

December 2025 Newsletter



2025 Year In Review

2025 was a year filled with inspiration, gratitude, and a celebration of the impactful strides we have made together in the past year. It also gave us the chance to showcase the collective strength, resilience, and shared purpose that define Pocono Mountains United Way. The journey continues, and we look forward to the continued success of our united community.

Here are just a handful of our highlights from 2025...

- ★Our Healthy Start Early Childhood Screenings Program already has 3440 screenings as of the end of November and counting!
- The **Generation Next** program worked with 86 students in 2025. Aside from having the chance to explore educational goals, meaningful careers, and learning valuable life skills, students also had the opportunity to participate in 9 college tours over the past year.
- ★Over 2,300 **backpacks** and school supplies kits were provided to students this summer.
- ★Over 180 volunteers participated in the 2025 Day of Caring!
- ★PMUW provided **scholarships** for 180 children to attend Pre-K and K-12 education programs, as well as before and after school care, in Monroe County.
- Assisted 25 homeless or displaced households, working with case management programs with local agencies, to secure housing by **challenging** and rewarding landlords willing to waive traditional barriers to leasing.
- → PMUW incubated and launched **Community Development of the Poconos**, a new Housing Development non-profit organization focused on creating housing in the Poconos

★PMUW's Housing Navigator increased efficiency of Monroe County housing aid agencies by centralizing and simplifying the approach to locating affordable rental housing for their case management clients.

→ PMUW developed a **Landlord Coalition** with 10+ local landlords who offer affordable rental units to discuss approaches to keeping housing affordable and to improve housing stability for low-income tenants.

★On Giving Tuesday, our community helped raise \$27,585 for PMUW!

The **Pocono Helpline** helped identify available resources for 5,000+ individuals.

→ Partnered with Community Foundation of Monroe County to raise \$61,085 for the Food Crisis Fund to support local residents and hunger relief organizations.













UNITED IN STRENGTH

Together, we can write the next chapter of resilience in the Poconos!



Scan the QR Code to Donate or visit PoconoUnitedWay.org/donate



The FY 2026/2027 Resource Investment Process begins in January, 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, worships, or attends school in Monroe County can evaluate funding applications from our community partners as a Finance Panelist or Program Panelist.

Evaluations are conducted online and on your own time! Panels begin meeting in February. View the attached <u>Volunteer Flyer</u> to learn about volunteer duties for each panel. For more info email <u>Maria@PoconoUnitedWay.org</u>





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PMUW 2024/2025 Annual Report



SMILE Mentoring Program Email

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