






“Service Above Self” Muskegon Rotary in Motion

<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>



Ginny Sprague, President
Tim Arter, President-Elect
Dave Alexander, President Nominee
Jane Clingman-Scott, Past President
Kristi Nagengast, Treasurer
Don Hutchins, Secretary
Kim Boersema, Club Coordinator



Muskegon Rotary Club

Club 16 (2809) – District 6290, Chartered May 1, 1916

Next Mtg—Sept 7, 2023, 12-1:30pm

The Lake House

ReWine Sat Club—Next mtg 9/23 5:15 pm

Walkers (in the Delta)



Aaron Maike, Director
Roger Morgenstern, Director
David Ramos, Director
Asaline Scott, Director
Marty Sytsema, Director
Brandon Turnbull, Director
Roger Morgenstern, RIM Photographer
Kathy Moore, RIM Reporter
Lori Weiler, RIM Editor



THE FOUR WAY TEST THAT ROTARIANS USE IN MAKING ETHICAL DECISIONS:

Is it the **truth**? Is it **fair** to all concerned? Will it build **goodwill** and better **friendships**? Will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?

Next Meeting (9/7/23) — Mission for Area People

“This is it: the absolute edge of no return: to turn back now and make home or sail irrevocably on and either find land or plunge over the world's roaring rim” - William Faulkner

MEETER - GREETER

Doug Brown & Joan Smith

Upcoming & Recent Birthdays

Ryan Sterkenburg	Sep 8
Jonathan Wilson	Sep 9
Belinda Barbier	Sep 13
Jeff Lewis	Sep 17
Justin Kitchka	Sep 18
Todd Rexford	Sep 19
Nicolas Morano	Sep 21

[Caring Connections Fund](#)

(Remember to donate \$10 on your birthday for this great cause!)

PROGRAMS / EVENTS

Aug 31 United Way of the Lakeshore
 Sep 7 Musk County Medical Take-Back
 Sep 14 Mission for Area People
 Sep 21 Rotary Peace Building Committee

Muskegon Rotary Board

Ginny Sprague	Aaron Maike
Tim Arter	Roger Morgenstern
Dave Alexander	David Ramos
Jane Clingman-Scott	Asaline Scott
Kristi Nagengast	Marty Sytsema
Don Hutchins	Brandon Turnbull

Please email Club Board

Members through this [link](#):

To watch the entire 8/31/23 meeting, click the link [here](#).

VISITORS & GUESTS



Jamie Hekker introduces our newest "inbound" exchange student Andres Amaya Uribe, from Columbia. In great English, he introduced himself to the Club and said he is attending Mona Shores High School.



J.J. Lewis introduces several guests who assisted with the program's presentation about United Way of the Lakeshore. From left, Kim Suarez, Jocelyn Hines, Pat Shafer and Jack Russell.



Matt Farrar introduces his guests, from left, Greg Borgman and Rich Francisco.



Carim Calkins and his guest, potential member Waler Mrotz.



Andrea Riegler introduces her guest and co-worker, Carrie Rivette.



School's in session and that means a return of student guests! **Marty Sytsema** introduces, from Muskegon Catholic Central, from left, seniors C.C. Cone, Croix Klint and assistant principal Erin Johnson.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM: United Way of the Lakeshore

RIM Reporter: **Kathy Moore**

Introduced by: **J.J. Lewis**

Speakers: Pat Shafer, Erin Kuhn, John Selmon, Kathy Moore, Kim Suarez, Jack Russell, Jocelyn Hines



J.J. Lewis, United Way's Chief Development Officer commented that this will be a "lively

presentation" as he introduced Pat Shafer, United Way board member and community activist, as the program moderator. He named the four panelists (all United Way Board members) and recognized **Christine Robere**, United Way President/CEO and **Dominique Bunker**, Community Solutions Director in the audience.



