[**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**](https://www.uwayscc.org/frequently-asked-questions)

**Q. Where Does My Gift Go?**

All money raised in Chautauqua County stays in our county, funding agencies to work together in the areas of Youth Opportunity, Health Equity, Community Resiliency and Self Sufficiency.

**Q. How much of our gifts stay in Chautauqua County?**

100% of your gift stays here in Chautauqua County

**Q. What if I want to keep my pledge the same as last year?**

We encourage all donors who give via the workplace to update their pledge form every year. This ensures that, if you designate your gift, we can properly forward your donation to an agency of your choice and that any contact information we have on file is correct. Also, by updating your information we can properly thank you for your contribution!

**Q. Are all United Ways the same?**

Every United Way is local, with its own independent Board of Directors. The problems we are working to solve are specific to Chautauqua County, and the money we raise here, stays here. We are connected to United Way Worldwide and pay a small membership fee so that we can use the branding and stay connected to the United Ways all over the world that are working on community change. However, we use the distribution from our endowment to pay these membership fees so that all donor dollars stay locally in our community.

**Q. When Does Payroll Deduction Start?**

Payroll deduction usually runs from January 1 – December 31. However, United Way does not set your payroll schedule; it is your company’s decision for when your pledge begins to come out of your paycheck.

**Q. Are Donations to United Way tax deductible?**

Yes. United Way of Chautauqua County sends tax receipts to all donors who made a payment of at least $250 in the prior calendar year, through any method other than payroll deduction and securities. For donors who paid less than $250 through any method other than payroll deduction in the prior calendar year, a receipt will be issued upon the request of the donor.

**Q. Can employees designate their donation?**

As a service to donors, we make it possible to specify a health and human service agency in Chautauqua County when you make your donation.

**Q. How much is used for overhead costs?**

United Way of Chautauqua County, like every not-for-profit and for-profit organization, has functional expenses associated with its operations. For our fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 these expenses amounted to 17% of our revenues. Each year this varies, depending on our revenue and expenses, but for the last 10 years, it has been an average of 15%.

**Q: How is United Way Accountable?**

The United Way of Chautauqua County’s operating budget is audited each year by an independent accounting firm and is carefully scrutinized every month by the Finance Committee of the Board of Directors. For seven consecutive years we have earned the coveted 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for demonstrating strong financial health and a commitment to accountability and transparency.

