

UWECI Donor & Campaign Testimonials

Testimonial #1 – Nick Nielsen [Download image here.](#)

Since 2009, Nick Nielsen has been a strong supporter of United Way of East Central Iowa. From being involved with Emerging Leaders United (formerly Young Leaders Society) in the past to serving as a leader on the Board of Directors and Campaign Cabinet today, he describes his involvement with our organization as “rewarding and impactful.”

When asked about what makes UWECI a unique nonprofit organization and why he gets involved, Nick says, “I choose to support United Way because they are a leader in the community. UWECI works hard to understand the immediate and long-term needs of our community, and they’ve provided leadership, support, and guidance when needed. In times of need, you can count on UWECI to step up to the challenge and serve our people.”

Nick and his wife, Wendy, are active UWECI supporters. As Sinclair Society members, they believe in the power of giving back to the community.

Join Nick in supporting UWECI by giving online at uweci.org/donate or giving through your workplace campaign.

Testimonial #2 – Erica Bergfeld-Reed [Download image here.](#)

When Erica Bergfeld-Reed was 38 years old, the unthinkable happened – a breast cancer diagnosis. Her diagnosis led to 30 rounds of chemo, 28 rounds of radiation, and eight surgeries. Erica knows from her personal experience just how important access to healthcare is when faced with an overwhelming diagnosis.

Now, Erica has overcome her diagnosis and is in remission. She is a tremendous supporter of United Way of East Central Iowa. Erica is a Women United member, serving on the Steering Committee and knows the importance of the affinity group’s work in giving women access to healthcare when they need it most. She also serves as one of the workplace campaign coordinators for UFG Insurance.

“The work that Women United does helps to take that difficult decision off the table for these women so they can, like I was able to, focus on treatment and live their best life after a diagnosis.”

Women United works with four partner agencies to improve women’s access to healthcare: Area Substance Abuse Council (ASAC), Community Health Free Clinic, Eastern Iowa Health Center, and Hawkeye Area Community Action Program (HACAP).



Since 2006, Women United has contributed more than \$3.4 million and also helped impact the lives of 3,299 women last year.

If you're interested in joining Women United, consider designating your gift of \$500 or more to the Women United Fund. Join Erica and Women United in continuing to change lives and bring hope to those who need it most.

Make your gift online at uweci.org/donate or give through your workplace campaign.

Testimonial #3 – Judie Gofton [Download image here.](#)

Judie Gofton has been a Loaned Executive from Quaker Oats for the past three years. In her role as a Loaned Executive, Judie connects with local workplaces regarding employee giving campaigns. This allows workplaces to receive a personalized approach to setting up and running a workplace campaign, while also being connected to UWECI's organization.

Throughout her time with UWECI during campaign season, Judie has seen improvements in her computer skills, organization, public relations, leadership, and networking skills.

"I can't begin to express how much I have grown and learned about our community during this experience. UWECI does so much more than fundraise for the community. Although fundraising is an integral part in helping our community, UWECI also researches what the greatest needs are for individuals in our five-county area. I've had the opportunity to learn from many agency partners and how they work together as a unit. A huge thank you goes to Quaker Oats and UWECI for their partnership and this wonderful opportunity I have been given."