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Warming Hearts & Minds This Fall So All Can Thrive

September 2024

Dear Pat,



Fall is a time for transitioning from summer to winter, with shorter days, chilly mornings, and cooler nights. Many people think of fall as a time for a fresh start, maybe due to memories of going back to school in September.

Yet for many who live paycheck to paycheck in our community, fall is also a time of renewed fear for what lies ahead: back-to-school expenses, prices of heating oil and propane, gasoline and grocery costs...the list of worries seems endless.

Wages have not increased or kept up with rising costs of essential goods and service, and while inflation is reportedly cooling, prices of the basics are still too high for many Americans.

Your support of United Way has never been more pressing, or more needed.

- **Poverty has grown 16%** in Westchester over the last five years.
- Calls to our 211 Helpline have **increased by almost 50%**... calls about hunger, housing, income support, and rental and utility assistance.
- And the **demand for our services has doubled.**

When you give to United Way, you touch the lives of real people and families because no matter the season, your support allows us to answer the call for help ...

quite literally, through the **211 Helpline**, or ...

- by providing **free essential goods** like clothes, food, or bedding to struggling families, seniors, or veterans, so their limited resources can go to rent and utilities, or ...
- by **keeping a child safe, inspired, and learning** after school, to the relief of parents working long hours to try to make ends meet.
- And so much more



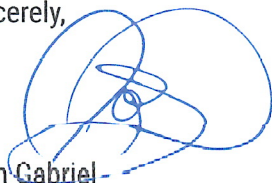
United Way has served as a "safety net" in our community since 1962, helping struggling residents get back on their feet.

But we can't help them without your support.

[Informal], your annual support has been critical to our programs over the years, and I ask you to renew your support with a tax-deductible gift of \$50, \$60, \$80, or more today.

I hope we can count on you as we lift up our neighbors this fall. Thank you in advance for your generous gift!

Sincerely,



Tom Gabriel
President and CEO

P.S. Your gift of any amount helps fuel our work – but more importantly, it relieves hardship for so many in our great community.