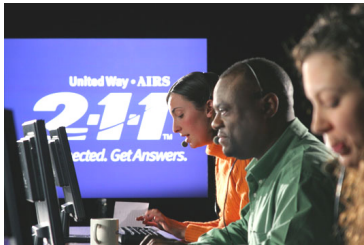


LIVE UNITED



What it means in the Lakes Region

**LIVE UNITED starts with recognizing that we're all in this together.
And then acting on that knowledge.**



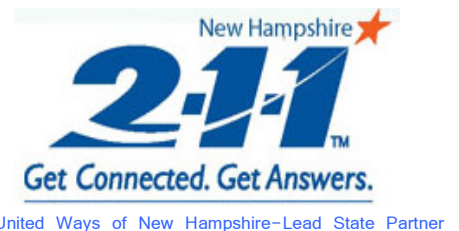
211 is a statewide United Way supported information and referral system. It is staffed 24/7 and as a call manager, I primarily provide basic contact information and service descriptions. However, sometimes the need is so overpowering, we just need to respond and go above and beyond to be helpful.

Kathy had reached the point of desperation. Her husband had a large tumor (most likely cancerous) and local doctors recommended he be seen by specialists in Massachusetts who were better equipped to diagnose his situation. Transportation was the hurdle. Kathy had a vehicle, but it was in need of major repair (which they could not afford) and she doubted the vehicle would survive the trip. In addition, her 47 year old husband, who is totally disabled, suffers from grand mal seizures and she would be unable to attend to him while she was driving.

By the time Kathy called 2-1-1, she was very stressed out and had already spoken to/exhausted local resources that provide rides and assistance with medical appointments.

Realizing how overwhelmed she was, I offered to call the American Cancer Society's *Ride to Recovery Program* on her behalf. I spoke to a friendly representative who said, even though the tumor had not yet been diagnosed as cancerous, the client should call them directly to see if their network of drivers could help. I called Kathy back to let her know and she thanked me.

I spoke to Kathy again a couple of days later and she shared a very positive outcome as the American Cancer Society was taking care of their current transportation needs. I was pleased to have been able to make a difference at a critical time in someone's life.



**At United Way we embrace the idea that no man is an island —
we all depend on each other.**

“Reach out a hand to one, and influence the condition of all.”
To learn more, or to show your support, visit www.LRUW.org

