## **UNITED WAY OF GREATER ST. LOUIS:**

## A SOURCE OF STABILITY FOR OUR REGION

United Way of Greater St. Louis (UWGSL) continues to be a shining light of hope and stability during periods of uncertainty. The devastation from the May 16<sup>th</sup> storms left the St. Louis community reeling, but UWGSL continues to be there for those in need of help, just as they have been for the past 103 years.

Within hours of the storm, UWGSL activated its Storm Relief Fund that supports food, shelter, and cleanup initiatives administered by their disaster-related partners. Also, their 211 Navigation Center stands at-the ready daily and quickly moved into crisis response mode following the storms.

To date, 211 has assisted over 3,200 neighbors needing disaster assistance and completed more than 2,300 disaster intakes, linking survivors to critical services for food, debris cleanup, emergency shelter, and more.

Additionally, volunteers are the backbone of UWGSL's response efforts. Since

May 16<sup>th</sup>, UWGSL's Regional Volunteer Center has operated in disaster response mode, connecting nearly 6,000 volunteers to disaster-related opportunities.





ANDREW DAVIDSON
Campaign Co-Chair

Support for UWGSL's past campaigns has given them the capacity to respond to unexpected crises like this, and continued support for their 2025 community campaign will allow them to respond to the community's ever-changing challenges.

Leading this year's campaign as chair and co-chair are Lal Karsanbhai, President and CEO of *Emerson*, and Andrew Davidson, Managing Partner for *KPMG's* St. Louis office. They hope to garner engagement and inspire others to be as passionate about supporting UWGSL as they are.

"My involvement with the United Way and in St. Louis isn't limited to just where I work, it's where I choose to build my life and raise my family," said Karsanbhai. "When you make that kind of commitment to a place, when it becomes part of who you are, you want to see it thrive. I am passionate about doing my part to create a stronger and more resilient region."

KPMG and Emerson have long-supported UWGSL and continued corporate collaboration will help UWGSL and members of the local community succeed. Karsanbhai and Davidson hope to use their platforms to unite additional top businesses and corporations across the region behind UWGSL's efforts to help people live here and thrive.

"Business leaders have a unique opportunity to lead with purpose. Supporting the United Way Community Campaign is more than philanthropy - It's about investing in the long-term health and resilience of the communities where we live and work," said Davidson. "When leaders champion United Way, it inspires teams, strengthens culture, and creates a ripple effect of generosity and engagement. It's a chance to model what it means to be a responsible and compassionate corporate citizen."

This collaborative effort helps **UWGSL** provide funding and support to a safety net of 160 local nonprofits who provide vital services to help individuals and families. These services include help in the areas of basic needs, youth and early childhood success, financial mobility, health and well-being, and community stability and crisis response.

Each year, through the community campaign and support of these local nonprofits, **UWGSL** makes a difference in the lives of over 1 million people in Missouri and Illinois. That's 1 in 3 people across 16 counties supported by programs, services, and initiatives that help meet their immediate and long-term needs.

As UWGSL embarks on another campaign, they will look to unite the community with one goal in mind - helping people live their best possible lives.

"Our Campaign is a special time where people work closer together, donate and unite for the greater good of our community to spark real lasting change," said Michelle D. Tucker, President and CEO of United Way of Greater of St. Louis. "United Way of Greater St. Louis remains one of the top United Way giving campaigns because of generous donors who support our efforts to ensure our neighbors have the support they need to succeed including when disaster strikes."

From providing food and shelter to offering education, job training, and counseling, UWGSL is here to help and ensure individuals and families have the tools and support they need today and in the future. Working

together with the community, UWGSL will continue multiplying impact and empowering local neighbors.



"We're preparing for one of the most important Campaigns in our history this fall. And while the road won't be easy, I have every confidence in our collective strength and shared commitment," said Tucker. "United Way is more than a fundraising campaign – we are a movement. Together, we will continue to meet this moment."





