Pocono Mountains
UNITED WAY

# August 2026 Newsletter

## ...BECAUSE I HAVE KNOWN HUNGER

***by Michael Tukeva, President/CEO***



Each individual has a personal reason why they give. I recently had coffee with a new donor to United Way. When I asked why he chose to give, his reply was simple, “Because I have known hunger.”

That answer stayed with me.

He did not start with a statistic. He did not talk about a program. He did not ask for a chart, a report, or a long explanation.

He gave because the work touched something true in his own story.

That is often how generosity works. People give when they recognize themselves in the need, in the solution, or in the values being lived out. They give because they have been helped. They give because someone once believed in them. They give because they want children to have a stronger start, families to have support, and neighbors to know they are not alone.

At Pocono Mountains United Way, we see this every day. Donors do not stand outside the work. They become part of it.

When you give, volunteer, advocate, or open a door, you are saying something about who you are and what kind of community you believe in.

You are saying that people matter.

You are saying that caring well for others still matters.

So I will ask you the same question I am asking many others this year:

Where do you see yourself in the work of United Way?

## COMMUNITY IMPACT

## NATIONAL MAKE-A-WILL MONTH

As we bring people and resources together to tackle our communities' toughest challenges, Pocono Mountains United Way wants to share that August is National Make-A-Will Month, and FreeWill can help you participate.

Writing your will is an essential way to protect your loved ones, plan for the distribution of all your assets, and build a legacy for a future where every person in every community can thrive. Looking for a zero cost option to create a will? Our partner, FreeWill's secure online tool, helps you complete this task in just 20 minutes at no cost.

Click **HERE** to visit FreeWill's website and get started today!

FREEWILL

# COMMUNITY IMPACT

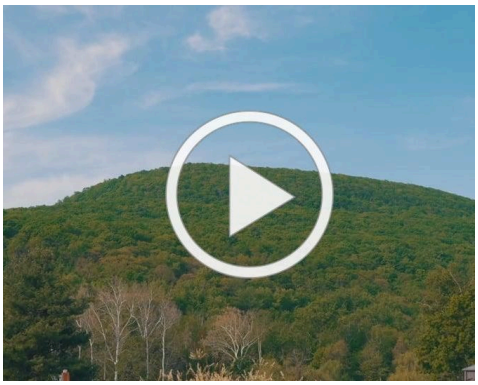
## TOO SMALL TO FAIL

Too Small to Fail and the United Way of Pennsylvania are partnering with Pocono Mountains United Way to connect families with early literacy opportunities. By transforming spaces within Monroe County and sharing resources with families, we are helping to build strong daily routines that support school readiness and lifelong learning.

**Stay tuned as we transform a space to bring on the smiles!**




## Upcoming Events



**You're Invited to Join in on the Fun!**
**View The Day of Caring Invitation Video**









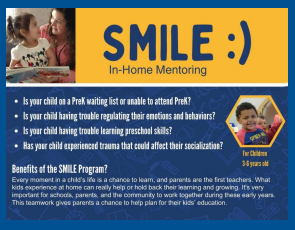
## OTHER UNITED WAY PROGRAMS




**PoconoInfo Helpline**
**570-517-3954**
**Email**




**PMUW 2024/2025 Annual Report**




**SMILE Mentoring Program**
**Email**

**Pocono Mountains United Way**
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