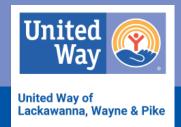
# 2023/2024 **ANNUAL REPORT**



United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne & Pike



Dear Friends,



At the end of this calendar year I will begin a new chapter of my life. As I reflect on the past 38 years with the United Way of Lackawanna,

Wayne & Pike Counties, the last 23 as President & CEO, I am filled with immense gratitude for the opportunity I have been given to dedicate the majority of my life to something I truly love. It has been an incredible journey, and I am deeply appreciative of the wonderful people I have had the privilege to meet along the way; the thousands of volunteers and particularly the dedicated Board members who have tirelessly supported me, and more importantly our mission.



Looking back I am proud to have played some small part in how far our

United Way has come over these almost four decades. Thanks to the support of countless volunteers, our Board of Directors, and a staff that is indisputably second to none, we have not only served tens of thousands of individuals, families and older adults, but have gained a national reputation as a leader and innovator in the United Way movement. We have



also grown from serving Lackawanna County to today serving the entire







northeast corner of the Commonwealth; some 1700 square miles and over 350,000 residents.

But perhaps what I cherish most are the relationships forged with my fellow employees who have become like family to me. Any successes we have achieved can be attributed to their dedication to our region.

Walking out the door for the last time will undoubtedly be difficult, but



I leave with a profound sense of pride in our collective accomplishments and how far we have come in making a meaningful difference in the lives of the people of our region.

Thank you all for your unwavering support and for being a part of this amazing journey!

With Heartfelt Appreciation,

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Gary Drapek President & CEO









# **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

George Lynett, Jr	Chair of the Board
Deb Kolsovsky PNC Bank	Senior Vice Chair
Michael Cordaro Alliance Wealth Advisors, LLC	Vice Chair, Resource Development
Dr. Pat Dunleavy Community Volunteer	Vice Chair, Community Impact
Tom Donohue Lamar Advertising	Vice Chair, Community Impact Marketing
James Mirabelli School Business Consultants, LLC	Treasurer
Dr. Erin Keating Scranton School District	Secretary
Heather and Warren Acker Community Volunteers	Campaign Co-Chairs
Judith Graziano Community Volunteer	Honorary Lifetime Member



## Members-At-Large

Anthony Bantell Community Volunteer				
The Hon. Michael BarrasseLack. Cty. Judge				
Amy Burke The Dime Bank				
Curt Camoni NEPA Visitors Bureau				
Andrew Cutillo, EsqCity of Scranton				
Alex Fried The P&G Paper Products, Co.				
Jill GeorgeThe Dime Bank				
Steve GucciniCommunity Volunteer				
Mike Hanley Community Volunteer				
John Holland, EsqPSEA				
Jillian Jones. Mike Munchak Scholarship Committee				
Jason KavulichPA Secretary of Aging				
Matthew KnowlesKnowles Insurance				

Peter Maier Gentex Corp.
Timothy Maloney, Esq Maloney Law P.C.
Sara McDonaldLackawanna Area Agency on Aging
Kimberly McHale Barbetti McHale
Margaret McNulty Community Volunteer
Thomas MurrayAmazon
Jack Price, EsqOliver, Price & Rhodes
Drew Simpson Carpenter's Union Local #445
Stephanie VergnettiJohnson College
Dr. Marwan WafaPenn State Scranton
Randy WilliamsHospice Sacred Heart
Jeff Witts NBT Bank

