

United Way of Southeast Alaska- Kim Kiefer, Campaign Co-Chair



It is an honor to serve as a Co-Chair with Janey Lester for the 2018 United Way of Southeast Alaska Campaign. I have been a United Way supporter for over 20 years because I believe living in community means taking care of our friends and neighbors. I believe in the mission, vision and core values of United Way:

Mission: United Way collaborates with communities and agencies across Southeast Alaska to strengthen and improve the Health, Education and Financial Stability of all individuals.

Vision: United Way of Southeast Alaska envisions a region where all individuals and families achieve their human potential through education, income stability and healthy lives.

Core Values: Impact and commitment to community success, volunteerism, inclusiveness, equity, diversity, integrity, accountability, respect for all, trust, highest ethics and fiscally responsible innovation.

By focusing on three major building blocks for a successful future - education, health, and income stability, people have a better chance of having a higher quality of life. The better quality of life for each individual means a better quality of life for us all.

United Way of Southeast Alaska is an umbrella organization that partners with 30+ community nonprofit organizations. Together these organizations and United Way help provide a safety net for the communities of Juneau, Sitka and Ketchikan. One out of three people will use a United Way agency in their lifetime. The support you provide today can have a lasting impact on someone's life.

United Way doesn't just raise funds for the partner organizations; it also directs funds to specific immediate needs. For instance, this year United Way of SE Alaska partnered with the Juneau Community Foundation, the Juneau School District and others to offer free breakfast for all students in elementary and middle schools. High Schools students receive a reduced-price breakfast and lunch. Students can now begin the day not having to worry about where they will find their next meal and can now focus more on their learning.

It is easy to support United Way of SE Alaska, if you are a federal employee, you can sign up through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), if you are a State employee, you can sign up through the SHARE Campaign, and if you are a CBJ employee or private company employee, you can arrange to have donations sent to United Way through automatic payroll deductions from your place of work. If you are retired, you can set up monthly payments with your credit card directly through the United Way website. No matter which way you gift, you get to choose where you want your money to go. Whether you choose to gift to a partner organization or to United Way to fund the greatest needs, you will have a lasting impact on the community.

One of the many things I love about living in Juneau, is the way the community comes together to help one another. Giving through United Way is another way to help our community to **Live United!**