Megan McClanahan and Shane Dunkel, along with their family, were a part of 250 people who volunteered and worked on 26 projects in Greeley, Evans, Windsor, Eaton and Frederick during United Way of Weld County’s annual Day of Action on June 16-17. It was the first time Day of Action was held for two days by UWWC. The sponsors and agencies, as well as the individuals, retirees, families and youth who registered to volunteer turned out during the two days.

“We should be proud of our communities where families and individuals take time to help support each other, because United We Win.”

Christi Smith, United Way of Weld County

Megan and Shane, employees at Professional Finance Company in Greeley, have volunteered with their two children (Tyler Dunkel, 13, and Madison McClanahan, 10) at Day of Action for the past six years. You could say that their two children have kind of grown up with Day of Action.

Megan said volunteering for Day of Action is special for her family. “We love working with the community and doing different projects,” said Megan as she sprayed paint to brighten up the Born Learning Trail at Allen Park in Greeley. “We love the exposure that it gives the kids. We were at the Weld Food Bank packing 296 food boxes. We spent three hours over there. They can see the impact of their work.”
Q&A with Board Member
Emi Emily Kemme

Q: How did you become involved with United Way of Weld County?
EMILY: I became involved with United Way of Weld County when (President & CEO) Jeannine Truswell invited me to join the Board. My husband Doug and I are longtime members of the Tiller’s Club.

Q: How has your experience been as a board member?
EMILY: I am very impressed with the professionalism of both United Way staff and the Board of Directors. Jeannine runs a tight ship and it shows in many facets of the organization. The staff are all very competent and are so wonderful to work with; their follow-through is comprehensive and quick. I enjoyed my day volunteering at Weld Project Connect. What an amazing feat and it seems so well appreciated by the many attendees. I’m also looking forward to becoming involved with the far-sighted and community driven group of volunteers and staff who are working on the Weld’s Way Home project.

Q: What makes UWWC stand out to you?
EMILY: Volunteers are all ages and abilities; all are valued for what they have to offer. The staff commitment to the organization and our community is outstanding, as is the overall efficiency of the organization.

Q: How has UWWC impacted your life?
EMILY: It’s too early to say, but overall, I’m so impressed with the seemingly flawless workings and interface between staff, volunteers and community.

Q: Why do you feel like it’s important to volunteer your time?
EMILY: I like to be involved in the community and United Way offers a kaleidoscope of opportunities and services for people across different cultural and economic sectors.

Emily Kemme received a BA from the University of Colorado in American and English history in 1984 and a law degree in 1987 from CU. She practiced Commercial Litigation from 1987-91 with Burns, Figa & Will, a Denver law firm. She managed her husband’s medical practice, Northern Colorado Oncology/Hematology for 15 years. Emily is the food & lifestyle writer for the Greeley Tribune, a mother of two, an accomplished author and an interior design consultant.

A Special Partnership between UWWC and Greeley Police Department Turns Into Downtown Outreach Office

A special partnership established with the Greeley Police Department and United Way of Weld County has given GPD officers high visibility and presence in the downtown area.

The GPD’s new Downtown Outreach Office, in the lobby of United Way of Weld County, 814 9th St., provides an increased police presence due to the growth in the downtown area. UWWC President and CEO Jeannine Truswell said the outreach officers are often in and out of the UWWC building every day.

“If they’re not here for a homeless coalition committee meeting or some other kind of meeting, they have been actively involved in a lot of our initiatives,” Truswell said. “They are definitely our friends and partners. We both care about the well-being of our community.”

A space for a phone and desk for 2-1-1 is still in the lobby alongside the Downtown Outreach Office.

UNITED WE FIGHT. UNITED WE WIN.
WILL YOU JOIN US TO ACHIEVE DIRECT LOCAL IMPACT?
GIVE TODAY!
Kenneth W. Monfort Society Spotlight

JOE MALARA managing director for Caldera Event Group

What do you like about your partnership with UWWC?
“Our entire team enjoys the special partnership we have for several reasons. The entire United Way family was so welcoming to each of our team members which encouraged a blossoming personal level of interest and consequently engagement of every person working on the event.”

What else stands out about the relationship? “The team at UWWC trusted our 20 years of experience in producing special events to allow us to suggest how we would add to the quality of their event.”

What do you like about working with nonprofits such as UWWC? “Partnering with nonprofits has been at the core of Caldera Event Group’s business model since we founded our company in northern Colorado in 1997. We find that assisting a nonprofit agency with increasing the production values of their fundraising events is not only a strong team-building tool for our company, but is also a rewarding endeavor for our employees.”

Would you like to become a member of KWMS?
Contact Christi Smith at 970-304-6185 or christi@unitedway-weld.org

The Kenneth W. Monfort Society (KWMS) recognizes local philanthropic leaders who believe in UWWC and make a generous annual contribution of at least $10,000 to create long-lasting changes by tackling our community’s most serious issues. These concerned individuals accept a leadership role in making major individual financial contributions to UWWC. National and international membership is also granted for United Way World Wide Tocqueville Society to individuals who contribute at least $10,000 annually to United Way.

