

STRONGER TOGETHER

THIS IS MY UNITED WAY

by Karen Peterson

Development & Fundraising Coordinator
Monadnock Developmental Services
and
2021 General Campaign Co-Chair



Serving as General Campaign Co-Chair is the next logical step in my journey.

The wonderful sense of belonging to a community is something I never take for granted. Growing up an 'army brat,' I was rarely in a single community or school for very long. It was really no surprise that when I wanted to relocate 30 years ago, I chose the Monadnock Region and Peterborough, a locale with a strong sense of place.

After arriving in New Hampshire, I continued my career in the publishing business for another 15 years. Then, a desire to develop a more substantial connection to, and impact on, the local community led to an inspiring career change. I took on the fundraising and development role at Monadnock Developmental Services (MDS).

I also began volunteering. The first organization I worked with was Project LIFT, an adult literacy program. Since then I've served as a board member for the Greater Peterborough Chamber of Commerce, a Peterborough Town Library trustee, and a founding member of the 1833 Society (which raises funds and assists in the Peterborough Town Library renovation).

I've also supported the Monadnock United Way for nearly 30 years, and served as a member of the Investment Team, a group of volunteers who made funding recommendations for MUW's investments in local nonprofit programs and initiatives.

My professional and volunteer involvement over the past 15 years opened my eyes to the needs and vulnerability of people in our communities. I've seen first-hand how infants, young children, teens, families, and the elderly need the assistance provided by local organizations to survive and thrive.

Taking on the role of General Campaign Co-Chair for the 2021 Stronger Together campaign enables me to share my skills and knowledge to assist those in need, help safeguard our social fabric, and contribute to the strength of our communities. I'm honored and proud to give back to the communities in our region in this role.

"I have seen first-hand how area nonprofits assist those in need with help from MUW. Through my work at MDS, I know that our most vulnerable populations rely on many of the organizations' MUW funds. Their support is critical to keeping people from falling through the cracks as they struggle to feed their families, heat their homes, find affordable housing, and give their children the best start they can."



@MonadnockUnitedWay



/MonadnockUW



monadnockuw



monadnockunitedway