



United Way
of East Central Iowa

WE FIGHT FOR: *Solutions*

From the CEO



Another campaign season is upon us and as we continue to fight for the education, financial stability, and health of everyone in our community, we want to thank you for your loyal support and invite you to join us in the fight again this year. Each year, we are lucky to have dedicated and passionate campaign

chairs. 2018 is no exception. Darrell and Paul Morf, partners at Simmons-Perrine Law Firm, and Andrew Morf, CEO of Acumen are leading the fight during our 2018 Campaign. This family trio has hit the ground running and have set out to exceed last year's total of \$9 million.

Your support has an incredible impact in making our communities in East Central Iowa a better place for everyone. However, to win this fight, we need to get more people involved to address the root causes of issues and help as many people as possible. We hope by sharing our strategies, results, and involvement opportunities we can help you understand your role in the fight. Whether you attend one of our events, donate during your workplace campaign, or volunteer with us, you make a difference. If there is one thing our community has shown, it is when we come together, there is nothing we can't do.

Imagine, all of us pulling in the same direction and finding new solutions to old problems. Consider growing your investment in our community with an increased gift to United Way.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Tim Stiles
President & CEO

Meet the Morfs



United Way Campaign 2018 is here! With chairs Andrew, Darrel, and Paul Morf, we are ready to fight for our community. Read about why they're passionate about United Way and goals they have on our blog at uweci.org/morfs. Here's a sneak peek...

WHAT DO YOU FIGHT FOR?

Paul: I fight for children who don't have the same socioeconomic and family resources that I have been lucky enough to have. I fight so every child can enter kindergarten ready to succeed. I fight so children who experience trauma still have a chance to complete their education and reach their highest potential.

LIST SOMETHING GOOD ABOUT WORKING WITH YOUR CO-CHAIRS.

Andrew: I know them extremely well! This is usually a plus!

HOW DO YOU SEE EAST CENTRAL IOWANS MAKING A DIFFERENCE?

Darrel: I believe East Central Iowans are striving to improve the quality of life for all our residents with a focus on education, health, and well-being of our children.



Women United (formerly WLI)

In late May, Women's Leadership Initiative (WLI) held their annual luncheon at the Cedar Rapids Country Club. At that event, Julie Schneekloth announced exciting news. To align with United Way women's groups across the nation, Women's Leadership Initiative will become Women United.

Read about the impact of this group in the Women United FY18 Annual Report, available at uweci.org/women.



Young Leaders Society

In August, Young Leaders Society launched BOLD (Board Orientation and Leadership Development). This series features 90-minute workshops over the course of seven months to educate emerging leaders on the skills and responsibilities needed to serve on a board or committee. The series culminates with a graduation and pairing event in April 2019. At the pairing, BOLD graduates will be matched with a board or committee based on their skills and passions. Stay tuned for updates on BOLD's inaugural year.

See how YLS is forwarding its mission by reading the YLS FY18 Annual Report at uweci.org/yls.



Mental Health Report

Just as people experience a cold or the flu, the existence of occasional mild depression or anxiety is a normal part of being human. Physical health is a continuum, and so is mental health. Experts on the UWECI's Community Building team researched and analyzed the state of mental health was in our community. For example, in 2016, of the 6,786 Linn County students who responded to the Iowa Youth Survey:

- 12% take prescribed medication to help them not feel angry, anxious, restless, nervous, or sad.
- 17% felt hopelessness in the past
- 13% had thoughts of suicide; 8% had made a plan and 4% reported having tried to kill themselves.
- 15% have someone in the home with a alcohol or drug problem.

To read more on the state of mental health, visit uweci.org/reports.



2018 So Far...

April 27: Time for Art:

A Celebration of Volunteers

Raised 5,220 volunteer hours worth \$128,882

May 10: Day of Caring

1,400 employees from 60 companies participated in 140 projects

August 2: Women United

Power of the Purse

Raised \$17,000+

August 10: Sweeping for Change

Raised \$6,300 from 10 curling teams