They say that volunteering is good for the soul. If that’s the case, the Tippetts of Greeley have plenty of soul.

Matt Tippetts and his wife, Megan, say volunteering is so fulfilling for them. Matt, who works as a detention deputy for the Weld County Sheriff’s Office, and Megan, a middle school teacher at University in Greeley, volunteered at United Way of Weld County’s Day of Action in June. Matt and two other deputies from the WCSO helped out in Windsor hauling heavy furniture for a garage sale to benefit a project for the Windsor-Severance Historical Society.

But it wasn’t just Matt and Megan who were sweating in the hot sun that day. No, alongside the Tippetts were their four children – Jacob, 14, Hailey, 13, Bryce, 11, and Caleb, 10. Matt and Megan say they volunteer with their children for many things, and they feel it’s important for their children to give back at an early age.

“It’s really important for kids to see that there are needs outside of their own, and that they can actively take a role in helping someone, even at a young age.” - Megan Tippetts

Matt says this was the first Day of Action he and his family volunteered for, but said the family will probably volunteer again in 2019. “I learned about (Day of Action) through the sheriff’s office. They sent out an email that they needed some people to volunteer,” Matt says. “I just started with the sheriff’s office in April, but that’s one thing that Sheriff (Steve) Reams pushes a lot is being out in the community, being involved, get your hands dirty and help and serve somebody else. He’s about: ‘Let’s get out there and help.’ I have an iPad, an iPhone and a laptop. I enjoy my screens just as much as everybody else, but if people would put down the screens and say, ‘Hey, kids let’s go serve someone else today and that’s how we’re going to bond.’ I think that they would find the benefit so outweighs the sweat.”

Matt says he and Megan were raised to work at a young age. “We had our
Q&A with Board Member Tim Brynteson

Q: How did you become involved with UWWC?
TIM: I became involved through both my in-laws (the Garnseys) and being asked to chair an industry campaign (auto dealerships) back in the 1990s.

Q: Why do you think UWWC is important to Weld County?
TIM: I think UWWC is important because it is the only entity that is really focused on organizing the various social services agencies into effective teams to marshal their resources and attention and work together to most efficiently solve community social challenges and help people. All the agencies are important and are working hard, but they tend to be narrower in their focus.

Q: Why do you feel that it’s important to volunteer your time?
TIM: We have to give back into the people and organizations in our community that provide the infrastructure for our lives. We can’t be isolated from any person or challenge in our community.

Q: What are your goals as a board member?
TIM: Contribute as I can and am needed. I specifically want to focus on issues of aging and the elderly.

Q: What are you passionate about outside of work?
TIM: I love music, playing golf, reading and cooking.

I was born in Minnesota and spent most of my early life in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where I met my wife, a Greeley girl, Jennifer Garnsey at Oral Roberts University. We moved to Boulder in 1988 where I attended law school and I practiced law with the IRS until 1995. We moved to Greeley in 1995 and I managed and became part-owner of Garnsey and Wheeler Ford. We sold the dealership in 2007 and I want into private law practice with Jeff Bedingfield and am now a partner at Otis, Bedingfield & Peters. I currently also serve on the NCMC Foundation Board and have worked with the Community Foundation in Greeley as well as served on the Board of KUNC, northern Colorado’s public radio station.

Are You Going?
United Way of Weld County is holding its annual Community Leaders Breakfast at 7:15 a.m. Oct. 24 at DoubleTree by Hilton Greeley at Lincoln Park. Please join us for breakfast and learn what we’re working on for the upcoming year as we focus on Early Childhood, Youth Development, Household Stability and Seniors/Healthy Aging.


Fun for the whole family. Medals for best time in each age division and best overall team time. Costumes are welcome.

Start with your Live United race shirt, finish with a colorful masterpiece.

More information at www.UnitedWay-Weld.org/colorfun

Thanks to iHeartMedia, Ehrlich Toyota and community members who helped make Jam the Van a success!

Thanks to main sponsor Ehrlich Toyota in Greeley and iHeartMedia 96.1 KISS FM in Loveland for collecting hundreds of backpacks and school supplies during the second annual Jam the Van drive.

Many thanks to Greeley Stampede, Pepsi, Ozzie’s Body Shop in Loveland, Walmart in Loveland, Northern Colorado Mom’s Blog and community members for jamming the van. The backpacks and school supplies will be distributed by UWWC staff to schools in Weld County to ensure that children are equipped with the supplies they need to succeed in school.

United Way of Weld County’s Tom Fasano and iHeartMedia’s Tina Martinez display some of the hundreds of backpacks that were donated during Jam the Van.

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Companies help kick off the UWWC campaign

As we start off our 2018-19 campaign, we need your help. UWWC does not exist without the generosity of our donors.

To donate or volunteer call 970-353-4300 or go to www.UnitedWay-Weld.org.

Learning does not begin when a child starts school. Because children do not come with instructions, all of us need a little guidance on how to support our kids.

Many parents would like assistance in finding resources to help their children with their education and growth. With guidance and support, caregivers can become increasingly involved in home learning activities and find themselves with more and more opportunities to teach and guide their children.

The goal of the roadmap is to connect parents and caregivers with resources for children, prenatal-8 years of age, in Weld County so that all children grow up healthy, active and thriving in school.

The United Way of Weld County’s Roadmap4Kids is available in both English and Spanish. If Spanish websites are not available for a particular resource, then they are connected to the English website.

We encourage you to use this resource for yourself and pass this along to your family and friends.