Pat Shafer stepped to the podium and reviewed the agency's mission statement: "Uniting to

inspire change and build thriving communities" – and bold goal:

"10,000 more working families meet their basic needs by 2025".

Then introduced the audience to A.L.I.C.E. = Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed and noted that the ALICE threshold is the average income needed for a family to afford their basic needs. In 2021, 42% of Muskegon households, 43% of Oceana households, and 44% of Newaygo households were living below the ALICE threshold. Next Pat Shafer asked each of the program panelists to talk about some of the data that was shared and possible solutions discussed/suggested at the Board's strategic planning retreat.



Erin Kuhn spoke on "Fostering Childhood Success" and noted that the data showed 70% of children

between the ages of 0 and 3 years are taking advantage of local WIC resources and benefits, compared to 50% at the state level. This is actually a positive statistic in terms of accessing programs that promote childhood success. However, we still have a lot of work to do to reach proficiency reading levels by third grade. Related opportunities include working with parents to understand the importance of literacy and recruiting volunteers to help children learn to read.



Dr. John Selmon highlighted data and suggestions for "Encouraging Youth Success". He commented

that the group saw improvements in high school graduation rates and decreases in drop-out rates; but noted gaps in partnerships for wrap-



around support services. The suggestion was for United Way and community supporters to get more involved with convening courageous conversations around best practices.



Kathy Moore spoke on behalf of the "Strengthening Economic Mobility" group and commented that it was not

a surprise to learn that COVID19 negatively impacted economic mobility; housing is a key economic driver; and this community, like most others, are experiencing workforce challenges. She complimented United Way for their work with community partners in supporting housing program initiatives. She noted that priorities moving forward should include pro-active verses re-active programs; and identifying metrics to monitor, track and measure our collective impact.



Kim Suarez explained that her group experienced several "Aha!" moments. First, they recognized the need to re-title the impact pillar from "Access to Health" to "Healthy Families" which more accurately described what they are trying to achieve. Second,

COVID19 negatively impacted many community health metrics, such as immunization rates. The third “Aha” was that there were improvements in some areas, for example birth weights, but we still have a lot of work to do – particularly in chronic disease and lowering the incidence and complications of diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and obesity. Kim shared ideas and discussion among her team to accelerate the pace of change. The team felt that we need hold ourselves accountable for “measurements” and partner in a way to cascade those measurements across different areas. Acknowledging that this is hard work, the team felt that we need new partners and new partnerships. And finally, being very deliberate and disciplined about aligning our funding with the goals.



Next, we watched an awesome video that featured several prominent community members who invited everyone (you) to join us (United Way) in this noble cause. United Way's 2024 Campaign Chair, Jack Russell came up front to announce a few details of the exciting year ahead. He told us that we set an ambitious budget/fundraising goal based on the need in the community rather than picking an arbitrary number. He asked Rotarians and guests to “Do something to make a difference...give, advocate, or volunteer!”