615 Jefferson Ave., Scranton, PA 18510



## **PROFESSIONAL STAFF**



Gary Drapek President & CEO 37 years of service



Jack R. Evans



Matthew J. Ceruti VP of Resource Dev./Campaign 11 years of service



Peg Kopko, MSW VP of Community Impact 37 years of service



**Barry Snyder** VP of Community Outreach 4 years of service



William Craven, MPA Mgr. of Comm. Relations 5 years of service



Alvaro Garcia **RSVP** Director 3 years of service



Stephanie Miller Senior Programs Manager 4 years of service



Dr. Angela Bassani, CPA VITA Program Coordinator 11 years of service



Mike Castellano Special Projects Manager 2 years of service



**Bill Cockerill** AFL/CIO Comm. Services Liason 37 years of service



Maripat Kovalkoski Operational Systems Manger 20 years of service



Elena Kozloski Office Services Manager 18 years of service



Eileen Hudson

Pike County Coordinator

Paul Stefani Dir. of Educational Services 2 years of service



Frank Kincel

Campaign Manager/IT

11 years of service

Sue Youtz Campaign Manager 11 years of service



## **Mission:**

To improve the quality of life for the people of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties and surrounding communities by serving as a catalyst for community problem solving and by conducting an efficient, encompassing volunteer fundraising effort to positively impact the community's most compelling social problems.

ionEducation

EducationEducati



Providing children and teens with opportunities for quality learning and skill development.

# H<u>ighlight</u>s

Girls' STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Competition saw a record number of participants with 260 girls spanning 13 different school districts with United Way being the sole sponsor.

Revived the "Transforming Readers" Program with volunteers tutoring 425 students who had deficient reading skills at (5) elementary schools. (2 hours/ week, 10 weeks/semester).

Initiated the pilot program, "Tranforming Math Achievement," to help improve student achievement levels in mathematics. 130 students participated from grades K, 2-4.



Volunteer with (3) " Transforming Math Achievement" Students

RSVP Members interacted with over 584 elementary school students through the Pen Pals Program and Transforming Children's Futures (Reading and Math focused studies).



Met with Early Learning Centers every month to help improve the transition for students heading into kindergarten under the "Success by 6" Program.

Since it's implementation of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in January 2022, approximately 3,000 children have received 50,000 Free books.

65 4th grade students from Isaac Tripp Elementary School exchanged (1) letter per month with a Pen Pal from RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program).



Girls' STEM Competition Team



Pen Pals Meet and Greet at Isaac Tripp Elem.



Girls' STEM Teams awaiting the next even



Girls' STEM Competition Team



Girls' STEM Competition Team

### Education Programming

- United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne & Pike
  - Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
  - Success by 6
    - Transforming Children's Futures - Transforming Readers
      - Math Achievement
  - Pen Pals Program

#### Lackawanna County:

- The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania

   Advocacy Services
- Black Scranton Project
  - Black Health Matters
- Boys and Girls Club of Northeastern PA
   Out-of-School Impact Program
  - Day Nursery Association
    - Child Care Financial Aid
      - Summer Camp
- Greater Scranton YMCA
  - Early Learning Center
  - Summer Learning Loss Prevention
  - Jewish Community Center of Scranton, PA
    - Day Camp & Family Park Financial Aid
      - Youth Program
- United Cerebral Palsy of NEPA
  - Early Intervention
- United Neighborhood Centers of NEPA
  - Illumination Youth Arts Program
  - Leaders in Training
- Women's Resource Center
  - Health Relationships Education

#### Wayne County:

- The Cooperage
  - Bright Kids Program
- Girls on the Run Lehigh Valley and Pocono
   Wayne County Program Expansion
- Honesdale Communities that Care
   Scholarship Program
- Lacawac Sanctuary
  - Youth Environmental Stewardship Institute
- Wayne County Public Library
  - Wellness in Winter

"The United Way Summer Program was certainly a gift to our family last summer. My son benefitted in so many ways, including educationally and socially. ...We couldn't be more pleased with the outcome of the wonderful program." AealthHealth

# Providing all residents the opportunity to achieve optimal physical and mental health while promoting healthy lifestyle and communities.

# Highlights

160 RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) Members volunteered over 7,900 hours of service.

Saved 102 beneficiaries approximately \$86,094.76 during open enrollment thru PA MEDI.

Hosted "New to Medicare" presentations throughout the year along with informative sessions about PA MEDI and open enrollment season (approximately 200 people attended these meetings)



RSVP Members at Recognition Luncheon



RSVP Members at Recognition Luncheon

Launched a **Keep It Movin'** program where older adults were welcomed to open house days at health & wellness institutions to show all of the benefits to becoming free members through their insurance provider.

