

# United Way



## Pocono Mountains United Way

### January 2023 Newsletter



## PMUW Board Member Speaks at ESU's MLK Celebration

East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania selected Christa Caceres, president of Monroe County chapter of the NAACP, to be the keynote speaker for the 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Breakfast.

[Continue reading about Christa Caceres' speech](#)

## PMUW Board Member Named Middle Smithfield Township Person of the Year Finalist

Debbie Kulick is a board member at Pocono Mountains United Way, but that is just one of the many hats she wears in our community. It's part of why earlier this month, her township – Middle Smithfield – recognized her as one of three finalists to be for the Person of the Year in 2022 Award for the township.



[Learn more about Board Member Debbie Kulick's recent recognition](#)



## First Early Childhood Screening Site of 2023 Was A Success

Every child deserves a healthy start to life, and this foundation is key for a strong start once the child reaches kindergarten. This is why Pocono Mountains United Way offers the Healthy Start Early Childhood Screening Program, with five different types of health screenings that can give parents the support they need for their

children.

PMUW kickstarted 2023 with a dental screening event that took place in mid-January at Precious Moments Christian Academy.

[Continue Reading About the Healthy Start Early Childhood Screenings Program Here](#)

## Announcing Changes to the Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Effective February 1, 2023, the Monroe County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) will no longer be accepting further applications. Those in need of housing assistance are encouraged to call 2-1-1 from any phone to register for support, or PoconoInfo for housing resource referrals (570-517-3954). While Monroe County is no longer accepting further ERAP applications, it continues to work on earlier applications as funding and resources allow.

[Find more information on our website!](#)



## Help our Team make a difference in our community

[DONATE TODAY](#)

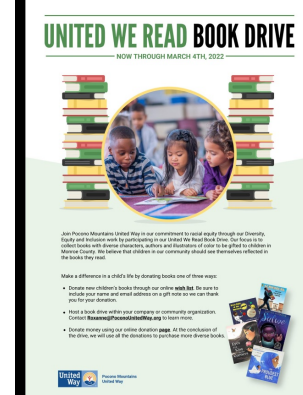
## Upcoming Events

### United We Read Book Drive Kicks Off!

Our Diversity Book Drive starts on February 1st and runs until March 4th!

Make a difference in a child's life by donating books one of three ways:

- Donate new children's books through our online wish list . Be sure to include your name and email address on a gift note so we can thank you for your donation.
- Host a book drive within your company or community organization. Contact [Roxanne@PoconoUnitedWay.org](mailto:Roxanne@PoconoUnitedWay.org) to learn more.
- Donate money using our online donation page . At the conclusion of the drive, we will use all the donations to purchase more diverse books.



Still want to help out other agencies in Monroe County? Visit [www.VolunteerMonroe.org](http://www.VolunteerMonroe.org) to see available volunteer opportunities.

## Other United Way Programs

**HELP IS AVAILABLE**  
Connecting with community services is easy.

PoconoInfo is a free one-stop information and referral service for Monroe County that provides easy access to human services in our community.

570-517-3954  
info@PoconoUnitedWay.org

PoconoInfo will help eliminate guessing, confusion, and helplessness.

Services and resources we can help you find:

- Substance Abuse
- Financial Planning
- Healthcare Services
- Housing Assistance
- Legal Services
- Mental Health Services
- Physical Therapy
- Public Assistance Programs
- Senior Services
- Social Services
- Support Groups
- Transportation
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Women's Services
- Youth Services
- And more

**PoconoInfo**

**HOMEOWNERSHIP CENTER**  
PATHWAYS TO HOMEOWNERSHIP

**FREE** Homeownership counseling & help to access home ownership assistance funds.

**FREE** Credit repair & improvement. Managing credit & debt obligations.

**FREE** Help to qualify for an affordable mortgage.

**ABOUT OUR PROGRAM**

Get support from a HUD-Certified Housing Counselor on how to create a customized path to homeownership! Individuals who work with HUD counselors are 50% less likely to experience foreclosure. Successful, sustainable homeownership begins with educated homeowners. You will have the tools, capacity, and knowledge to know your options so you can make the best choices about whether and what to buy, affordable financing plans, and accessing possible financial assistance programs.

570-517-3954 housinghelp@poconounitedway.org www.housinghelp.org  
@hempa @uwmpa @neighborhoodworks

**LANDLORD-TENANT EVICTION MEDIATION**  
A Free Service for Monroe County Landlords and Tenants

Helping Our Community Resolve Eviction Disputes

- Are you a tenant who lives in Monroe County? Are you worried about being evicted?
- Are you a landlord who rents property in Monroe County? Are you experiencing a landlord-tenant disagreement?
- Do you want to help a tenant find a new place to live?
- Are you interested in exploring whether a free, relatively quick, and informal process would work for you?

The mediation services offered by Pocono Mountains United Way can help.

**What is Mediation?**

Mediation is a voluntary and confidential process that brings both sides together to resolve conflicts. The mediator does not make a decision, but rather helps both sides come to an agreement.

**Pocono Mountains United Way**  
Together. More Than One.

Pocono Mountains United Way is a non-profit organization devoted to improving the health, education and financial stability of Monroe County residents through community collaboration, volunteerism and fundraising.

**PoconoInfo Helpline**  
570-517-3954  
[info@PoconoUnitedWay.org](mailto:info@PoconoUnitedWay.org)

**Homeownership Center**  
Pathways to Homeownership  
570-517-3954  
[housinghelp@poconounitedway.org](mailto:housinghelp@poconounitedway.org)

**Eviction Mediation Program**  
570-261-8023  
[Mediation@PoconoUnitedWay.org](http://Mediation@PoconoUnitedWay.org)

**Pocono Mountains United Way**  
301 McConnell Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
570-517-3953 [www.PoconoUnitedWay.org](http://www.PoconoUnitedWay.org)

