



INSIDE:

- Ribbon Cutting Event and Photos
- Hispanic Heritage Event
- VITA Spotlight
- Job Opportunities
- NJ League of Municipalities
- NJ NonprofitsConference
- Annual Report
- Save the Date:
 - United In Impact
 Awards 2025
 - Strike Out Hunger

UWGMC Hosts Ribbon Cutting and Networking Event

On Wednesday, November 13, 2024, United Way of Greater Mercer County (UWGMC) marked an exciting new chapter with the Ribbon Cutting celebration of our newly designed space! The event was a joyous occasion filled with community spirit and collaboration, highlighting our commitment to serving Mercer County with innovation and heart.

Following the ceremony, UWGMC proudly hosted the Princeton Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce for their Business After Business networking event. Attendees enjoyed a lively evening of connection and camaraderie, building new relationships and rekindling old ones.

This event would not have been possible without the exceptional support and partnership of our collaborators. A special thank you goes to the Princeton Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce and their dedicated staff for helping to make this event truly remarkable and to Northfield Bank for underwriting the food and refreshments.

We also extend our deepest gratitude to the talented vendors who brought this celebration to life with their professionalism and attention to detail:

- K's Event Decorations and Rentals for the stunning event decor. Visit their site to explore their services: kseventdecorations.net.
- Tim Sexton Photography for capturing every memorable moment with elegance. Discover their exceptional work here: <u>timsexton.com</u>.
- Your Town Tube for creating a captivating video that highlights the day's festivities. Watch the video in its entirety: YourTownTube.com.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who joined us in celebrating this milestone and look forward to continuing our mission to improve lives and strengthen our community. Stay tuned for more events and opportunities to connect as we embark on this exciting journey together!

TO SEE VIDEO IN ITS ENTIRETY:

HTTPS://WWW.YOURTOWNTUBE.COM/VIDEO/17064/PRINCETON-CHAMBER-UNITED-WAY-MERCER-RIBBON-CUTTING-VIDEO-BY-YOURTOWNTUBE

** EVENT PHOTOS **

























Celebrating Hispanic Heritage and Strengthening Community Connections

On October 29, 2024, the United Way of Greater Mercer County (UWGMC) hosted a dynamic Hispanic Heritage Celebration and Networking Event in Trenton, NJ. The gathering brought together community leaders, organizations, and government officials to honor the contributions of the Hispanic/Latino community and foster connections and advance shared goals in youth success, financial stability, healthy communities, and resilience.

Speakers included Rita Ribeiro, Immediate Past Board Chair, who highlighted the value of cultural heritage; Sandra Toussaint, President and CEO, emphasizing UWGMC's mission to support all of Mercer County including it's 19.2% Hispanic/Latino population; and Pilar Castro-Kiltz, Board Member, who underscored the power of collaboration and partnerships.in creating a thriving, inclusive community. Distinguished guests such as Mayor Reed Gusciora of Trenton and Mayor Patricia Hendricks Farmer of Lawrence Township, and Mercer County Deputy Administrator Ana Montero. underscored the event's impact.

UWGMC remains committed to building strong partnerships for a thriving, inclusive future. Stay connected for more impactful events and initiatives.

UWGMC extends its gratitude to Princeton Hydro for providing the venue for this inspiring evening.



** Programmatic Highlights **

VITA - VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE - 2024



UWGMC-certified tax volunteers successfully filed nearly 2,100 tax returns for individuals and families in Mercer County during the 2023 tax season, which concluded in November.

Total refunds amounting to nearly \$575,000 were distributed through the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), providing crucial support for many within the community.



For over a decade, the UWGMC VITA service has been free of charge and established itself as a reliable and trusted resource for tax preparation.

THERE IS STILL AN OPPORTUNITY TO VOLUNTEER AND JOIN THE TAX PREP TEAM -FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT UWGMC.ORG/TAXVOLUNTEER

Join Our Team: Make a Difference in Mercer County!

Are you passionate about creating positive change in your community? United Way of Greater Mercer County is looking for dedicated individuals to join our team. We have exciting job opportunities for those who want to make an impact in the lives of Mercer County residents. As part of our team, you'll work alongside people who share your commitment to improving lives and strengthening our community.

If you're ready to take the next step in your career and be part of something meaningful, we encourage you to apply today. Together, we can make Mercer County an even better place to live, work, and thrive.

- VITA Tax Program Coordinator
- Bilingual-Spanish Resource Specialist

TO LEARN MORE OR APPLY, VISIT
UWGMC.ORG/CAREERS

Building Connections for a Thriving Mercer County

United Way of Greater Mercer County's Board and Staff were proud to represent our organization at this year's NJ League of Municipalities conference in Atlantic City. This annual event brought together community leaders, business professionals, and elected officials from across New Jersey, including many from our own Mercer County.

