



An Update from MUW President Liz LaRose

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Dear MUW Supporters,

The energy was palpable earlier this month at the 2024 campaign kick-off held at the [Monadnock Family Services](#) (MFS) Community Room. We are deeply grateful to [Fenton Family Dealerships](#) for sponsoring this engaging and inspiring event.



General Campaign Co-Chairs Sarah Kossayda and Ben Wheeler making opening remarks

Breakfast and a Rousing Panel Discussion

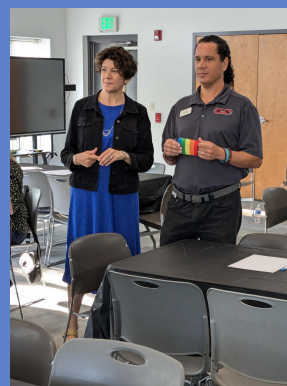
General Campaign Co-Chairs Sarah Kossayda and Ben Wheeler, shared this year's ambitious campaign goal of \$1,484,000 and why reaching this goal is so important. Sarah commented,

"It's so important to give because no matter what the challenge, Monadnock United Way's comprehensive approach and deep roots in the community mean we can find a way forward."

A panel of community leaders examined two of the most pressing crises in the Monadnock Region: 1) Housing insecurity and homelessness and 2) Early childcare availability, staffing, and cost. Their insights and experiences sparked important conversations about how the current housing and childcare crises are deeply intertwined, and highlighted the impact of MUW's leadership in encouraging collaboration throughout



More images from our kick off event



Liz LaRose, President MUW and Gil Oriol, [Guyer and Son Roofing](#)



MUW Volunteer Jo Angell (l), Barbara Tremblay (m), Alicia

the community to tackle these critical challenges.

I extend my appreciation to panel members Becky Beaton, Executive Director of [Hundred Nights](#); Chris Coates, [Cheshire County](#) Administrator; Alicia Deaver, Executive Director of [Rise for baby and family](#); and Tom Julius, Chair of [Monadnock Interfaith Project](#) for their participation in this important kick-off event. Their organizations (and many others) play a critical role in addressing the childcare and housing crises in the Monadnock Region. Click [here](#) to view the video of the panel discussion.



Panelists included, (l to r) Tom Julius, Alicia Deaver, Becky Beaton, Chris Coates, and Moderator, Liz LaRose

Celebrating Our Community's Heroes

MUW also celebrated community excellence with the presentation of the 4th annual Ken Jue Award. This year's recipient, Judy Rogers, owner of [Prime Roast](#), was honored for exemplifying Ken Jue's commitment to community, deep collaboration, and inclusivity. Phil Wyzik, CEO of MFS, said of Judy,

"She's a natural collaborator, a team player. Someone easy to talk to. Someone who is a problem solver who wants life to be better for all of us. That to me embodies Ken Jue and I think this award to Judy is so richly deserved."

Click [here](#) to view a brief video extolling Judy's impact in the community. Trust me – it's inspiring!

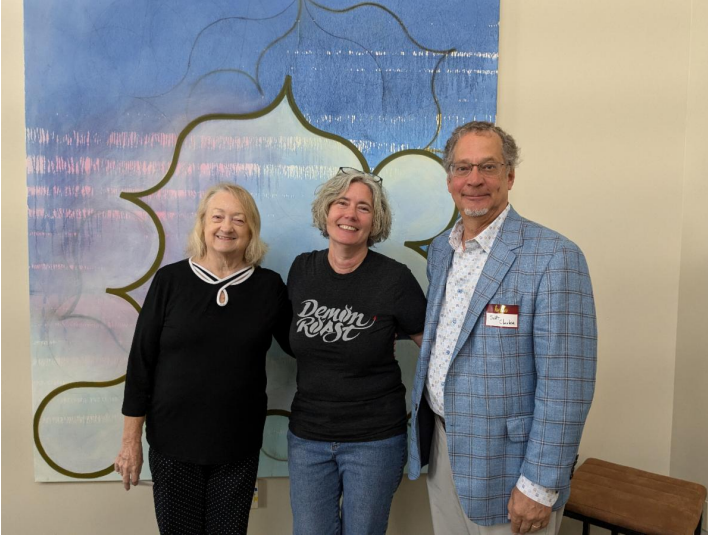
*Deaver, Executive Director,
[Rise for baby and family](#) (r)*



*Mick Hirsh, Executive Director,
[Monadnock Center for
Violence Prevention](#) (l) and
Chris Coates (r)*



Click [here](#) to see past issues of our newsletter!



This year's Ken Jue Award Winner Judy Rogers, flanked by 2022 winner, Barbara Tremblay (l) and 2023 winner, Douglas Company/Scott Clarke (r)

MUW plays a critical role in systems change in the Monadnock Region, bringing together all sectors of the community to make change. Your support for the *Teaming Up for Tomorrow* campaign ensures MUW will continue to play this critical role.

Sincerely,

Liz LaRose, President

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