## September 24 2018

Press Release-Request for Immediate Release United Way of Susquehanna County Contact: Kim Merithew, Director of Corporate and Community Giving 693 Main St., Suite 3 New Milford, PA 18834 570-465-3868

## United Way of Susquehanna County Hosts Campaign Kick Off-Raise the Bar Celebrity Bartender Event

On a beautiful fall evening, United Way of Susquehanna County (UWSC) kicked off its annual campaign on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at Chet's Place with its Raise the Bar celebrity bartender event. Our hosts, Jean and Mark and their staff put on a wonderful event and our celebrity bartenders did an outstanding job serving up fun and signature drinks to the many who turned out to support UWSC.

Congratulations to Gail George, Liberty Carpet, the winner of this year's celebrity bartender competition.



Many thanks to all of our fantastic celebrity bartenders, Gail George, Liberty Carpet; Jim Hartman, Hartman Farm; Staci Wilson, Susquehanna County *Independent and Weekender*; Kim Smith, NBT Bank; Kyle Herbert, New Milford Hardware; and Mike Lopatofsky, Lopatofsky Auction, LLC. Special thanks to staff bartender Cassidy Robinson for helping our bartenders out!



(left to right: Kim Smith, Jim Hartman, Gail George, Staci Wilson, Cassidy Robinson, Kyle Herbert and Mike Lopatofsky)

Guests enjoyed entertainment kindly provided by Erich & Tyler Music Co. Special thanks to PA State Representative Jonathan Fritz for coming to support our event. It was a great night and thanks to all who attended.

By supporting UWSC you are getting behind its work of *Helping Children Do Well* offering children and their families residing in Susquehanna County programs that provide an upward trajectory toward a better life with a focus on:

## Academic Readiness/Mentorship/Childhood Wellness/Family Development and Stability

In addition, UWSC funds Safety Net services that assist families who are facing an immediate threat to their safety and well-being. This work would not be possible without the continued support of the community and many volunteers who compassionately serve.

Support for UWSC also helps fund the following programs:

- 2-1-1 Helpline
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- Real Men Read- Early Learning MENtor Program
- PA Pre-K Counts Literacy Kits
- Nurse's Pantry
- Little Free Library
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program
- FamilyWize Prescription Discount Drug Card

Hundreds of county residents were connected via 2-1-1 to agencies that provided assistance for such serious matters as recovery from the aftermath of recent flooding, abuse, hunger, neglect, homelessness, suicide prevention and mental health emergencies.

With your generous support, we know we are making a positive, lifelong difference in the lives of children and their families.

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