

# UNITED NEWS



WINTER 2026

[unitedwayne.org](http://unitedwayne.org)

## Issue Focus Transformation Summit 3

Be part of the process that will empower our community to reach financial stability

 **Thursday**  
January 29, 2026

 **Starting at**  
03:00 - 5:00 PM

 **Goldsboro Events Center**  
1501 S Slocumb Street, Goldsboro



Scan to RSVP  
by January 26th

## SAVE THE DATES

**JAN 22**

Issue Focus Transformation Summit 3

**FEB 16 & 17**

Fill the Theatre Food Drive

**FEB 28**

Annual Meeting

## 2026 COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, partners, and workplace champions, the United Way of Wayne County's 2025 Community Campaign closed on December 31, reaching **94%** of its goal and raising **\$785,400** to support approximately **15,708** lives across Wayne County. This achievement was made possible through the leadership of dedicated volunteers, a committed Board of Directors, individual donors, foundations, and employee campaigns at more than 90 local businesses and schools, efforts that will fund **21** essential programs. "The success of this campaign belongs to every individual and organization who chose to invest in people and possibility," shared Resource Development Director Savannah Lambert. As United Way looks ahead to the 2026 Campaign, we remain inspired by the generosity of our donors and grateful for the collective commitment to building a stronger, more resilient Wayne County, together.



## 2025 FAIR SHARE CHALLENGE WINNER CRUISES TO VICTORY

John Parks, an employee at Caterpillar, pledged his Fair Share—one hour's pay per month for one year—to the United Way of Wayne County Community Campaign and was entered into the Fair Share Challenge drawing. Alongside 19 other finalists, John gathered at The Hub just before the Downtown Lights Up event for an exciting giveaway, where each participant went through a series of random selections in hopes of choosing the one key that would unlock the golden barrel. John was ultimately the lucky winner of a cruise for two, generously sponsored by local travel agent Mallory Dumond with Travelmation. When asked why he invests, John shared that he does so to show his support for his community, adding that he has been investing through Caterpillar for 23 years since he first began working there. He plans to take his wife, Rachel, on the cruise, turning a commitment to community impact into a memorable experience..

In 2025, United Way of Wayne County celebrated 100 years of service to our community with a year filled with reflection, gratitude, and renewed appreciation for the collective power of giving. Throughout our centennial year, we celebrated not just a milestone, but the countless individuals, workplaces, volunteers, and partners who have shaped our mission over the past century. From long-standing Fair Share investors to new supporters, this year reminded us that United Way's impact has always been built on people coming together to care for their neighbors. As we close this historic year, we do so with deep thanks for the legacy entrusted to us and a continued commitment to carrying that spirit of service forward for generations to come.

## CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF SERVICE WITH A YEAR TO REMEMBER





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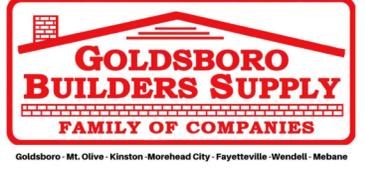
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