beard, matched his donations with an additional gift of \$10,242.72 to Cancer Services Network. Our generous sponsors for the month-long endeavor were Lone Star Dry Goods, Sockdolager Brewing Company, The Kings Barbers, and Reed Beverage.

We are currently at \$1,740,000 in our 2019 Campaign. We have a gap of \$314,000 to meet the funding requests from our 24 partner agencies. Please consider helping us close this gap!

Cathy

Cathy Ashby
President & CEO
United Way of Abilene



Above: Phoebe

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVERS

Consider an IRA Charitable Rollover gift to United Way Foundation of Abilene's endowment. If you are 70 1/2 or older, you can lower your tax bill by donating your required minimum distributions from you IRA, 401k, or other retirement plan. IRA Charitable Rollovers and other endowed planned giving investments provide a safety net that meets the needs of our citizens both now and beyond your lifetime - forever! Please make an IRA Charitable Rollover or other endowment gift by calling Greg Wilson or Cathy Ashby at 677-1841.

WHY I GIVE



“Melissa and I are thrilled to serve as the 2019 Campaign Chairs for United Way of Abilene. We give to United Way of Abilene because the collective impact of donations assists more of our neighbors

with their basic needs of health, education, and financial stability than we could individually. Through giving to United Way of Abilene, we know the well deserving local non-profit partner agencies are held to the

highest standards and have been certified by members of our community. United Way of Abilene makes it easy for us to give via payroll deductions allowing us to give more by spreading out our donation over the period of a year. **We give because through United Way of Abilene, changing the story of one person can impact us all.**

*Bill and Melissa Noonan
2019 Campaign Chairs*



Top Left: AEP Texas staff presents a check for their campaign to Cathy Ashby. Top Right: Wylie ISD is recognized for 20% or more increases in employee giving. Bottom Right: Tim Farrar, United Supermarkets, is presented a Cornerstone Award. Bottom Middle: Hendrick Health System staff are “admitted” for a special event during their campaign. Bottom Right: Kevin Wellborn is recognized for his outstanding No Shave November participation.

BEARDED FUNDRAISERS LET IT GROW NO SHAVE NOVEMBER

More than 60 community members ditched their razor for the month of November for United Way of Abilene’s No Shave November campaign. These volunteers set up online fundraising pages and asked their friends, family, and coworkers to help them support United Way’s work in the community. Their efforts resulted in over \$30,000 raised for the annual United Way campaign.

Scott Dueser, Chairman, President & CEO of First Financial Bank, led the way with \$10,242.72 raised during the month. Additionally, Dueser provided a dollar-for-dollar match gift to Cancer Services Network in memory of his parents.

Both United Way and our community are made better through the generosity of Scott and all of our No Shave November fundraisers and sponsors.



Top Left: No Shave November participants raising \$300+ were recognized as members of The Whisker Club. Top Right: Scott Dueser presents his matching gift to Nancy Tyler, Executive Director of Cancer Services Network. Bottom Right: The Toro Company NSN is presented the Bevy of Beards award for being the top fundraising organization.



AGENCY SUCCESS STORY THE PIONEERS GROUP



In the fall of 2008, the Abilene Regional Office of the Alzheimer’s Association first received designation as a United Way of Abilene partner. Initial funding was utilized to implement an Early Stage Support Group to provide individuals with mild memory loss and their primary care partners the opportunity to connect with others experiencing similar difficulties. The group - which became known as the Pioneers - offers members a safe, judgment-free format in which to learn, share, fellowship, and avoid the social isolation that typically accompanies Alzheimer’s.

To date, the Pioneers group has completed 120 five-month sessions since inception. Husbands and wives, adult children and parents, and pairs of friends and siblings have all participated in the group. Ninety-seven individuals have been positively impacted in the 10 years of the Pioneers group.

2018 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Abilene Hope Haven
- Adaptive Recreation Services
- Adult Protective Services Partners
- Alliance for Women & Children
- Alzheimer’s Association
- Ben Richey Boys Ranch
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Big Country CASA
- Boy Scouts Texas Trails Council
- Boys & Girls Club
- Cancer Services Network
- Center for Contemporary Arts
- Communities in Schools
- Day Nursery of Abilene
- Dyess Youth Programs
- FaithWorks
- Girl Scouts Texas/Oklahoma Plains
- MERCY Health Care Center
- Noah Project
- Presbyterian Medical Care Mission
- Regional Victim Crisis Center
- ResourceCare
- Southwestern Diabetic Foundation
- YMCA of Abilene

THANK YOU