

Press Release-For Immediate Release

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Submitted by Robin Cobb-Director of Operations  
United Way of Susquehanna County  
693 Main St. – Suite 3  
New Milford, PA 18834  
Phone: 570-465-3868

#### United Way of Susquehanna County (UWSC) Recognizes Community Volunteers

In honor of National Volunteer week, on Thursday, April 4th, 2019, UWSC recognized and offered heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers that contribute time, talent and financial support to UWSC and the partner agencies and programs it funds to help children do well. The event was hosted at the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center (SCCTC) with the talented culinary students working under the direction of Mr. David Dunster and Ms. Jill Wiedmaier preparing a delightful lunch.

Members of the UWSC Advisory Committee, Allocation Committee, Campaign Media and Chairperson were honored for their service in guiding the organization in its mission and making the important decisions of where generous donor dollars should be invested. Community volunteers include: Joel Levy, Kim Smith, Tammy Bonnie, Tom Chamberlain, Dr. Alice Davis, Terri Allen, Rich Mackey, Jamie Orlandini, Cassidy Robinson, Ruth Burke, Byron Sands and Staci Wilson.

Campaign Chair, Staci Wilson, Susquehanna County Independent and Weekender had this to say, “Thank you to the many volunteers and community leaders for being part of the change in our community. Your service allows us to inspire hope for a better tomorrow.”

Kim Merithew, Director of Corporate and Community Giving also recognized UWSC’s community partners who participated in the Raise the Bar campaign kickoff event including: Gail George, Kim Smith, Staci Wilson, Kyle Herbert, Jim Hartman, Michael Lopatofsky.

Additionally, UWSC recognized Real Men Read mentors and assistants for volunteering their time to read to the kindergarten students at Elk Lake School and Blue Ridge School. Thanks to donor support and being awarded grant monies from local service groups, UWSC is working to expand the program to all 6 districts in Susquehanna County. Real Men Read will be launched at Montrose School and Mountain View School in the fall. Our thanks to the follow Real Men Read mentors and assistants:

Terri Allen  
Cpl. Jeffrey Burman  
Tom Chamberlain  
Tpr. Brandon Cortazar  
Sue DiCola  
Stephen English  
Sgt. Michael Joyce  
Brian Lione  
Richard Mackey  
Brian Manzer  
Zachary Morahan  
Timothy Oakley  
Jamie Orlandini  
David Palmer  
R. Bryce Powers III  
Tony Price  
Megan Shupp  
Doug Sivers  
Kim Smith

Tpr. Timothy Walker  
Robert Welch

Principal Weisgold from Elk Lake and Principal Decker from Blue Ridge School shared their thanks to United Way and the Real Men Read mentors for reading a high quality book each month and providing each child a copy to keep to add to his or her home library. Each month, the kids are so excited to see the reader return said, Weisgold, with one child asking on a regular basis, “when are those tough guys coming back to read to us?”

Additionally, thanks were extended to our volunteer partners at United Way of Lackawanna and Wayne Counties for working with UWSC to provide free income tax assistance through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program to income eligible residents.

If you would like to volunteer or get involved in the work UWSC is doing please contact UWSC at 570-465-3868 or visit us on Facebook or our website [unitedwayofsusquehannacounty.org](http://unitedwayofsusquehannacounty.org).