**UNITED WAY “FACT A DAY”**

**Fact #1 –** You + Local Nonprofit Partners = A United Community. When you give to United Way’s Community Fund, your donation is combined with those of thousands of other donors, funding over 220 local nonprofit programs that have a direct impact on the health, education, and financial stability of so many in our neighborhoods.

**Fact #2 –** United Way’s annual Seasons of Caring connects thousands of volunteers to meaningful experiences across our region. Last year, volunteers gave 43,914 hours of service to the community through United Way. Visit UnitedWayGMWC.org/Volunteer to browse hundreds of opportunities, both virtual and in-person.

**Fact #3 –** No family should have to go without basic needs for their children. Launched in April 2021, United Way's Diaper Bank has already collected over 96,000 diapers for local families. Learn more at UnitedWayGMWC.org/Diaper-Bank

**Fact #4 –** At United Way, we believe in building a community that is equitable for everyone. United Way’s new Racial Equity Portfolio increases funding to Black and Brown-led organizations and advocates for and supports Black and Brown-led solutions to the issues facing our communities of color.

**Fact #5 –** Together, we can end family homelessness in our community. In 2020, nearly 5,600 families accessed services such as rent assistance, rapid rehousing, legal representation in eviction court, and more, all of which are made possible by your donations to United Way’s Safe & Stable Homes initiative. Learn more: UnitedWayGMWC.org/Safe-And-Stable-Homes

**Fact #6 –** Your donations to United Way support the Milwaukee Community Schools Partnership (MCSP), a collective strategy to transform schools into a place where students, families, staff, and the surrounding community can work together to ensure every student is successful. Today, Milwaukee has 15 Community Schools with more being added each year. Learn more: UnitedWayGMWC.org/Community-Schools

**Fact #7 –** United Way’s Techquity initiative helps bridge the digital divide through access, advocacy, skill-building, and devices. To date, Techquity has funded hundreds of laptops, hotspots, and smartphones so people across the community can stay connected. Learn more: UnitedWayGMWC.org/Techquity

**Fact #8 –** Your support of United Way helps fight addiction in our community. Last year, 96% of surveyed adults who participated in United Way-funded chemical abuse and dependency programs felt their mental health improved. Learn more about United Way’s health investments: UnitedWayGMWC.org/Health

**Fact #9 –** Each year, United Way responds to the extreme cold weather by funding warming rooms and providing resources to increase the capacity of local nonprofits that provide food and shelter to struggling individuals and families.

**Fact #10 –** Who doesn’t love back-to-school shopping? Each year, United Way’s Backpack Coalition mobilizes thousands of resources to pack and distribute more than 5,000 backpacks and school supply kits for children in both Milwaukee and Waukesha counties. Learn more: UnitedWayGMWC.org/Backpack-Coalition

**Fact #11 –** In response to COVID-19, United Way supplied local nonprofits with over 730 gallons of hand sanitizer, 197,000 personal protective equipment items, 27,500 personal hygiene products, 18,500 cleaning supply products, 13,700 food items, 46,400 food pantry supplies, 84,500 diapers, and 1,200 digital no-touch thermometers.

**Fact #12 –** In the second quarter of 2021, the Black unemployment rate was nearly double the white unemployment rate. United Way’s Reducing Barriers to Employment & Advancement initiative supports local programs that provide opportunities for individuals to obtain permanent employment with a livable wage at a workplace where they are treated with dignity and have opportunities for advancement, with a focus on African Americans. Learn more: UnitedWayGMWC.org/Reducing-Barriers-to-Employment-and-Advancement

**Fact #6 –** United Way donations support programs that help families stay connected. Lasts year, 97% of surveyed parents and caregivers from United Way-funded support for children and families programs improved communication with their children. Learn more about United Way’s education investments: UnitedWayGMWC.org/Education

**Fact #6 –** Eviction is one of the biggest causes of family homelessness in our community. Ninety percent of cases with legal representation result in the eviction being dismissed/delayed, but less than 3% of local tenants can afford a lawyer. We have worked with the courts and government to provide a housing attorney for every tenant under 200% of the federal poverty level. Learn more: UnitedWayGMWC.org/Safe-And-Stable-Homes

**Fact #6 –** A gift to United Way’s Community Fund is the most strategic way to invest in the community. Our community’s problems are interrelated, and only the Community Fund’s diversity of funded programs work together to address the complex causes of unemployment, teen pregnancy, homelessness, and many others – in a way that no single agency, donor, volunteer, or sector of the community can do alone. Learn more: UnitedWayGMWC.org/Community-Fund