Thank you to those who have committed to date for 2016-17:
Dr. Neil Allen, Jamie and Sarah Baessler, Joe Malara, Carrico Family Foundation, Jean Daviet, Kyle Futo, Don and Lynn Janklow, Dr. Richard and Mary Kemme, Roger and Jamie Lynn Knohp, Donna Lakin, Mike and Marilynn Lousalet, Charlie K Monfort, Dick Monfort, Kaye Monfort, Myra Monfort, Jean and Pete Morrell, Andre Nogueira and Leandra Zanqueta, Tom and Kay Norton, Mike and Lori Shoop, Tate and John Todd, Bob and Betty Tointon, Ted and Sue Warner, Stow and Maggie Witwer.

Thumbs Up for UWWC 2-1-1 Information and Referral Program

It’s never good news when your furnace goes out, but add to the mix sub-zero temperatures and a family to keep warm and it’s understandable why John had become desperate. He called United Way of Weld County’s 2-1-1 Information and Referral Program seeking assistance with his furnace. He was not sure if he just needed a repair or a new furnace.

The 2-1-1 call specialist directed John to a program that provides energy conservation repairs to reduce utility consumption for low-income households in Weld County. Once John called to inquire about the program and service, a local furnace technician visited him within two days after his initial call. A week later, John received financial assistance for a new furnace. He was grateful for such wonderful assistance during a time when he and his family needed it the most.

Day of Action continued from front cover

Christi Smith, vice president of resource development for United Way of Weld County, said events such as Day of Action show the pride volunteers have in their community.

“Without each other, we are individuals, fighting individual battles,” Smith said. “But with each other, we become community, a place where each member contributes and thrives. This is what volunteering is all about – coming together.

Town of Windsor recreation supervisor Luke Bolinger said the rec department appreciated the volunteers who helped out at the Eaton House and Windsor Heritage Center, including 10 volunteers from Vestas Blades in Windsor. “This is great because it gets the community involved with the projects that we have, and it gets our staff involved,” Bolinger said. “It’s incredibly important. We love United Way. It’s a great partnership and we certainly hope to continue it.”
Thanks to Everyone for Making Book Drive a SUCCESS

Thanks to the businesses and organizations and for the volunteers who made our annual book drive another success in 2017. More than 2,500 books were collected in a month.

UWWC partnered with Executives Partnering to Invest in Children (EPIC) and Colorado Lt. Gov. Donna Lynne on a broad coalition to lead a countywide book drive for children birth to 8. The goal was to create public awareness of and support for the importance of summer reading with an adult. Books are currently being distributed to parents and caregivers throughout Weld County. Children who are surrounded by books at an early age grow up to be better readers.

The participating locations were huge in collecting the books for us: Twelve 9 Designs, LLC, Weld Schools Credit Union, Windsor State Bank, UNI Design, NCMC, TJ Maxx, Vestas Blades, Hensel Phelps, Northstar Bank, JBS Carriers and Weld County Youth Conservation Corps.

THANKS TO YOU...

Volunteering in sorting out books were Sue Warner from Connecting Point Greeley, Georgia Harper from Atmos Energy and Wells Fargo employees Robby Aguilar, Diana Tovanche, Rony Valdez, David Villa, Liliana Covarrubias, Karie Ayala, Jose Longoria, Braxton Johnson, Austin Tacheny, Priscilla Franzen, Stephanie Meyer, Fernando Tarin, Jamie Tarango and Jeanace Kieselstein.

For more information on 2-1-1, Weld’s Way Home, AmeriCorps VISTA and Promises for Children visit www.UnitedWay-Weld.org
1. Why do you support United Way of Weld County?

2. What do you think are the most pressing needs in Weld County?
   (Please rank from 1 to 8, with 1 being the most pressing)
   - Helping young children and their families to assure they get a good start and are ready for school
   - Supporting youth on their path to graduation and successful transition to adulthood
   - Providing basic needs for residents – food, shelter, clothing, utility assistance, transportation
   - Addressing homelessness and helping people find affordable housing
   - Helping adults and families find jobs and reach financial stability
   - Healthy eating and active living
   - Supporting people as they face medical and mental health challenges
   - Helping people find and navigate services

3. What United Way of Weld County programs or initiatives are you familiar with?
   - Weld’s Way Home
   - Promises for Children
   - 2-1-1 Information and Referral Program

4. What do you value the most about United Way of Weld County?
   (Please rank from 1 to 8, with 1 being the most pressing)
   - Transparency
   - Accountability
   - Locally focused
   - Volunteer leadership
   - Volunteer engagement
   - Leader in coordinating services and collaboration
   - Provides direct services
   - Focused on outcomes and results

I would like to become more involved with United Way of Weld County.

   Name ____________________________________________________________

The best way to contact me is:
   - Email (please provide) ____________________________________________
   - Home address (please provide) ____________________________________
   - Telephone number (please provide) ________________________________

Please mail to: UWWC - PO Box 1944 - Greeley, CO 80632
If you would rather take this survey online, please go to www.UnitedWay-Weld.org/YourThoughts
When you make a gift to United Way of Weld County’s Legacy Endowment Fund, you are truly making a gift with a future! Your endowment gifts guarantee that financial support will remain readily available for the future needs of the community. If you are interested in any of our planned giving options, we will be pleased to work with you and your advisers to develop a planned gift that best suits your particular needs.

For more information or to discuss your needs in confidence, please contact Christi Smith, Vice President of Resource Development, at 970-304-6185 or christi@unitedway-weld.org

**CORNERSTONE PARTNERS**

Cornerstone Partners donate all or a portion of their corporate donation to help cover 100% of administrative and fundraising costs for the resources under our management. This ensures that your donation goes directly to programs and services that benefit our community.