

2024 CAMPAIGN CHAMPIONS GUIDE



UNITED WAY CHANGING LIVES

365 DAYS

8,760 HOURS

525,600 MINUTES

31,536,000 SECONDS

Champion

NOUN: A person who fights for or argues for a cause or on behalf of someone else. "A champion of the United Way"

NOUN: A person who enthusiastically supports, defends, or fights for a person, belief, right, or principle

VERB: To support the cause of, defend

SYNONYMS: Advocate, protect, defend

United
Way



United Way of Greater Lima



UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN 101

LIVE UNITED

New to United Way campaigns? This page is for you.

For over 100 years, local businesses have been achieving their local philanthropic goals by giving back through United Way workplace campaigns.

WHY?

Because United Way works.

United Way fights for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in Allen County.

Because giving to United Way is easy.

Most people give via payroll deduction, pledging in the fall to have a certain amount taken out of each paycheck the following year. United Way's materials are easy to distribute and collect. After some

planning and a brief 1-2 week solicitation period (your internal workplace campaign), you're done!

Because there's something for everyone.

Donors can choose to designate their gift to United Way programs of their choice in Allen County or to United Ways in their home communities. With over 40 community partners and programs, there's a cause that fits everyone's personal mission.

Because United Way is effective.

Money raised here stays here and 100% of every dollar stays local. United Way meets all 20 Standards of Charitable Accountability established by the Better Business Bureau.

THE TYPICAL WORKPLACE CAMPAIGN...

- Runs actively for 1-2 weeks.
- Runs sometime between September 1 and Thanksgiving. (But you can run anytime. Pick the dates that best serve you.)
- Uses United Way brochures and pledge forms that we provide.
- Most donors give via payroll deduction, pledging to give \$___ per pay period during the following year (Jan. 1 to December 31).

YOUR ROLE A WORKPLACE CHAMPION...

- Serve as main contact between United Way and your workplace.
- Lead the planning and coordination for a successful internal campaign.
- Recruit others to help with your internal effort.
- Collect and submit all pledge forms and monetary donations to United Way in a timely manner. Includes completion of the Workplace Giving Form completed at the end of your internal campaign.

OUR ROLE AS UW STAFF & VOLUNTEERS...

- **TO HELP YOU IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE! Never hesitate to call with questions or to help with campaign strategies.**
- **PLEASE reach out for ALL of your campaign needs.**
- **Kristen Hobbs**
567-289-2143
khobbs@unitedwaylima.org



UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN 101

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Companies that followed these 3 simple steps saw a 4% increase, companies who didn't saw a 15% decrease.

#1 Ask upper management to support the campaign and endorse it publically in employee meetings/publications.

Things to consider:

- Is UW a priority for CEO/management?
- Have you met with them to discuss your plan?
- Is there an authorized corporate gift / match?
- Are there authorized incentives for giving?
- Will they speak/endorse at employee kickoff?
- Send letter/Email to staff about importance of United Way and how it meets your company's philanthropic mission?

#2 How Will You Make The Ask? How Often Will You Follow Up?

- How will you promote and launch your campaign? Use your All-Staff Meeting for Kick-Off!
- Remember that the easiest way to your employees heart is their stomach – breakfast or snacks are always a great idea.
- Use the personal ask and follow up for best results.
- Have an agency come to give a testimonial or a UW representative speak on what your donation means to our community.
- Are you using the triplicate form? Still have remote employees and need a virtual pledge form? Are you a small staff and using the tear-off form on the brochure would work well? Make sure to have plan for following up regardless of form.

#3 Everyone loves free stuff!

- Offers don't have to be extravagant.
- Great ideas for Incentives on page 4 but here are a few:
 - PTO is a popular offer
 - Offer company swag
 - Offer the possibility of the best parking spot for a year.
 - Run a contest that offers pride, not prizes.

