

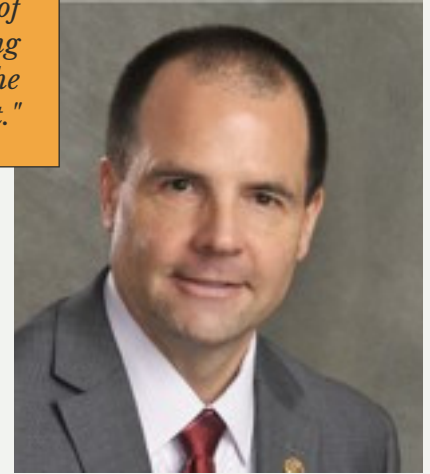
This is my United Way

I was 22 years old and in my first job out of college when the General Campaign Chair at Monadnock United Way (MUW), Cameron Tease, introduced me to the MUW campaign.

I was familiar with the campaign through a neighbor's volunteer efforts, but never really considered my own responsibility to contribute. Cam provided information on the mission of MUW and how my contributions would support it. This was the beginning of my own community giving and involvement. A few years later, the ask wasn't for a higher level of donation, but for giving my time as a MUW volunteer solicitor. Since 1989 I've been an annual contributor to MUW and have volunteered in a number of capacities, including several years on the Campaign Cabinet.

I was motivated to contribute time and money to MUW through a sense of responsibility and gratitude for what I have. I've been very fortunate in my life and learned from my parents about being an engaged member of my community. Through my involvement with MUW, I met some tremendous professional and civic mentors who helped show me the way, and I've modeled their behaviors in my own community involvement. I was also able to add local "movers and shakers" to my network, and I took advantage of the opportunity to learn from those talented and generous people.

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My professional career provided some personal satisfaction, but there was always something missing. Being a part of a larger annual campaign for a high profile, influential organization like MUW filled in the gaps I was missing from my professional endeavors. I was always very proud of the role I played in hitting the annual goal, and if we came up short, I knew I gave my best to achieve what we did.

MUW focuses on community impact. They take a proactive role in tackling the root causes of many of our community's needs, and their efforts are having a material impact in our community. It's important to understand the role they play and the value they bring to the table. MUW fully vets all agencies applying for support and provides guidance to help them improve their operations. They also hold them accountable for the monies they receive from the community, which has always made giving to MUW very attractive for me.

Because of MUW's oversight, I have confidence my contributions are going to organizations that are on solid footing and are using those resources effectively.

Please consider joining me and volunteer your talent and energy to MUW. Please also consider supporting MUW with a financial gift of any amount. Together we can help to improve what is already an amazing community in which to live.

