

Green Mountain United Way

We fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in every community.



www.gmunitedway.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Linda Winter, President
Vermont Humanities Council

Stacy Pinarci, Treasurer
Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center

Ruth Greene, Secretary
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont

Carol Ellison
Retired, Heney Realty

Teija Huttunen-Green
Vermont Land Trust

Jenny Hyslop
Vermont Housing & Conservation Board

Margaret Pinello-White
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont

James Stewart
Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation

Richard Theken
Retired, Central Vermont Medical Center

Carissa Tomczyk
Norwich University

Dan Willis
Edward Jones

Tawnya Kristen, Executive Director

Central Office
73 Main Street #33
Montpelier, VT 05602

[DATE], 2017

Dear [FIRST NAME],

Imagine your child comes home with news – news you didn't expect and aren't prepared for. **Because sometimes life throws you a curve ball.**

You can imagine how Anna* felt when her daughter told her the news: she was going to be a grandmother – **Anna's daughter was pregnant.**

But the joy and excitement that many new grandmothers feel was not what Anna felt. Anna felt fear, apprehension, and worry. How was her daughter going to do this?

You see, Anna's daughter was just 19. **She was homeless** - sleeping on Anna's sofa or in a friend's spare room. **She had no job and no car.** And now she had a baby on the way.

Anna was her daughter's only support system and she worked hard at her full-time job five days a week. Like many of us, her job is over an hour away from her rural Vermont home. **How could she continue to go to work every day, stay focused and productive, all while trying to help her daughter find a job, a home, and get the prenatal care she needed?**

The next week at work, Anna saw Pam, the Working Bridges Resource Coordinator. The Working Bridges program at Anna's employer is run by Green Mountain United Way and brings human services support to employees – with the help and generosity of donors like you, we **UNITE** community services and the working Vermonters who need a little extra help to get by. **Anna knew about the Working Bridges program but had never thought she would need to use it, until now.**

Like many of us, Anna had never found it easy to ask for help. But she knew that in order to help her daughter, she had to keep her job, which meant staying focused at work. Concern and anxiety were making it tough, and she worried that her home life might be impacting her productivity at work. **Maybe Pam and Working Bridges could help?**

Anna trusted her instinct as a mother and reached out to Pam for help. Pam agreed that Working Bridges could help her daughter get the support she needed to get her life back on track. **You can imagine the joy and relief that Anna felt knowing that there was someone who could help her and her daughter figure out what to do next!**

And you can help, too. With a gift to Green Mountain United Way, you support your local community and leverage existing services so your neighbors can get the help they need to improve their lives. **Can you help people like Anna and her daughter get the help they need with a gift today?**

Pam met with Anna and her daughter to create a plan to get her daughter the prenatal care she needed. Her daughter was scared and had not seen a doctor

....Continue reading on the next page

LIVE UNITED

YES! I want to help people in my community!

Thank you for this information about how Green Mountain United Way is helping in my community. I have enclosed my gift of:

[FIRST NAME] [LAST NAME]
ADDRESS 1
CITY, STATE, ZIP

Please fill out the form on the reverse side with all of your Gift Information.

GREEN MOUNTAIN UNITED WAY
73 MAIN STREET #33
MONTPELIER, VT 05602

- \$25 helps one family get an hour of financial coaching** with a United Way trained coach to improve their financial stability.
- \$50 provides resources for people just like Anna** through our Working Bridges program.
- \$100 fills four children's backpacks** with comforting items to ease the transition as they enter into emergency foster care and a new home.
- \$250 trains two new financial coaches** through our K.E.E.P. financial coaching program.
- \$500 sends 50 volunteers into the community** to work on projects at local nonprofit organizations.
- I want to make a gift every month!** (see reverse)

yet because she didn't know how she would pay for her care. Pam worked with Anna's daughter and Green Mountain United Way's partner agencies to figure out the best options to help her find housing. Anna's daughter worked with Pam to understand what job resources were available in her area and what she needed to do next to find a job. Pam and Anna's daughter then began planning how she could get from her apartment to work and to her medical appointments – **all while Anna was at work, focused on her job!**

The pressure lifted. Anna could stay on the job, keep her attention on her work, and her daughter could get the help she needed.

Today, thanks to donors like you supporting Green Mountain United Way's programs and partners in our region, **Anna's daughter has a job.** She has **the prenatal care she needs** to have a healthy pregnancy and a healthy baby. **She has her own apartment.** She is facing motherhood and adulthood head-on. She has a plan for her future and is working toward being a thriving young adult and a good mom for her baby.

And Anna is at work - focused, productive, and excited to be a grandmother, in spite of the early obstacles her daughter faced. All because of the support of community members like you and because she trusted Green Mountain United Way to help her navigate when life threw her a curve ball.

Anna's story is not unusual. Parents who want the best for their children, but don't know how to help in a tough situation. Communities who want the best for the people who live and work hard here in Central and Northern Vermont, but aren't sure how to use their limited resources.

That's why we need you – your community needs you. Will you consider becoming a champion for your community by making a gift to Green Mountain United Way? Our community needs compassionate people like you to generously support the work that Green Mountain United Way is doing in the areas of education, health, and financial stability. You are key to the success of the work being done in every community – **we cannot do this important work without your help.**

There are so many ways to help your community with just one gift - you aren't just giving, you are leveraging the support of a **UNITED** group of your neighbors to make our community a better place to live and ensuring that there is someone there when our neighbors need help, and that help is there if you ever need it.

- A gift of **\$25 helps one family get an hour of financial coaching** with a United Way trained coach to help them set goals, budgets and plans to live within their means
- **\$50 will help provide resources for people just like Anna** through our Working Bridges program,
- **\$100 will give backpacks filled with comforting items to four children transitioning into emergency foster care** helping them to ease the transition into their new family.

Please consider contributing to Green Mountain United Way and know how honored we are when you choose to make a gift to help people in **your own local community** by giving to Green Mountain United Way. When you care, that caring extends to your entire community as we fight for the education, health and financial stability of every person in Caledonia, Orange, Orleans, Essex, and Washington counties.

In Gratitude,



Tawnya Kristen, *Executive Director*
Green Mountain United Way

My Gift Information

I would like to make a gift in the amount of \$ _____

Monthly One Time



My check is enclosed (*Thank you, 100% of your gift will benefit our work, a percentage of every credit card gift is lost to fees*)

Please charge my credit card: Master Card Visa Discover

Email me:

- About Volunteer Opportunities
- The monthly e-newsletter
- About including Green Mountain United Way in my will

_____ *email address*

Card Number

Security Code

Expiration Date

Name on Card

Phone Number (*in case we have questions*)

Signature

- My company offers matching gifts, form enclosed.
- I do not wish to receive a Thank You.
- I wish to remain anonymous.

Or make your secure gift online now at www.gmunityedway.org/donate

I would like to designate my gift to the areas I care about most: Education Health Financial Stability Community Caring

You may choose to designate your gift to another 501(c)3 nonprofit. (*Admin fees will be deducted from designated donations.*)

Organization Name & Mailing Address: _____

Green Mountain United Way will never trade, sell or rent our mailing or email lists. Donors at the Leadership level of \$500 or more are listed in our annual report unless you request to remain anonymous. Your gift is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. We will send you a receipt for your records.