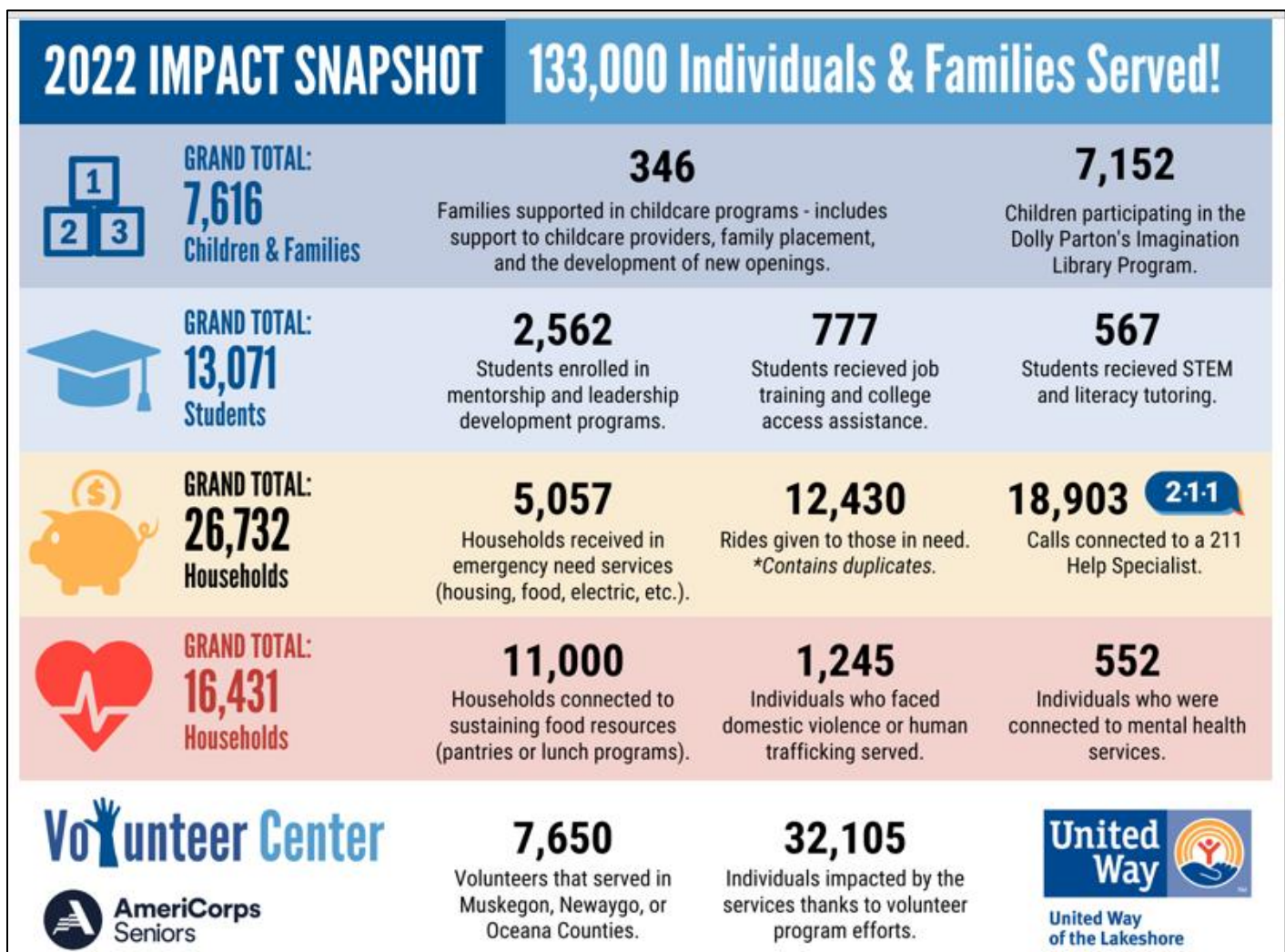
Jack introduced Jocelyn Hines, United Way board member, who enthusiastically announced United Way's

biggest volunteer event of the year...the 29th annual Day of Caring and invited every to volunteer their time and services.

For more information, visit United Way's website at <https://www.unitedwaylakeshore.org/>

Day of Caring Dates:

- Muskegon County - September 8
- Newaygo County - September 15
- Oceana County - September 9



Paul Harris Fellow: Kathy Moore

Contributed by Roger Morgenstern



She's now "Immediate Past President Jane" but **Jane Clingman Scott** didn't miss a beat while running another busy and informative Club meeting for the vacationing **President Ginny**.



Meredith Smillie reminded us that our Club has more than 30 "Paul Harris Plus" members, meaning those who have contributed themselves, or been recognized by others on their behalf, for an additional \$1,000 given to the Rotary International Foundation.



Jim Fisher shares his thoughts on the tireless work by **Kathy Moore** to educate and inform the public, and our Club members, during the COVID-19 pandemic as Muskegon County's chief public health officer, awarding her a Paul Harris Fellow Plus 3 pin.