For more information, contact Sheri Hannah-Ruh at Sheri@UnitedWay-Weld.org or 970-304-6173.
United Way off Weld County is working to change lives right here in Weld County thanks to you

- More than 300 people volunteered and worked on 29 projects at 26 different locations in Greeley, Evans, Windsor, Eaton, Frederick, Galeton and Fort Lupton during UWWC’s two-day annual Day of Action in June 2018.

- Through July 2018, UWWC’s Weld’s Way Home has helped assess the needs of 359 homeless veterans in northern Colorado and housed 252 over the past two years.

- The seventh annual Weld Project Connect in October 2017 served 1,225 guests who were provided more than 70 on-site services that focused on health, community assistance, education, documentation and human services, wellness, veterans and seniors. A total of 375 people volunteered to serve as navigators to assist the guests. Weld Project Connect will be held on Oct. 19.

- Each year, any community wishing to receive federal funding to address homelessness must complete a Point-in-Time (PIT) Count of individuals experiencing homelessness in their jurisdiction. UWWC coordinated 60 volunteers to conduct the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count over two days in January 2018 for Weld County.

- A UWWC Promises for Children’s Best Start for Babies and Toddlers cohort instructed 20 parents over 10 weeks on child development, finding quality child care, car seat safety, nutrition, early literacy, infant CPR and other important information. “I would highly recommend these classes because if you are pregnant or a new mother you learn so many things and it’s a refresher course for parents. It’s excellent!” – Jessica M

- 615 low-income children and youth received UWWC recreation scholarships to help them participate in sports and activities in recreation departments and towns throughout Weld County.

- UWWC’s 2-1-1 Information and Referral Program received 14,552 calls and 2,430 people accessed services in the database website last year requesting information on rent, utility bills, clothing/personal/household, transportation and other needs.

- UWWC has hosted the AmeriCorps VISTA program for 11 years. UWWC placed 22 VISTA members at 15 agencies in 2017-18. A total of 1,458 community volunteers were recruited, 14,039 volunteer hours were logged, $781,324 was raised and $159,544 was raised in in-kind donations.

- UWWC collected 2,825 pairs of socks during its Warm Toes Drive this past winter. The socks were distributed to shelters, organizations and events for people who were in need of warm socks.

- 616 children and their families were helped through a UWWC Promises for Children Bright by Three visit that provided support and information for their health and safety, child care, early brain development and the importance of reading from birth.

- UWWC provided funding and grants to nearly 100 different program services last year as we focus on Early Childhood, Youth Development, Household Stability and Seniors/Healthy Aging.
chores around the house, and when we were both 16 we were taught to go find a job and make some money. We're kind of doing the same thing with our kids,” Matt says. “To be honest with you, it’s also an opportunity for them to learn how to work. That day we were moving stuff in and out for the historical society. For us, we’re going to get dirty. We’re going to get sweaty and we’re going to have a good time doing it. Our kids have done it enough times now that they’re realizing that they’re going to jump in and get it done.”

Another great UWWC volunteering event coming up is Weld Project Connect from noon-4:30 p.m. Oct. 19 at Island Grove Regional Park Events Center in Greeley. WPC is a one-day event that delivers free health and human services to Weld County residents in need. More than 1,200 guests received health screenings, immunizations, legal advice, veterans’ services, behavioral health counseling, employment services and personal care services such as haircuts and flu shots from more than 60 service providers in 2018. For more information and to register to volunteer, go to www.unitedway-weld.org/projectconnect.

Thanks to our donors, housing navigation center to open soon

United Way of Weld County’s Weld’s Way Home will soon be opening the housing navigation center in Evans.

The center, located in the Sunrise Community Health building, 2930 11th Ave., will be a central location for vulnerable households to receive housing assistance in one of the least affordable housing markets in the country.

Brandy Chaparro was recently hired as the UWWC housing navigation center coordinator. Other staff is also being hired. Policy and procedures are being put in place to make the space safe for staff, partner agencies and guests.

A thank you goes out to the Weld RE-4 School District (Windsor-Severance) for donating lockers, Red River Software in Greeley for donating desks, cubicles and office supplies, Platte Valley Medical Center for donating computer monitors, Professional Finance Company for donating computers, Scott Gattis and CorKat Data Solutions for helping set up technology, Sunrise Community Health and the City of Greeley.

Watch for a grand opening announcement coming soon. Long-term volunteers are needed.

For questions or to volunteer, contact Chaparro at (970) 573-6430 or email her at Brandy@unitedway-weld.org.

Thanks to you, Jenny receives much needed resources for her and baby

Jenny, a young single mother, recently called the United Way of Weld County 2-1-1 Information and Referral Program in distress. She is currently living with friends as her family is all out of state. She didn’t have enough money to buy the essentials - food, baby formula, diapers, a car seat. As the 2-1-1 resource navigator listened to the young woman describing her dire situation, it became clear that the woman hadn’t yet applied for benefits for her or her baby. As they continued through the assessment process, other needs were uncovered, all of which the resource navigator was able to provide resources for. Thanks to four different agencies involved in finding the 2-1-1 solution, Jenny got off the phone feeling hopeful and grateful for the resource connections 2-1-1 was able to provide. If you or someone you know needs help,

Call 2-1-1
Search and Live Chat at UnitedWay-Weld.org/211
Text your zip code to 898-211

Please give today! www.UnitedWay-Weld.org
THANKS TO YOU
UNITED WAY IS
WORKING TO
CHANGE LIVES
RIGHT HERE IN
WELD COUNTY

LEAVE YOUR LEGACY

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