The conference was an excellent opportunity to highlight United Way's mission and share our commitment to empowering individuals and strengthening communities. We were delighted to reconnect with familiar faces and equally excited to meet new allies who share our vision for a thriving Mercer County.

By engaging with decision-makers and influencers, we laid the groundwork for partnerships that have the potential to create real, lasting impact. From collaborative initiatives to innovative solutions, the conversations we had will undoubtedly help shape the future of our community.

As we reflect on the connections made and the energy shared during this event, we're filled with optimism. Together, we can address critical needs, foster growth, and help every individual in

Mercer County achieve their fullest potential. Here's to the partnerships forged and the opportunities ahead!

Stay tuned as we continue working to make Mercer County a place where everyone can thrive.



Members of NJ Assembly Freshman Class



UWGMC Board Member Assemblywoman Verlina Revnolds Jackson



East Windsor Mayor Janice Mironov and Board Chair Erin Klebaur



Melissa Acree, CEO NJ211

Stay Connected

GET TO KNOW US BETTER







@uwgreatermercer



UWGMC Sponsors 2024 NJ Nonprofits Conference

On December 4, 2024, the United Way of Greater Mercer County proudly sponsored scholarships for Mercer County nonprofits to attend the 2024...." 2024 NJ Nonprofits Conference: The Road Ahead—an inspiring full-day event that brought together nonprofit leaders, professionals, and advocates from across New Jersey.

The conference offered an enriching experience for staff, board members, and attendees alike, providing: Networking Opportunities, Dynamic Breakout Sessions, Creative Collaboration, Philanthropic Trends and Resilience: Exhibitor Engagement.



This annual gathering exemplified the collaborative spirit and resilience of New Jersey's nonprofit sector. Participants left with countless ideas, new connections, and renewed energy to drive their missions forward.

United Way of Greater Mercer County is proud to support events like this that empower the nonprofit community and advance meaningful change in our region. Together, we're charting the road ahead to a brighter future!

Celebrating Impact: Our Annual Report to the Community





FOR A COPY OF OUR
ANNUAL REPORT VISIT
UWGMG.ORG/FINANCIALS
-REPORTS

We are thrilled to present our Annual "Report to the Community" for Fiscal Year 2022-2023! This report is more than just numbers—it's a celebration of the collective efforts that have fueled positive change in Greater Mercer County.

Inside, you'll find inspiring numbers of lives transformed, as well as a transparent overview of our financial stewardship. The report details how your support has been channeled into impactful programs, highlights the generosity of our corporate and individual donors, and recognizes the invaluable contributions of our community partners.

From expanding educational opportunities to ensuring food security and improving access to critical resources, the past year has been one of collaboration and progress. These accomplishments are a testament to what we can achieve together.

We invite you to explore the full report to see the impact you've made possible. Visit <u>uwgmc.org/financials-reports</u> to read the report and celebrate the power of partnership in building a brighter future. Thank you for being an integral part of our mission. Here's to continuing this journey together!



** UPCOMING EVENTS **



FOR SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE AND TICKET INFORMATION WWW.UWGMC.ORG/UNITEDIMPACTAWARDS



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE

<u>WWW.UWGMC.ORG/SOH</u>



Join the UWGMC Leaders Circle

United Way of Greater Mercer County Leaders Circle, a network of like-minded individuals who contribute \$500-\$9,999+ annually, is committed to strengthening our community and sharing a vision for advancing the common good in Mercer County.

By bringing together people with passion, expertise, and resources, we can address the complex social issues affecting our community's economic vitality and quality of life.

With your help, we continue working tirelessly to alleviate our neighbors' growing challenges. Your support will guarantee that hundreds will continue to benefit from our initiatives, ensuring children and families in need have their basic needs met and additional resources to thrive.

Together, we can create real change and improve people's lives, now and into the future.



Visionary Circle: \$5,000-\$9,999 Gateway Circle: \$2,500-\$4,999 Pacesetter Circle: \$1,000-\$2,499 Neighbor Society: \$500 - \$999

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND
BENEFITS OF GIVING
WWW.UWGMC.ORG/LEADERSCIRCLE



3444 Quakerbridge Road, Building 3, Suite 101, Hamilton, NJ 08619

To continue making a difference in the lives of people in Mercer County, consider a donation today.

For Secure online Credit Card

Donations go to

www.uwgmc.org/EOY2024appeal

or scan QR Code



DONATE HERE