



**Greater Milwaukee  
& Waukesha County**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County Supports MKE Cares Legislation**

**July 1, 2020 – MILWAUKEE** – United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County today sent a letter to Mayor Tom Barrett and Common Council President Cavalier Johnson to show support for MKE Cares legislation proposed by Milwaukee Alderwoman Marina Dimitrijevic, requiring people in the city to wear masks in public spaces.

A portion of the letter states: “At United Way, we have seen firsthand how COVID-19 has changed the lives of so many people throughout our community. We know how quickly the virus spreads and how quickly it affects the health and safety of so many people.

“We also know the economic impact this virus has had on the city and on so many of its residents. United Way supports the re-opening of businesses in a safe and thoughtful manner. The MKE Cares Legislation is one way we can help prevent the further spread of COVID-19, while still supporting local businesses and the jobs connected to these businesses.”

United Way has been at the center of COVID-19 support, providing essential services and supplies to nonprofits throughout Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha counties.

Several new studies published this month support wearing masks to curb the transmission of the novel coronavirus. The broadest, a review funded by the World Health Organization, concluded that wearing face masks reduces the risk of coronavirus infection.

The letter from United Way continues:

“We understand there are a variety of opinions on wearing face coverings, but we firmly believe that this is a necessary step in order to control further outbreak of the virus. Mandating the wearing of masks is about one thing: saving lives. It will take all of us, working together, to control this pandemic. Our city must take the necessary and important steps to ensure that we’re keeping everyone safe. That’s why we strongly support MKE Cares.”

**About United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County:** *United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County fights for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in our local community.*

Learn more at: <http://www.unitedwayGMWC.org>