

Great things are happening because you



give

where
you
live.



Thanks to you, our
2023 campaign raised
\$2,672,022*

**In 2023, UWNEMN donors
and volunteers supported:**

- 9 direct service programs
- 29 partner agencies
- 15 local libraries' summer reading programs
- 13 area food shelves



117,652
LIVES IMPACTED

**\$532,044 in federal funding specifically for Ely Area Community Foundation Happy Days Childcare Inc.
All financials and statistics are calculated through fiscal year end March 31st.*

This is the second year in a row you have helped us raise more than \$2 million to reinvest in our communities, and that is indeed something to celebrate. Not only does it mean we are able to increase our reach and impact, but it also shows our region's commitment to creating thriving communities. At a time when United Ways nationwide are seeing decreasing donations through workplace campaigns, our United Way is bucking the trend - and that's all because of you.

You've helped us to become well-positioned to make serious changes in our region. We have a pulse on our communities' needs, and we have the resources – the donations raised, partnerships, and people power – to take action to meet those needs. Our local United Way team is grateful to have you with us on this journey of community transformation and positive impact, helping to inspire hope and change throughout our region!

- UWNEMN Executive Director Erin Shay



YEAR IN REVIEW



In partnership with Wellness That Fits, UWNEMN provided a free two-day Unmasking Mental Health conference for local veterans, first responders, frontline medical workers, and those who provide them care and support.

\$10,000 in scholarship funds were awarded to local high school seniors through UWNEMN's first annual Youth United Contest.



For the second year in a row, UWNEMN events broke fundraising records. By attending events, you united to raise \$239,552 to support our programs.

Thanks to support from Backus Community Center, Ronnings, and city leaders, Community Steps expanded to International Falls.



FULL CIRCLE IMPACT

"We received Buddy Backpacks when my three boys were younger, and it helped so much through weekends when I couldn't afford to keep up with healthy snacks. We are now trying to pay it forward and thank this program by volunteering [to pack Buddy Backpacks]." – Angie



HELPING CHILDREN SUCCEED

We recognize that education is a powerful tool in breaking the cycle of poverty and that building resiliency is critical to improved health, development, and educational outcomes.

2023 PROGRAMS

**30,498
Books**

were mailed to local children through **Imagination Library**.

**TEN
Schools**

participated in **Lunch Buddies** mentoring program connecting elementary students with caring adult mentors - doubling in size!

**\$557,044
Invested**

in local childcare facilities through **Bright Beginnings**.*

2023 PARTNERS

- Arrowhead Center Adolescent Treatment
- Boys & Girls Club of Hibbing
- Camp Chicagami
- Check & Connect
- Ely Community Resource
- Girl Scouts of MN & WI Lakes and Pines
- Local Libraries with Summer Reading Programs
- ServeMinnesota Reading Corps
- Voices for Ethnic and Multicultural Awareness (VEMA)
- Volunteers in Education (VinE)
- Voyageurs Area Council Boy Scouts of America

*\$532,044 in federal funding specifically for Ely Area Community Foundation Happy Days Childcare Inc.

UWNEMN HAS THE LARGEST UNITED WAY SERVICE AREA IN MINNESOTA PROVIDING PROGRAMS

Alborn · Angle Inlet · Angora · Aurora · Babbitt · Baudette · Big Falls · Birchdale · Biwabik · Britt · Brainerd · Embarrass · Ericsburg · Eveleth · Floodwood · Forbes · Gheen · Gilbert · Hibbing · Hoyt Lakes · Indus · Markham · Meadowlands · Mizpah · Mountain Iron · Nashwauk · Northome · Orr · Palo · Pengilly · Ra



EMPOWERING HEALTHY LIVES

We know ensuring our region has access to comprehensive care, including increasing social connectedness for our most vulnerable citizens, will lead to a stronger overall community.

2023 PROGRAMS

1,662
Patients

received free and reduced cost dental care through **Smiles United** - available to all ages.

799
Students

participated in our newly published **Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing** assessment.

200+
Veterans

attended quarterly connection events and/or received holiday meal kit deliveries through **United for Veterans**.

2023 PARTNERS

- American Red Cross
- Angel Fund
- Care Partners
- Ely Community Health Center
- Koochiching Aging Options
- Northwoods Partners
- Project Care

Responding to growing concerns about dental needs in our region, UWNEMN established the NE MN Dental Task Force and has partnered with Children's Dental Services to bring a new clinic to the Iron Range.



STABILIZING FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS

We aim for needs to be met promptly and with compassion in crisis, with thoughtful consideration given to help people become self-sufficient once stabilized.

2023 PROGRAMS

12,165
Meals

were served to children at 12 regional sites through **Meet Up and Chow Down** and **Summer Buddy Backpacks**.

40,700
Meal Kits

were sent to students across 14 local school districts through **Buddy Backpacks**.

1,529
Individuals

received new household items after a crisis or emergency through **Comforts of Home**.

2023 PARTNERS

- Advocates for Family Peace
- Backus Community Center
- Food Shelves Area Wide
- Friends Against Abuse
- Koochiching County Food Access
- N.S.L.C. Habitat for Humanity
- Range Transitional Housing
- Salvation Army of Hibbing; International Falls; Virginia
- Second Harvest Northern Lakes Food Bank
- Sexual Assault Program/N.S.L.C.
- Star of the North Maternity Home
- Support Within Reach
- United Way 2-1-1

SERVING IN FOUR COUNTIES: ITASCA, KOOCHICHING, LAKE OF THE WOODS, AND ST. LOUIS

Bookston • Buhl • Buyck • Canyon • Cherry • Chisholm • Cook • Cotton • Crane Lake • Culver • Ely • International Falls • Iron • Kabetogama • Keewatin • Kelly Lake • Littlefork • Loman • Makinen • Mier • Ray • Roosevelt • Saginaw • Side Lake • Soudan • Tower • Virginia • Williams • Winton • Zim

**United
Way**



*2023 Annual
Report Enclosed*

**United Way of
Northeastern MN**

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