

Dear Purdue Colleague,

Purdue University is committed to improving the lives of our students, our faculty and staff, our community and our state. Each fall we join with the United Way of Greater Lafayette in one of our many efforts to make our community a better place for all of us.

United Way is mobilizing our community to improve lives. In addition to funding 23 participating organizations each year, the United Way works collaboratively throughout the community to find new and creative solutions to entrenched challenges. Four key examples stand out:

United Way is working with Greater Lafayette Commerce and our three local public school corporations to place volunteers in kindergarten through third grade classrooms for the Read to Succeed initiative. Their efforts are key to the recruitment, screening and placement of these volunteers.

United Way partnered with IU Health Arnett to provide Kindergarten Countdown Camps for children who had little to no previous pre-school experience. In 2011, 80% of these children showed literacy improvements while gaining social and organizational skills that helped them as kindergarten started. In 2012, the effort has tripled in size and early indications suggest that similar improvements are taking place this summer.

United Way has offered a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program in coordination with a variety of employers, including Purdue University. This tax season, volunteers filed 403 returns, netting their clients \$350,000 in tax refunds while saving them nearly \$30,000 in tax preparation fees.

United Way partnered with the Cities of Lafayette and West Lafayette, Tippecanoe County and Greater Lafayette Commerce for Solutions Beyond Shelter, a vision to end homelessness. Partnering with key organizations to gain insight and develop recommendations, United Way is facilitating interagency coordination and preventing families and individuals from slipping into homelessness.

Purdue is a critical part of the United Way with representation on its Board of Directors, Campaign Cabinet and many of its committees. Notably, Purdue University's is the largest employee campaign in the community.

I invite you to join me in making your gift to the United Way campaign this fall to create lasting change in our community. By working together, we can all make Greater Lafayette an even better place to live, study and work. Hail Purdue!

Sincerely,



Timothy D. Sands  
Acting President