



## February 2025 Newsletter

### THE SMARTEST WAY TO GIVE

*By Michael Tukeva, President/CEO*

As many of us are beginning to gather paperwork and prepare for tax season, it's a time when we reflect on our financial well-being and consider ways to maximize our resources. One often-overlooked opportunity is strategic charitable giving—an approach that not only supports vital community programs but also provides potential tax benefits for donors.



*"What if your giving could be structured in a way that also benefits you financially?"*

*"Want to learn more about how you can maximize your impact with smart giving strategies?"*

[Continue reading Michael's article on our website](#)

## PMUW PROGRAM UPDATES



### NEW MOBILE SCREENINGS PARTNER

Our new Healthy Start Screenings partner, Star Community Health, provided free dental check-ups to Monroe County children this month in their mobile van in Stroudsburg as a part of 'Give Kids a Smile Day'!

To help expand the Healthy Start Mobile Screenings Program further, their mobile dental van will provide dental screenings for children enrolled in childcare centers and at community events throughout Monroe County. This new partnership is another great example of how we can all work together to make a positive impact in the lives of children in our community!

For more information on our Healthy Start Screenings Program, contact [Roxanne@PoconoUnitedWay.org](mailto:Roxanne@PoconoUnitedWay.org).



## NEW HOUSING NAVIGATOR

Please help us welcome our new Housing Navigator, Maggie Hartmann! As the Housing Navigator, Maggie works with landlords and housing assistance agencies to catalog affordable housing stock in and around Monroe County. These listings allow agency case workers to be more productive by reducing the time they spend searching for quality units for their clients to rent.

If you are a landlord with properties in Monroe or Pike Counties and would be interested in learning more about this program, contact [Maggie@PoconoUnitedWay.org](mailto:Maggie@PoconoUnitedWay.org).

## COMMUNITY IMPACT



## KEEPING VULNERABLE RESIDENTS WARM THIS WINTER

Thanks to a generous donation from Franklin Clothing Outlet Store,

we were able to distribute 100 jackets, raincoats, and vests to 8 local agencies in February! We're happy that these jackets and coats will find their way to those in need in our community. We want to thank Franklin Clothing Outlet and our local partners for helping us warm up the Poconos for our residents in need this winter!

View coverage of the distribution by [WNEP](#) and [WBRE/WYOU](#).

## BACKPACK DISTRIBUTION SPONSORS NEEDED

Pocono Mountains United Way is committed to ensuring every Monroe County student has the tools they need to succeed in school. That's why we run an annual backpack and school supply distribution program in partnership with local agencies. This program has given out more than 5,000 backpacks since 2021!



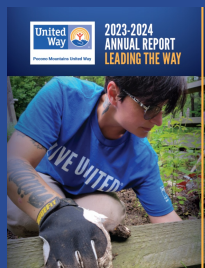
That's where you come in! The success of this program is dependent upon sponsorships from businesses and individuals. Every donation increases the number of children we can help.

Contact [Michael@PoconoUnitedWay.org](mailto:Michael@PoconoUnitedWay.org) for more information on sponsoring the 2025 Backpack & School Supply Distribution.

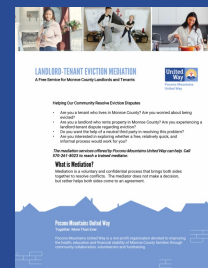
## Other United Way Programs



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



**PMUW 2023/2024  
Annual Report**



**Eviction Mediation  
Program**  
570-261-8023 or [Email](mailto:mediation@poconounitedway.org)

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



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