***If you have any questions or need help, please contact:**

United Way of Greater Lima
Kristen Hobbs
567-289-2143 or
khobbs@unitedwaylima.org



TAKING IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL

LIVE UNITED

Implement these strategies to increase your participation rates and average giving levels, and the dollars will follow!

1. INFORM
2. INSPIRE
3. INCENTIVIZE

WAYS TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION

- **Implement ALL of the Best Practices on Page 2. Most especially #2 and #3.**
 - **How is the UW campaign communicated internally?**
 - **Is it publicly supported by CEO and upper management and a priority within the workplace?**
 - **HOW are people being asked to give?**
- **Set a goal of 100% ASK.** This is different than 100% participation. Collect a completed, signed pledge form from EVERY employee, even if the pledge is \$0 so that you can make sure every person heard the message and had an opportunity to give.
- **Promote it!** In a virtual giving environment, multiple touch points throughout your campaign will be critical to its success. Send daily

reminders to turn in pledge forms, especially on the last day of your campaign. Hang posters. Borrow our UW banners and flags. Send internal e-mail and all-call messages. Share on social media.

- **Daily contests.** We can help you set up fun ways to engage and inform employees each day of your campaign. If your workplace allows in-person presentations, trivia contests and Bingo, or a United Way scavenger hunt can inform and inspire people.
- **On the last day, review your list of past donors and cross reference it with those who've already given.** Follow-up one-on-one with those past donors and remind them it's the last day to give.
- **Extend the giving opportunity to new hires throughout the year.** Give pledge forms at new employee orientation.

WAYS TO INCREASE AVERAGE GIFT

- **Implement ALL of the Best Practices on Page 2.** Most especially #3 (customizing the pledge forms that will be used at your workplace). This will allow us to make the default suggested giving options specific to your workplace and slightly higher than your company's average employee gift of a year ago.
- **Stress giving via payroll deduction.** People tend to give more when spreading their gift out week-to-week rather than making a one-time gift via cash or check.
- **Include attractive incentives to help motivate giving.** They don't have to cost you a lot (or anything). Then use those incentives for tiered levels of giving. For example, \$5/pay, gets you one benefit or maybe you are entered into a raffle with five ticket. If you give \$10/week,

you get two benefits or get 10 raffle tickets.

- **Leverage "fun-raisers."** Ask for a completed pledge form, rather than a small cash donation. For example, instead of "selling" Jeans Day passes for \$5, ask that they pledge a certain amount via payroll deduction. Conduct your United Way campaign apart from other internal fundraisers.
- **Ask an associate who's benefitted from a UW program to share their story.** Nothing like a personal testimonial to get the tears, and dollars, flowing.
- **Promote membership in United Way's Giving Society.** Membership begins with a \$500 annual gift.



Incentive Program

USING INCENTIVES TO MOTIVATE

LIVE UNITED

If only everyone were 100% altruistic. What inspires giving? Sometimes providing an extra incentive is one of the most sure-fire ways to increase participation rates and average gifts in your workplace. You don't have to go over the top on these either. There are many low-cost / no-cost ways to obtain items as incentives.

HERE COMES THE CRITICAL PART...

To get the most out of incentives, consider how best to structure them for your campaign. Think about what you want to accomplish, then decide how to set your incentives. Examples below:

By individual participation: Anyone who gives via payroll deduction is eligible for a prize / drawing.

IDEA: For each dollar someone gives/week, that's how many chances they have.

By time frame: Anyone who contributes by X day is eligible for a prize/drawing.

IDEA: If you turn in your pledge form at the UW presentation meeting.

By increase: Anyone who increases their gift over the previous year by ___ % or to next giving level is eligible.

IDEA: Promote "Fair Share" giving, which would be equivalent to 1% of your annual salary.

By gift level: Anyone who gives \$XX dollars or more is entered into a special drawing.

IDEA: Set tiers of incentives. Those who give \$10/week are eligible for more than those who give \$1/week.

By company goal: If the company achieves its participation goal, all employees can wear jeans on Friday.