PA MEDI Counselors volunteered 386 hours to provide free, unbiased one-on-one counseling to 303 clients in Lackawanna County (United Way's jurisdiction) during open enrollment (Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> to Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>).

Made over 300 phone calls to older adults and conducted over 100 screenings for isolation. Established connections with 30 older adults that are contacted on a regular basis.

Co-Authored (Mike Castellano) "A Community Case Analysis of a Multisector Collaboration to Address Older Adult Isolation in a Rural County in the U.S." in Frontiers in Public Health.

## Partners in Health:







Friendly Caller Program was established and saw over 50 friendly calls to older adults seeking a familiar voice once a week.

Worked directly with Meals on Wheels of NEPA by providing volunteers to distribute Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to over 250 older adults in Lackawanna County.

Collaborated in the creation of an app that's to be used by our older adult isolation navigators to help better connect them to resources during their screening calls.

大會於					
	COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLIANIA AGIN3				
	Dear Volumeer,				
	It is with my heartfelt graftude that I commend you on your contributions as a volunteer, giving selflexity of your time, takers, and passion to deliver vital				
	services to older adults through Pennsylvania's aging network. You are among the more than 11,000 aging network volunteers across the				
	Commonwealth who donate an estimated 156,000 hours of service a year with an estimated value of newly 35 million. Without the caring efforts made by you and other community voluntaers, many of our older neighbors' needs and challenges work for the addressed.				
	I hope you will reflect on the immense contribution you make every day and inspire others to explore voluntoer opportunitios within Pernsylvaria's aging services network.				
	On behalf of the 3.4 million older adults across our Commonwealth, thank you for your hard work and dedication and best wishes for continued success in the future.				
~	ap there				
	Jason Kavalich Secretary of Aging				
	SECHETARY OF ACANO. 555 Weinut Street, Sh Floor   Hamiburg, PA (1701   717.783.1550 ) www.pa.gov				

Thank You Letter to RSVP Members from PA Secretary of Aging, Jason Kavulich

#### United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne & Pike



- United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne & Pike
  - PA MEDI
  - RSVP
  - Older Adult Collaborative
  - Friendly Caller
  - Navigators

#### Lackawanna County:

- The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania
  - Adult Day Care
- Boys and Girls Club of Northeastern PA
  - Fitness and Skills Development Program
- Greenhouse Project
  - Community Gardens
- Jewish Community Center of Scranton, PA
   Senior Adults
- Jewish Family Services
  - Guardianship of Person Service
  - Mental Health/Counseling Services
- Lackawanna Blind Association
  - Life Enrichment Program
  - Prevention of Blindness
- Meals on Wheels of Northeastern PA
  - Community Health Outreach Meal Program
  - Fast Track Home Delivered Meals



- NeighborWorks of NEPA - Aging in Place
- Saint Joseph's Center
  - Maternity
- Scranton Primary Health Care Center
  - Unemployed/Uninsured Financial Aid
  - Behavior Health and Dental Financial Aid
- Serving Seniors
  - Patient Advocate
- United Cerebral Palsy of NEPA
  - Assisted Technology
  - Home Services
- United Neighborhood Centers of NEPA
  - Project Hope

#### Wayne County:

- The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania

   Advocacy Services
- Child Hunger Outreach Partners (CHOP)
   School Pantry and Backpack Programs
- Diakon Child, Family and Community Ministries
   RSVP of Berks, Pike & Wayne Counties
- Maternal & Family Health
  - Nurse-Family Partnership Program
  - Second Harvest Food Bank
    - Expanded Food Access
- Wayne County Community Foundation
  - Drug and Treatment Court Fund



Helping families and individuals achieve greater self-sufficiency by empowering them with skills and knowledge.

# HIGHLIGHTS

The VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Program along with MyFreeTaxes.com completed 2,101 free tax returns saving residents \$420,200 in tax preparation fees while securing \$1,626,394 in federal refunds back into the community.

The VITA Program finished it's 17th year and once again scored a 100% from an IRS confidential evaluation.