Jim Fisher congratulates his friend and fellow Club Past President **Kathy Moore**.



Kathy Moore thanks the club for its support and the surprise recognition. She joked that while she couldn't locate her Paul Harris Plus 2 pin that morning "I now have a shiny Plus 3 pin!"

Upcoming September and October Meeting Lineup (please note the locations):

September 14 - Mission for Area People - Diana Wright -Stubbs

September 21 - Rotary Peace Building Committee - Braver Angel AT THE DELTA Braver Angels will be presenting (part of our PeaceBuilder committee). Vince Boileau will be here in person to speak.

September 28 - Taking Back Muskegon, Inc. - Michelle Tyson

October 5 - Muskegon Housing Study, City of Muskegon

October 12 - News from the Hill - Hillory Scholtan

October 19 - Inbound Exchange Students - AT THE DELTA

October 26 - Muskegon County Housing Commission - Angel Mayeaux

Member Spotlight:

Emma Peterson



Emma Peterson is the Director of Planned Giving for Trinity Health – Muskegon. She has worked there for 4 years. Emma is married to Frank Peterson and together they have 5 kids (4 teenage daughters and a 10-year-old son). A born and breed Muskegonite - Big Red, Emma earned degrees from Michigan State University and Grand Valley State University. She said that she enjoys spending an hour each week at Rotary with a group of people that she may not have sat with otherwise. She feels that it's a great way to stay connected whether you are looking to network for work, meet new people as friends, or grow your connection to community. Emma highlighted her appreciation of the service aspect of Rotary; and commented that she is still getting acclimated to different ways that she can serve through the Club. Emma also shared that, professionally, she thinks it's important to be a member of Rotary. *"It's a service club that has so much respect in the community and while other service clubs are slowing down a little, Rotary is stronger than ever. We can all share the sentiment that we are in the right spot. This club will live on for a long time."*

ReWine Updates

August 17, 2023:

Upcoming Events:

Sept 14-17 Michigan Irish Music Festival: Contact **John Noling** to volunteer alongside Interactors.

Sept 23 – 9-11 am MDOT cleanup: Contact **Esther Ricco** to sign up to help.

Sept 28 – ReWine social event at **John Noling's** house 4:30-7:30 pm

New Member Induction Bio: Karen Buie-Jenkins



If you missed the August 17, 2023, Muskegon Rotary Luncheon and want to know more about new inductee **Karen Buie-Jenkins** (sponsored **by Jim Fisher**), here's more information:

Karen Buie-Jenkins lives a tremendously blessed life. Born to George and Mildred Washington, she attended Muskegon Catholic Central and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Michigan State University. She is married to the love of her life, Dr. Larry Jenkins, and has three amazing sons, David, Aaron, and Joshua. She and her husband own Charter Schools in Houston, Texas.

Karen was crowned Mrs. Michigan in 1999 and went on to become the third runner-up in The Mrs. International Pageant. She was also first runner-up in the Mrs. America Pageant in 2002.

Karen has a long spanning career in public service. She has served on numerous executive boards including the Rescue Mission, Habitat for Humanity, The Muskegon County Museum, and the Michigan County Clerks Association. Karen served as the Vice-Mayor for the City of Muskegon and as the Muskegon County Clerk from 2002-2009 and was reappointed as County Clerk on May 1, 2023 following the retirement of Clerk Nancy Waters. She was a juvenile probation officer, a protective services worker, a bail review officer, a state probation officer, a human resources analyst, a superintendent of Way Point Charter School and is still a flight attendant for American Airlines for over 11 years.

Welcome to Muskegon Rotary, Karen!

RIM Reporting Team

Susan Besteman
Kathy Moore
Meredith Smillie
Jackie Farrar
Roger Morgenstern
Lori Weiler
Roger Morgenstern & Mark Alpher, Photographers
Bill Johanson, Contributor
John Noling, Contributor
Mike Vogas, Contributor