



January 2024 Newsletter

Bridging and Belonging: MLK Day of Service

Pocono Mountains United Way is inspired by Dr. King's vision of a compassionate and united community. We were committed to turning this day into a force for positive change through the MLK Day of Service: Unity Through Service. We encouraged others to be active and engage in good and many of you did just that! **We want to thank all of those who chose to get involved in service projects and other events around our community to promote Dr. King's dream of unity!**



Continue to our website to read the **Bridging and Belonging: MLK Day of Service** OpEd by Alessandra Restrepo, PMUW Director of Development.

Rental Market Increasing Need for Eviction Mediation

The current rental market is out of reach for most families in need and there is little, if any, rental assistance available in Monroe County for many renters. Pocono Mountains United Way Eviction Mediation Manager Linda Paugh is doing her best to promote planning and proactive measures to prevent eviction.



"It's important that the first time a tenant is late with their rent they communicate with their landlord to keep them informed and let them know when they can pay the rent. If there is any problem with the landlord not responding, or unwilling to collaborate with the tenant, that is the time to reach out for mediation for a payment plan," said Paugh.

Those facing eviction should call for mediation the first time they are late with rent or when the landlord notifies the tenant of the non-renewal of the lease and they need time to move. Landlords or tenants can reach out to request mediation and then the mediator will call the other party to arrange discussions.

For more info on the mediation process, call 570-261-8023 or email Mediation@poconounitedway.org.

Join Weis Market's Round-Up Campaign for United Way throughout January.

Make a donation to

United
Way



ROUND UP your change today!

Round up at self-checkout to make a big change for those in need!

WHY ROUND UP?

Easy way to give back.
Support United Way's initiatives.
Make a difference in your community.

Round up all of January! Every cent counts!



Get Ready For Tax Season!

Your 2023 year-end tax summaries will be mailed and emailed (if applicable) by the end of the month. Help us help you – ensure we have your latest contact information by emailing pledges@poconounitedway.org.

Also, check out 2024 Free Tax Prep Services by United Way. Visit unitedway.org/myfreetaxes for more details.

Upcoming Programs & Events



EQUITY TRAINING TOPIC: Fundraising Effectiveness

January 29, 2024

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

\$25 per organization* (up to 5 staff and/or board members) **Register Today!**

During this 90-minute session, master trainer, Chad Barger will share practical tips and exercises you can use with your board of directors and staff to make them more effective and engaged fundraisers. Virtual offering available upon request, please contact Robyn for more details.

**This training was subsidized by Pocono Mountains United Way to minimize the fundraising gap and reduce barriers to participation.*

Project Equity convenes and mobilizes resources for county-wide nonprofit capacity building through the lens of racial and social equity.

For more information email Robyn@PoconoUnitedWay.org



2024/2025 Resource Investment Volunteers Needed

Pocono Mountains United Way's 2024/2025 Resource Investment Process is underway, which means we are again looking for volunteers to review applications starting in February! Since our resource investment process is a community effort, we rely on volunteers like you to help us evaluate agency applications.

Who can participate? Anyone 18 years and over who lives, works, attends church, or attends school in Monroe County to evaluate funding applications from our community partners as a Finance Panelist or Program Panelist.

Visit our [website](#) for more information today. Panels begin meeting in February.

For more information email Maria@PoconoUnitedWay.org

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.

• Job training	• Child care services	• Public assistance programs
• Food bank	• Home to Home food, clothes, furniture & more	• Homeless prevention
• Financial counseling	• Legal services	• Support groups
• Transportation	• United Way Homeless Prevention	
• Digital literacy training		

United Way
Pocono Mountains | Stroudsburg

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



HOMEOWNERSHIP CENTER
PATHWAYS TO HOMEOWNERSHIP

FREE Home ownership & home to home assistance funds

FREE Credit repair & improvement

FREE Home to home 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 30% less likely to experience foreclosure. Successful homeownership begins with educated homeowners. You will have the tools, capacity, and knowledge to make your options so you can make the best decision about whether and when to buy, affordable financing plans, and accessing possible financial assistance programs.

570-517-3954 housing@poconounitedway.org #homeownership

@mnpa @mnpa @highhonorcenterpa

Pathways to Homeownership
570-517-3954 or [Email](mailto:housing@poconounitedway.org)



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

Helping Our Community Resolve Eviction Disputes

- Are you a landlord 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 difficult tenant? Are you struggling to get paid?
- Do you want the help of a mediator that puts in resolving the problem?
- Are you a tenant who is struggling to pay rent? Are you worried about being evicted?

The mediation services offered by Pocono Mountains United Way can help. Call 570-261-8023 to make a referral request.

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 can help both sides come to an agreement.

Pocono Mountains United Way
Supports Lives Here Today

Eviction Mediation Program
570-261-8023 or [Email](mailto:info@PoconoUnitedWay.org)

Pocono Mountains United Way
301 McConnell Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570-517-3953 www.PoconoUnitedWay.org



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