Distributed \$95,010 to local non-profit organizations to address housing insecurities through EFSP (Emergency Food & Shelter Program) Phase 41.



Provided over 250 turkeys and hams to St. Francis Commons for Thanksgiving as part of the Department of Labor Patricipation.

Partnered with Amalgamated Transit Union Local 168 to help create the largest Toys for Tots collection of gifts in many years.

Served over 500 dislocated workers by providing information and direction to community services available in Lackawanna County with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Rapid Response.







Gift of Warmth funds presented to Pike County.

Allocated \$397,723 towards local agencies to address food insecurities through SFPP (State Food Purchase Program).

Assisted 145 households with emergency assistance (heating, utility, etc.) through fundraising initiatives like the Gift of Warmth. \$100,000 was distributed throughout Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties on a case-by-case basis.

63 students were awarded scholarships for the 2023/2024 school year through the SO (Scholarhip Organizaiton) at Lutheran Academy, Summit Christian Academy and Triboro Christian Academy which totaled \$106,480.



31 students were awarded scholarships for the 2023/2024 school year through the OSO (Opportunity Scholarship Organization) at Lutheran Academy, Summit Christian Academy and Triboro Christian Academy amounting to \$82,208.

### Economic Mobility Programming

- United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne & Pike
  - Gift of Warmth
  - VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)

#### Lackawanna County:

- American Red Cross
  - Emergency Services
- Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton
  - Relief Assistance/Counseling
  - St. Anthony's Haven
- Commission on Economic Opportunity
   Weinberg Regional Food Bank
- NeighborWorks of NEPA
  - Homeownership Center
- Outreach
  - Adult GED Program
- Saint Joseph's Center
  - Mother/Infant Home
- United Neighborhood Centers of NEPA
  - Emergency Heating & Utility Assistance
  - Lifting Barriers Program
  - Women's Resource Center
    - Domestic Violence Safe Housing

#### Wayne County:

- Habitat for Humanity
  - Multi Family Home
- Salvation Army
  - Back-to-School Clothing Program
- Victims Intervention Program
  - Victims Intervention Program
- Workforce Wayne
  - WP Shine After-School Program

mpaignCampaign

#### HEATHER & WARREN ACKER 2023-2024 Campaign Co-Chairs

The selection of a campaign chair is the first step in setting the tone for a campaign. Upon our first meeting with Heather and Warren Acker we knew that the tone of the 2023 campaign would be no-nonsense in the best way possible. The Ackers take their community seriously and by agreeing to be



involved we knew that they would leave no stone unturned in their quest to make goal. Both Heather and Warren have long histories with our United Way. Heather was a driving force in leading Gentex's employee campaign to become one of UWLWP's most successful corporate partnerships. Likewise, Warren's family has been involved with every aspect of the United Way dating back to his father's time as campaign chair in the 1960's. Throughout the campaign Heather and Warren asked the right questions at the right time and made sure our team was prepared and focused on the main objective and which was to meet and surpass our goal.

#### **Mission Accomplished!**

Thank you, Heather and Warren Acker, for your time, your support, your care and for Living United.

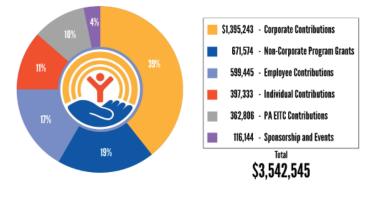




Our campaign efforts have been gaining remarkable traction year over year, thanks to the generous contributions and unwavering support of

our community. Each donation, no matter the size, has played a crucial role in expanding our reach and enhancing our impact. The dedication of our donors has enabled us to fund a growing number of vital programs and services, addressing critical needs and improving the quality of

### Sources of Revenue 2023 Campaign



life for countless individuals and families. As we continue to build on this momentum, we are profoundly grateful for the community's commitment to our mission, and we look forward to achieving even greater successes together in the future.



Grand Prize Winner of the AAA North Penn \$2,000 Travel voicher, David West, People's Security Bank



Second Place Winner of the Procter & Gamble \$400 of product, George Opalka, Gentex Corp.





