

Merrill Area United Way

United Way



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Opening up the county is of paramount interest and concern. But all must be considered to do so in a safe manner. Lincoln County has been fortunate to have not been hit by COVID-19. So many local groups, city and county agencies, our leadership, our medical providers, emergency services, schools, organizations and churches have taken steps during these challenging times to coordinate efforts, share information and work toward making everyone safe during the pandemic. It has caused heightened planning for various scenarios that could potentially evolve. Advanced planning through our County Emergency Management, Social Services, and Health Department has already helped. Plus, other plans are being completed for emergent circumstances. Together, we as a community, can be both proud and thankful to have such strong, driven leaders responding to the pandemic. They have continued to make so much happen.

United Way publicly thanks these many leaders, emergency servant and health care providers who have done their jobs, and will continue to work on the efforts to have Wisconsin Bounce Back in a safe, healthy manner. The work of United Way is needed now more than ever too! We need to ensure that our agencies are prepared and equipped to respond to the current needs, but also the ongoing needs to follow in the aftermath of a distressed economy. Overall, our agencies are doing their very best to comply with COVID-19 orders and remain committed to serving people. Families and individuals are

receiving services, food, shelter, assistance, counseling, programing, family development assistance and more. We support efforts to address the challenges facing us all.

Because there are so many requests for donations, memberships and gifts, our United Way has decided to use available earmarked funds first to meet any dire COVID-19 needs. Applications for a United Way COVID-19 Grants were recently sent to the agencies. It is our hope to provide them with the additional support they need at this critical time so they can continue to service their clients; our neighbors in need. Also, United Way has always financially supported the 2-1-1 call center to aid Lincoln County residents in accessing all the types of information and support they need. The 2-1-1 call center has been essential during a pandemic and has a full staff available to answer questions and offer resource information.

Hopefully, when we come through this pandemic our area residents will support our local Merrill Area United Way during our standard fall campaign; September through November. We remain committed to the United Way Motto 'LIVE UNITED' and perhaps will consider adopting the newer Motto "United We Fight, United We Win". It is appropriate this year!

For more information about the Merrill Area United Way visit our website at merrillareaunderway.org or email: united813@frontier.com.