



Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES

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Patricia N. Kilburn Ed.D.

District Superintendent

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August 23, 2021

Dear Colleague,

As you know, many residents of the Valley and greater Utica area struggle due to a lack of access to health, education and financial stability - the building blocks for a good quality of life. These needs have become even more significant over the past year as our community weathered the COVID-19 pandemic. The problems we face are very real, but so are the solutions. That's where we come in.

Can you imagine being a part of something so big that it supports thousands of people right here in our community? United Way of the Mohawk Valley (United Way MV) has been doing just that since 1921 because of community members like YOU!

United Way MV addresses our community's most pressing needs, funding dozens of local programs. They bring resources, volunteers, experts and service providers together to provide short-term relief and long-term success for hundreds of thousands of people in our region. United Way plans for our community's future, while staying nimble to act in times of crisis.

Your gift to United Way stays local, impacting more than 60 programs and initiatives to improve the health, education and financial stability of individuals and families across our community. Every dollar you give is invested in strategies that produce results. Investing in our community through United Way is an investment in our friends, our neighbors, our fellow employees and even ourselves.

Over the past year, United Way's work has included:

- Providing housing, ensuring shelter and providing assistance to those in need.
- Ensuring access to food by distributing 139,500 meals to families through their Take and Make meal program.
- Assisting students to overcome hurdles created by the pandemic including removing barriers to technology access and delivering school resources and food to families.

It's simple: change like this does not happen alone. You can help create lasting change by joining our 2021 United Way campaign to improve the community in which we live and work. In 2014, more than 60 OHM BOCES employees gave a total of \$5,335. I am confident we can exceed those numbers in 2021. We're counting on generous people like you to help us get there again.

Please use the pledge form provided to help make a difference in our community. Donations may be made through payroll deductions, debit or credit card, cash or check. **Pledge form and donation materials can be sent to Margherita Maniero in Human Resources/CBO.**

We are collaborators, working together and partnering with leaders in education, business, industry, government and the local community to promote inclusive educational and career opportunities and equitable access in order to prepare all of our learners for the dynamic world of today and tomorrow.

I am proud to work with so many people who care so deeply about our work and our community. It's what makes us great leaders and engaged residents of the Mohawk Valley. Please join me, once again, in participating in our 2021 United Way campaign.

Sincerely,



Patricia N. Kilburn, Ed.D.
District Superintendent

Attachment

2021 OD united way