Allocations Alloca

This year proved to be a little different than funding cycles in the past since halfway through our year we officially welcomed Pike County into our area of impact. Therefrore. starting July 1st, 2024, we will commence the allocation for Pike process County, ensuring that vital community programs continue to receive essential support. As part of our commitment to maintaining the stability and effectiveness of local initiatives, previous programs were grandfathered into our funding cycle with open arms.

#### 

This approach allows us to sustain ongoing projects while preparing to evaluate new opportunities to address the evolving needs of Pike County residents. By continuing to invest in proven programs and exploring innovative solutions, we aim to foster a stronger, more resilient community.

### Living UNITED is the only WAY



78.000 - Gift of Warmth

60 500 - VITA

42.000 - PA MED

75.000 - Dolly Parton's Imagination Lib.

17,000 - Educational Improvement Org.

2024 Spirit of Caring Chairman's Award recipient Patricia Dunleavy, PhD and Gary Drapek



Representatives from Partner Agencies with Patricia Dunleavy, PhD

# PARTNER AGENCIES

## LACKAWANNA

- American Red Cross
- The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania
- Boys and Girls Club of Northeastern PA
- Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton
- Commission on Economic Opportunity
- Day Nursery Association
- Greater Scranton YMCA
- Jewish Community Center of Scranton, PA
- Jewish Family Services
- Lackawanna Blind Association
- Meals on Wheels of Northeastern PA
- NeighborWorks of NEPA
- Outreach
- Saint Joseph's Center
- Scranton Primary Health Care Center
- Serving Seniors
- United Cerebral Palsy of NEPA
- United Neighborhood Centers of NEPA
- Women's Resource Center

#### **Small Grant Recipients**

- Black Scranton Project
- Greenhouse Project

### It's AMAZING What We Can ACCOMPLISH When We're In It TOGETHER

# WAYNE

- The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania
- Child Hunger Outreach Partners (CHOP)
- The Cooperage
- Diakon Child, Family and Community Ministries
- Girls on the Run Lehigh Valley and Pocono
- Habitat for Humanity
- Honesdale Communities that Care
- Lacawac Sanctuary
- Maternal & Family Health
- Salvation Army
- Second Harvest Food Bank
- Victims Intervention Program
- Wayne County Community Foundation
- Wayne County Public Library
- Workforce Wayne

# PIKE

- The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania
- The Center for Developmental Disabilities of Pike County
- Ecumenical Food Pantry of Pike County
- Habitat for Humanity
- Holy Trinity Food Pantry
- Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry
- Pike Autism Support Services of NEPA
- The Pike County Developmental Center
- RSVP of Berks, Pike & Wayne Counties





Our annual day of service named after the long-time United Way volunteer, Nancy Jackson, mobilizes hundreds of volunteers into United Way partner agencies and grant recipient organizations to provide much-needed assistance. Over the course of the 29 years of existence, over 13,300 volunteers have given more than 73,400 hours of service, and the value of the more than 1,050 projects they've completed during this annual day of service is over \$3 million.

The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Nancy Jackson Memorial Day of Caring started with over 300 volunteers from Lackawanna and Wayne Counties completing over 32 different service projects across both counties. Projects at St. Joseph's Center,

United Neighborhood Centers Northeastern Pennsylvania, of Lacawac Sanctuary, NeighborWorks Pennsylvania, Northeastern of The Cooperage Project and the Blind Association. Lackawanna Participating Companies included NBT Bank, The Scranton Chamber of Commerce, AAA North Penn, UGI, Gentex, Honesdale National Bank, Johnson College, Wayne Bank and so many more!



























