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Introducing Women United

The United Way of Montcalm-Ionia Counties has partnered with The Gathering Place to develop the affinity group Women United / The Gathering Place.

Belding, MICHIGAN — The United Way of Montcalm-Ionia Counties is excited to announce their partnership with The Gathering Place to develop the United Way affinity group Women United. Women United is a circle of purpose-driven women, passionate about making a difference through philanthropy and service. With meaningful opportunities for advocacy, volunteering, fundraising, and networking over 70 women from The Gathering Place, unite to focus on issues of shared concern. Women United comes together to celebrate women who continue to break glass ceilings, change the rules of the game, and make history. Members care deeply about making lasting change to improve the lives of women, older adults, young children, and families in Montcalm and Ionia Counties.

Jan Wheelock said, "We are women who come from Six Lakes, Lakeview, Edmore, Stanton, Greenville, Trufant, Gowen, Perrinton, Belmont, Belding, and beyond to work on projects at home or onsite, adding a little "plus" to ongoing community projects. The Gathering Place will remain a workspace and volunteer network of women across our rural area, physically located at 120 W. Grove Street in Greenville, but is now an affinity group of United Way. We align in purposes and goals. Our projects might vary but our intent does not...we want to "connect the dots" of people across farms and fields to make a difference in compassionate outreach. We welcome you to join our group in the ways that you can—for we truly are all women who care."

"Women are a dynamic force in our community," said Terri Legg, President & CEO of United Way Montcalm – Ionia Counties. "Bringing Women United to our community allows us to join together to make a lasting difference in people's lives in the community where we live, work, and raise our families."

United Way's Women United is the largest women's philanthropic organization in the world. Since 2002, Women United has raised more than 1.5 billion to support the programs and initiatives led by United Way. Together they have focused on providing the building blocks for a better life and a strong community – Heath, Education, and Financial Stability.

United Way Montcalm – Ionia Counties is committed to improving the lives and futures of children and families in need by investing in Education, Basic Needs, Health, 211, and Financial Stability. We are proud that contributions given local, stay local, and are invested in direct program activities.

Women United is a vibrant, diverse community of 70,000+ women leaders withing United Way who transform communities across the world. The group is a powerful, global network of strong women in more than 165 communities across six countries. Since 2002, Women United believes in collective power of women and that by empowering each other, we can accomplish more for our communities.

"By investing their time talent, and treasures these passionate ladies come together to address the most pressing needs for ALICE (Asset, Limited, Income-Constrained, and Employed) households. We have been working with The Gathering Place for well over a year. We felt it was time to join forces.