The arrival of spring brings a renewal of hope to people everywhere. To those who are looking for a champion to stand with them in their time of need, this hope is especially vibrant – and it is all the more crucial that these hopes are not felt in vain. United Way of Greater Union County is proud to be a champion for all those who seek a helping hand, including the 3 individuals – James, Debbie and Robert – whose stories are included here. We are in their corner, and we want to do more for the tens of thousands of Union County families who, more than ever, are looking for a champion to be in their corner.

We hope that after you’ve read about James, Debbie and Alex, that you’ll decide to Live United With Us and become a community champion, too. By supporting us, you ensure many more families and communities will be strengthened in the months and years to come!

Best Wishes,

United Way of Greater Union County
**A Place to Call HOME**

When James and his 3 young children found themselves urgently needing a place to call home, they found it – thanks to 2, United Way-funded organizations. The first provided the family with a safe, secure home while he searched for a new job – a place they’ve made their own.

The second organization welcomed all 3 children into their school program while James earned a living, giving them a “home away from home” with tremendous education and social services. United Way is proud to have given James and his children the opportunity to succeed!

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**Bringing a Family Together**

When Robert’s kids, without his knowledge, were placed by Child Protective Services in another state, he needed to show he was able to take care of them as a responsible parent. He sought the help of an organization funded by United Way, and they helped Robert develop a family plan that included parenting classes and financial budgeting.

Thanks to their assistance, Robert received permanent custody of his kids once again, and was able to enroll them in excellent pre-k and elementary school programs while returning to work. He is determined to excel as a father, and United Way is proud to stand in his corner as he works hard to do just that!

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**Did you know?**

- 15% of children in Union County are living below the poverty line
- 10% of all persons in the county are living below the poverty line
- Average annual cost for childcare is at least $12,000
- And that 30% of total family income is used for child care

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**In Our Communities**

**United Way of Greater Union County**

33 West Grand Street
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For more information, please contact at 908.353.7171, ext. 138.