That most colorful of seasons has arrived! Here at United Way of York County, we celebrate the launching of our Community Campaign with Kick-off, partnering with new Campaign Associates and meeting hundreds of employees and neighbors. This fall the four Presidents of our York County Savings Banks have served as our Honorary Chairs. Our thanks to Jeanne Hulit, Biddeford Savings Bank; Brad Paige, Kennebunk Savings; Blaine Boudreau, Partners Bank; and Bob Quentin, Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution for serving in this capacity. See Blaine share his story in one of our 2019 campaign videos.

If you have taken part in a rally at your workplace, thank you! If you are a community member looking for your invitation to contribute this year, your letter will shortly be on its way to you! Our fundraising goal this year is $1.3 million – we thank you for helping us reach this important milestone!

And before you know it, we will be celebrating the completion of this year’s campaign! Plan to join us on Wednesday, November 13th at Smitty’s in Sanford for our Finale – The Golden “U” Awards (see information at left).

Your insights are requested as we refresh our strategic plan. Completed in 2014, our current plan has been updated annually. This year, we are seeking feedback from you and other community members to help us determine current and emerging needs. A very brief three-question survey is available HERE. Thank you in advance for your input! The survey will remain open until Thanksgiving.

Thank you for your support – your contribution improves the lives of many right here in your community!

— Barb Wentworth, UWYC President & CEO

Johnsons Honored, Host Leadership Event

Kennebunkport residents and Tocqueville ($10,000+) donors Brenda and John Johnson have been awarded this year’s Elise Kittredge Award for their exceptional contribution of time, talent and/or financial resources to United Way of York County.

The Johnsons have been giving to United Way for more than 50 years. Brenda and John have been tremendously generous with their time, experience, and strategic thinking. Brenda recently ran a focus group to help us better understand what encourages people to give to United Way, the Johnsons have made an extra donation to support those in need during the holidays, and recently became Tocqueville donors here in York County. The Johnsons opened their doors to us as our 2019 Leadership Event host.

RSVP for Golden "U" Awards
Put the annual Finale on your calendar for November 13! We'll be taking over a theater at Smitty's Sanford from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. for The Golden "U" Awards to celebrate the culmination of our Community Campaign, "U can make a difference."

RSVP deadline is Nov. 1 at buildcommunity.org

Our Mission:
United Way of York County
improves lives by mobilizing people and resources!
Our office is in the midst of a "refresh" of our strategic plan. As part of this review, we are asking you for your thoughts on the most pressing concerns in our York County communities.

We met with CEOs and employees at several businesses that participate in our annual campaign and are looking for common themes to help understand the most pressing issues at hand since our last strategic plan was unveiled in 2014.

We'd love your input on these three questions:

• What does the word "community" mean to you? How would you describe it to others?
• In York County, what issue(s) is (are) of most concern to you?
• What kinds of things might be done to improve the concerns you identified?

Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts on these questions in an online survey.

Community Campaign has been in full swing since Kickoff in early September! The entire UWYC staff and Campaign Associates hit the ground running with Pratt & Whitney rallies the week of Sept. 9, and Kennebunk Savings the week of Sept. 16.

Pictured at left are Campaign Associates (left to right): Heather Chandel (sponsored by Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution and Unum), Maggie Cummings (sponsored by Southern Maine Health Care), Jenna Ingram (sponsored by Kennebunk Savings and Partners Bank) and Kelcie Wood (loaned by Hannaford).

By early October the Campaign Associates had conducted 64 campaign meetings and rallies! Their goal is to get face-to-face meetings with as many workplaces around York County as possible before Campaign wraps up in November. They are doing a great job!

Our direct mail campaign will launch later in October, so if you're an individual donor be on the lookout for a message from us. We appreciate your support!

Welcome New Staff

• Kevin Whittaker joined our staff in June as Finance & Data Director. Whittaker oversees a full range of finance functions from bookkeeping to data and grants management, from financial analysis to reporting. He provides the primary staff leadership for accounting, fiscal and donor data management, tax reporting, information technology, and facilities management.

• Maggie Cummings joined the staff in August as Community Impact Project Manager. Maggie is working on the Healthy Preschool Project, Volunteer Center projects, Tools4Schools, and special events. Please say hello to Maggie as she serves double-duty as a Campaign Associate for a few months!