



ADVANCING THE COMMON GOOD

BY FOCUSING ON THE

BUILDING BLOCKS FOR A BETTER LIFE

United Way recruits people and organizations from all across the community who bring the passion, expertise and resources needed to get things done.

As an early childhood educator and single mother, I struggle with how to be a responsible member of the community and still provide for my 2 children. I value the experiences that the early education field offers my children and I enjoy the daily responsibilities that come with my profession. In February 2010 while expecting my second child, I learned the State of NH put a waitlist into effect and my baby would not be able to access Child Care Scholarship funding. I didn't feel that quitting my job to stay home was the best choice for me or my children; I needed to find a way to keep my children in care and maintain my employment. I had to swallow my pride and start asking what resources I could access until my son was released from the waitlist.

Local community organizations came together and provided me and others with additional support to get us through. This helped to ease the burden of additional stress and increased financial obligations. I got assistance for almost a year until taken off the state waitlist. I know that my boys are receiving an education that fosters cognitive development, social skills, positive approaches to learning, and allows me and my boys to develop relationships that I might not be able to provide otherwise.



I was able to keep my job and continue to give back. I volunteer for Lakes Region United Way functions and events like the Day of Caring and Meadowbrook 50/50 raffles, and donate to our community through payroll deductions. I also serve on the Family Violence Prevention Committee. With tuition assistance from the Child Development Bureau and my employer, I was also able to take a college course related to my field of work, which gave me the opportunity to move up in my career to center director. Things are looking up despite the tough economy.

My hard work and dedication was important in this change, but I would not have been able to accomplish all of this without the support of organizations working together for changes that improve the future of our community.

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