## The United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne & Pike

Statements of Financial Position June 30, 2023 & 2022

	2023			2022	
Assets					
Cash without donor restrictions	\$	2,036,144	\$	1,982,400	
Cash with donor restrictions		2,055,869		1,605,505	
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 2)		4,092,013		3,587,905	
Certificates of deposit		2,066,147		1,785,367	
Pledges receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible pledges		240 701		222 442	
of \$209,793 in 2023 and \$207,731 in 2022 (Note 3)		249,701 2,469,240		323,442	
Investments (Note 5)		2,409,240 44,727		2,442,529 49,700	
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation (Note 1)		53,138		49,700 45,910	
Prepaid expenses Grant and other receivables		179,881		177,669	
Beneficial interest in assets held by a community		179,001		177,009	
foundation (Note 1)		60,272		56,202	
Total Assets	\$	9,215,119	\$	8,468,724	
			_	-,,	
Liabilities & Net Assets					
Liabilities	\$	80,045	\$	101,592	
Accounts payable Accrued payroll and payroll taxes	φ	80,045	φ	30,807	
Agency funds (Note 6)		144,478		160,119	
Due to designated agencies		442,590		440,654	
Reserve for community services		6,982		7,639	
Total Liabilities		674,095		740,811	
Net Assets					
Without donor restrictions					
Board designated (Note 7)		2,473,093		2,436,429	
Undesignated		3,121,943		2,742,573	
Net investment in land, buildings and equipment		49,945		56,043	
Total Net Assets without Donor Restrictions		5,644,981		5,235,045	
With Donor Restrictions					
Time restricted		839,590		755,714	
Purpose restricted		2,056,453		1,737,154	
Total Net Assets with Donor Restrictions		2,896,043		2,492,868	
Total Net Assets		8,541,024		7,727,913	
	\$	9,215,119		8,468,724	
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	φ	7,213,119	_	0,400,724	

An independent audit was completed by McGrail, Merkel, Quinn and Associates for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 and is available for review at the United Way office or by visiting uwlc.net/accountability. The official registration and financial information of the United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne & Pike may be obtained from The Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, in Pennsylvania, 1(800) 732-0999.

Registration does not imply endorsement



Dear Gary,

We'd like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your 37 years of extraordinary service, leadership, and dedication to the United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne & Pike. We're not only so very thankful for that leadership but also grateful to have worked for a compassionate leader like yourself. You've told every single one of us that we weren't your co-workers, but your family. The love you've shared with all of us throughout your years here at the United Way as shown all of us what a true leader looks like.

Your unwavering commitment to improving the lives of countless individuals and families in our community has left an indelible mark. Through your visionary leadership, you have not only strengthened the United Way but also fostered a spirit of collaboration and compassion that will continue to inspire us all for years to come.

Your tireless efforts and steadfast dedication have transformed the lives of many, creating a legacy of positive change and community betterment. We are profoundly grateful for your remarkable contributions and the lasting impact you have made.

Thank you, Gary, for your outstanding service and for being a beacon of hope and inspiration. Thank you for being our leader, our mentor and our friend. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors and look forward to continuing the work you have so passionately championed.

With deepest appreciation,

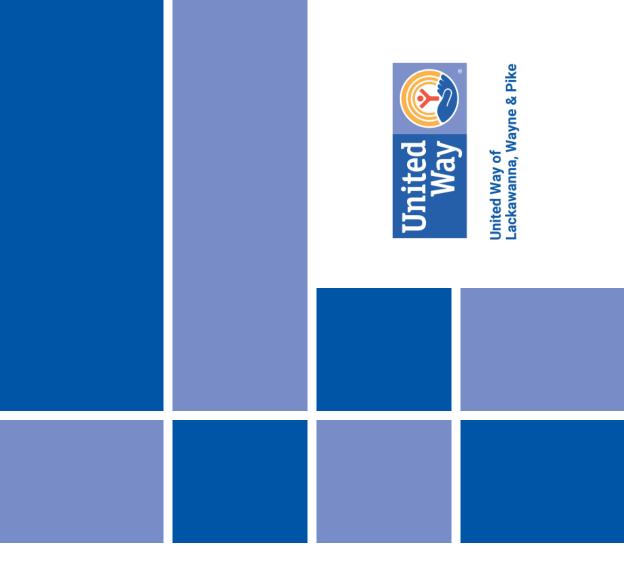
Your Staff (Past and Present)





Lackawanna and Wayne Counties





United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne & Pike 615 Jefferson Ave. Scranton, PA 18510