



## Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES

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Patricia N. Kilburn Ed.D.

*District Superintendent*

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Dear Colleague,

As you know, many residents of the valley and greater Utica area struggle due to a lack of access to health, education and financial stability - the building blocks for a good quality of life. These needs have become even more significant over the past several years. The problems we face are very real, but so are the solutions. That's where we come in.

Can you imagine being a part of something so big that it supports thousands of people right here in our community? United Way of the Mohawk Valley (United Way MV) has been doing just that since 1921 because of community members like YOU!

United Way MV addresses our community's most pressing needs, funding dozens of local programs. They bring resources, volunteers, experts and service providers together to provide short-term relief and long-term success for hundreds of thousands of people in our region. United Way plans for our community's future, while staying nimble to act in times of crisis.

Your gift to United Way stays local, impacting more than 60 programs and initiatives to improve the health, education and financial stability of individuals and families across our community. Every dollar you give is invested in strategies that produce results. Investing in our community through United Way is an investment in our friends, our neighbors, our fellow employees and even ourselves.

Over the past year, United Way's work has led to:

- Administering an Emergency Food and Shelter Program for Oneida and Herkimer Counties that provide critical funding to local agencies delivering emergency food and shelter services
- Running "The Backpack Program", providing backpacks filled with nonperishable foods and essential supplies to children during extended school breaks when school meals are unavailable
- Bringing together more than 40 public, private and nonprofit organizations that work collaboratively to ensure individuals and families experiencing homelessness can access housing resources, supportive services and programs that meet their needs

It's simple: change like this does not happen alone. You can help create lasting change by joining our 2026 United Way campaign to improve the community in which we live and work.

Please look for more information regarding pledging to the United Way in the near future. Donations may be made through payroll deductions, debit or credit card, or by cash or check.

I am proud to work with so many people who care so deeply about our work and our community. Please join me, once again, in participating in our 2026 United Way campaign.

Sincerely,

Patricia N. Kilburn, Ed.D.

District Superintendent

*Dedicated professionals collaborating with component districts and the community, developing and deploying leading-edge educational services, career opportunities and support services essential to all students' success.*