IDEA: Do NOT set goal for 100% participation.

IF YOU CAN SWING IT, THE BEST INCENTIVE YOU CAN OFFER IS EXTRA PAID TIME OFF!

Vacation Days, "Sleep-in" passes, or leave work early passes all work well for this.

WHERE DO I GET THESE INCENTIVES?

Talk with your management team to procure corporate items. Ask your vendors. Contact United Way Champions at other businesses and trade YOUR "corporate swag" with them. Spend unused corporate Credit Card rewards.

LOW/NO-COST INCENTIVES:

- Prime parking spaces
- Jeans day passes
- Company SWAG and gear
- Free meals in company cafeteria
- Pizza party / Free lunch
- Boss does your job for half day
- Use of company car

OTHER INCENTIVE IDEAS INCLUDE:

- Restaurant/Carryout gift certificates
- Streaming video subscriptions
- Cooking / baking prizes
- Home improvement / Gardening
- "Outdoor" activities / prizes
- Trendy electronics
- Big screen TV's
- Gaming packages (xBox/Playstation)
- Gift cards (Walmart / Kroger shopping spree)



United Way of Greater Lima



UNITED WAY

Our Success Stories

West Ohio Food Bank...

I participated in The Salvation Army food pantry since my sophomore year and always look forward to picking up a bag after school. Picking up the bag after school helps some families with food problems, especially on the weekends where school foods are not provided and a larger bag is provided. This assistance is appreciated, whether it is a snack for a bad day or a meal to cover your day. I and many other students of Lima Senior High School appreciate the caring support and staff that provide the assistance.

Kindergarten Kamp...

Kindergarten Kamp had an impact on my youngest child. At his preschool, he was still withholding himself from understanding concepts, communicating his needs, and comprehending the material. He struggled with listening and transitioning. Kindergarten Kamp helped him get himself together and made his transition into kindergarten much easier. My older child learned so much from Kindergarten Kamp. She handled the transition from preschool to kindergarten very well. At Kindergarten Kamp, my children grew academically and socially but in unique ways. Kamp showed them that learning can be fun.

Rock Steady Boxing...

Dave joined Rock Steady Boxing at SCS Lima in January of 2022. He loves coming with his "Corner partner" (wife) Vicki. The two get to exercise and learn together. They share and discuss Parkinson's Disease symptoms and tips and tricks with other boxers and corner partners. Dave says he can tell when he misses class that his symptoms worsen. Vicki says the exercise is great for her, and she can tell she is working on muscles she hasn't used in a long time. Dave says another benefit to class is speaking louder; he states that communicating and speaking loudly enough for others to hear is very important. Both love how the coaches make every class fun and engaging! They love the boxing exercises and the fellowship.

Soldiers of Honor...

"I have two sons enrolled in the Soldiers of Honor Boxing program. One needed an outlet for frustration and the other a place to run off energy. It was so successful! Coach taught my son healthy ways to deal with anger, body positivity, and fitness. He's learned what his body can do and to love himself. My younger son is so focused now! He's doing better at home & school with tasks. They love the program. My boys say, "Work hard, go home". They explained it means give it your all while you're there because it won't last forever."

Arc of Allen County...

Our child Eli was being asked to leave the only daycare he had ever attended because the director of the daycare believed Eli displayed signs of autism. She did not believe that he would succeed in their environment.

So began a panicked search for another facility to watch our son. Every location I contacted was booked or required your child to be potty trained. Eli is four years old and nonverbal. We intend to potty train him; however, we aren't there yet. We felt hopeless as we could not find any location and would be forced to quit our jobs. This started a conversation with the lead director of Eli's speech and occupational therapy sessions. She mentioned ARC of Allen County. I'll never forget her saying that if you want a group of people to love your child, that's the place. She could not have been more right. We made the transition. And I haven't looked back. Eli has been attending ARC of Allen County for almost a year now, and I can truly say that I wish we had found them sooner!