

March 2022

United Moments with UWYC



Kim's Corner

Spring is right around the corner and I am excited! This month, I am sharing a message from my friends at Every Monday Matters: “Sometimes, when we think about generosity, we think about people who donate huge amounts of money or give elaborate gifts. Those are amazing acts of generosity; however, anyone can be generous. It doesn’t matter where you live, where you come from or how much you have—generosity knows no boundaries. A warm smile, a thoughtful note, a listening ear, or helping hands are all generous acts.

Generosity is a mindset, an attitude, an intention, a value, a way of living. When we give freely, we expect nothing in return. Try to imagine a world without generosity? A place where friends don’t share, people don’t smile, no one volunteers their time, and love and support don’t exist. Now, imagine a world where every single person’s first intention is to be generous. To help a neighbor with a project, to pick up litter in their community, to freely compliment people, and to provide a shoulder to cry on. This is the world we want to promote and, together, we can create it. *We would all feel good about giving and we would all feel even better from all of the receiving!* Being generous matters.”

The impact we’ve made together at United Way of Yellowstone County is a reflection of the generosity of our community and the strength of our partnerships who are making a positive impact on every person who lives, works, and plays in Yellowstone County. Happy Spring!

[Connect with Kim](#)

Make Kindness the Norm

There are many ways of being kind by giving of your time and talents through opportunities with more than 70 local organizations serving the public good.

Here are some fantastic spring [ideas](#) to be generous with your time!

Choose 
KINDNESS.



Transition to Middle School

The transition from elementary to middle school is pivotal in a student's life. Preparing for a successful transition means addressing student concerns and teaching new routines.

Help students in Billings have a stronger start by providing schools with combination practice locks so opening their lockers is easy the first day of middle school.

March & April: Generous donors will buy locks to fill school requests.

May: Schools will be given locks for students to practice as part of transition activities.

August: 6th graders are ready for middle school lockers!



of 6th graders said practice helped them open their locker the first day



for schools lock requests to be filled



Get involved:

Designate a donation for this project



Thanks for already providing 1/2 of the requested locks!



For more information contact:
Maia Dickerson
Community Impact Coordinator
United Way of Yellowstone County
mdickerson@uwyellowstone.org
406.272.8506

Are you confident you'll get the biggest tax refund possible this

Get the full tax refund you deserve!



With United Way's free online platform, filing is simple and easy.

DON'T MISS OUT

year?

For millions of Americans, maximizing this year's tax refund is crucial. In the wake of the pandemic, many families are

counting on every penny to pay for essentials, cover rent or mortgage payments, or build up emergency savings.

No matter your income, MyFreeTaxes can help you take advantage of all the tax credits and deductions you qualify for!

Did you know?

- Nearly 5 million Americans leave an average of \$3,000 each on the table each year by failing to claim common deductions and exemptions.
- Almost one in five eligible people don't claim the Earned Income Tax Credit. Depending on your income and number of children, that could mean leaving \$500 to \$6,000 on the table.
- In many cases students may use the American Opportunity Credit of up to \$2,500 or the Lifetime Learning Credit of up to \$2,000.

MyFreeTaxes walks you through the filing process and screens for common tax deductions and credits you may be eligible for, like the EITC or the Child Tax Credit. You can also use MyFreeTaxes to claim any missed stimulus payments. This year, MyFreeTaxes offers users the ability to file in English or Spanish.*

Don't leave money on the table this year! Use MyFreeTaxes to file a fast, free return.

Staff Spotlight: Meet Michelle!



Michelle Lamberson joined United Way in September 2021. She always knew about United Way from her previous work with United Way partner agencies and decided to utilize her 30 years of experience working in the non-profit industry. Michelle's vision joining UWYC was to make a difference in Yellowstone County and be a part of an organization that focuses on giving to others.

Michelle's role at United Way entails managing and overseeing the operations and delivery of service for six CARE Academy sites throughout Yellowstone County. This program benefits children's academic, social, and personal development, helping children to stay safe and supported. She is passionate about her work. Michelle enjoys spending time with Paul, her high school sweetheart and husband of 3 years, her 25-year-old son, Billy, and her yellow lab, Honey. Her hobbies include cooking with her husband, spending time outdoors, gardening, camping, and hanging out at the beach.

What three words would you use to define yourself?

Optimistic, passionate, and empathetic.

What is your personal motto?

"Do what you love; love what you do."

What is your go-to motivational/pump-up song?

Knee Deep by Zac Brown

If you could send a note to yourself in 2030, what would it say?

"Make time for yourself and give yourself a chance to breathe. Never stop learning, laughing, and loving."

What the world needs now is....

Compassion and understanding. Everyone is going through a period of uncertainty and if we can simply remember that we are here for the purpose of love and connection, we will persevere and thrive.

What is your favorite place on earth?

Anywhere there are palm trees and a beach with salty ocean breezes.



PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY AND YOURSELF WITH A COVID-19 VACCINE



A COVID-19 vaccine is the best way to protect yourself and others from infection.

Free Walk-in COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics



RiverStone Health
COVID-19 Vaccination
Clinics

March 3 or March 31st from
11 a.m. to 1 p.m

@

Shrine Auditorium
1125 Broadwater Ave.
Billings MT

Vaccinations available for
children ages 5 and older.

For second, third or booster
doses, please bring your COVID-
19 Vaccination card with you.

Please be sure to wear a mask to the event

For more information on COVID-19
www.cdc.gov
www.vaccines.gov
www.riverstonehealth.org

Protect your children, your
family, & your community

From Hello to Help



2-1-1 provides connections to many kinds of resources and services, including crisis and emergency counseling for mental health concerns, domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, as well as unemployment services, and veteran services.

You can dial 2-1-1 on your phone and speak to a trained 211 specialist, or you can browse local resources on www.montana211.org.

In 2021, Yellowstone County responded to 627 calls and 3,268 hot button searches on the website.

From Hello to Help, Montana 2-1-1 is here for you.

Monthly Honor Role

Shout out to these donors who have invested in Yellowstone County's health, education, and financial stability efforts this month! We appreciate your support and generosity!

Dominic Anderson
Patrick Angland
Associated Food Stores
Samantha Baxter
Billings Clinic
Century Link
Tonia Coulter
Joshua Craft
Crisi Davidson
Delta Air Lines
Dillard's
Darrell & Sally Ehrlick
Tiauna Ellerrued
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Raquel Thompson
Joan & Charles Tooley
US Bank
Ada Califano Wassmann
Wells Fargo, N.A.
Western Security Bank
Brian Windhagen
Yellowstone City-County Health
Dept.

See Your Name Here Next Month



YOU CAN!

Visit
www.YouCanVolunteer.org
for current volunteer opportunities!

Does your family, service organization, social group or company want to give back to our community through volunteering? Click the picture above to view current volunteer opportunities in Yellowstone County!

If you would like your organization's opportunities listed, contact Pam at psanderson@uwyellowstone.org or 406.272.8510

DONATE

**United Way of
Yellowstone County**



United Way of Yellowstone County
406.252.3839
www.uwyellowstone.org
2173 Overland Ave, Billings, MT 59102

Connect with us