

WORDS FROM WOMEN UNITED: JAN. 2021 EDITION

FROM YOUR WOMEN UNITED VICE CHAIR

"Wisdom whispers, it has too much dignity to shout." Deborah Rosado Shaw

Deborah Rosado Shaw was our keynote speaker at *Power of the Purse* in 2020. The quote above is from her book, "Dream BIG". In it, she shares wisdom from her grandmother about paying attention to small and quiet learning opportunities as they are usually profound. However, in our noisy and loud world, we may miss them. I try to be mindful of those little nuggets no matter from whom or where they come as fuel in my attempt to be a better person today than I was yesterday.

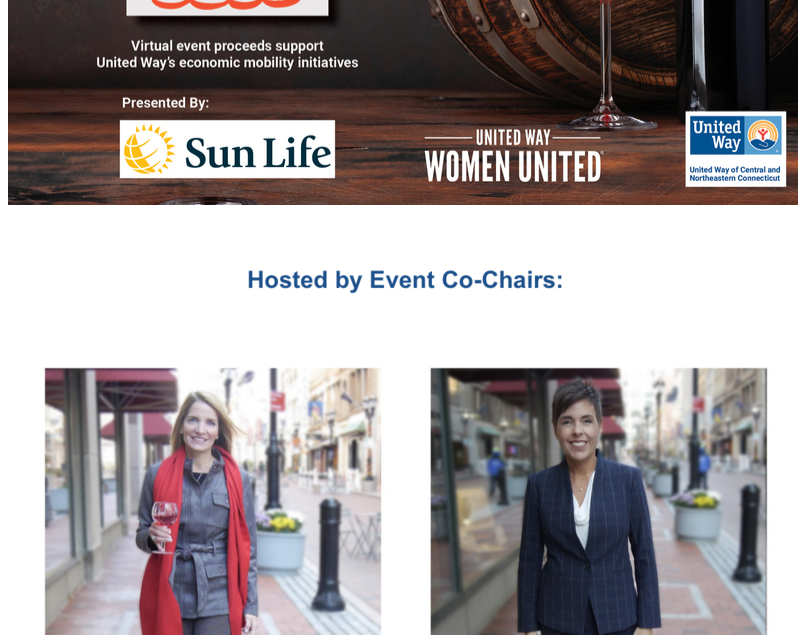
I hope this year brings my fellow Women United members and friends wisdom and opportunities for improvement in your busy lives. I also look forward to when we can be together in person and hope it is soon.

Rachel George

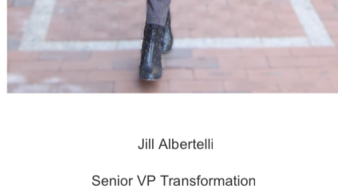
Rachel George

Vice Chair of Women United

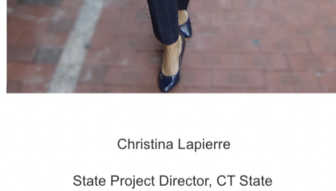
FEATURED EVENT



Hosted by Event Co-Chairs:



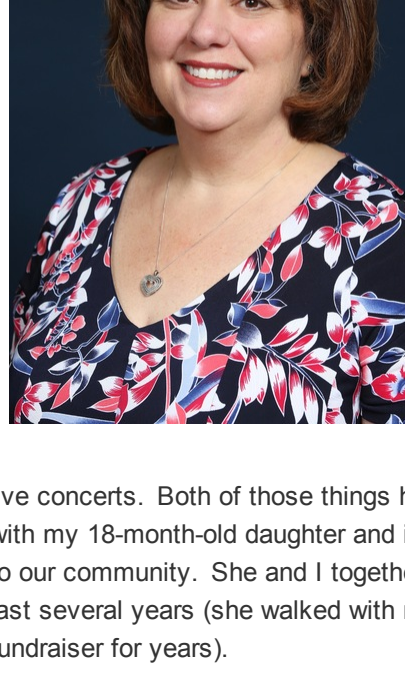
Jill Albertelli
Senior VP Transformation
and Strategy,
Pratt & Whitney



Christina Lapierre
State Project Director, CT State
Colleges & Universities,
State of Connecticut

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Lisa Cameron



I have been involved with *Power of the Purse* since the second event, I didn't know about the first one but I attended the second and I was hooked! I signed up as a Table Captain the following year and then joined the planning committee. I have run point on Table Captains several times and was the Chair of *Power of the Purse* in 2018 (there was no co-chair that year). I was co-chair of *Red, White and Chocolate* last year as well. I have been involved with United Way in some form for the last 25 years, serving as workplace ambassador at several companies, volunteering for hands on events, etc.

I have been on the Board of Directors of Hands on Hartford for the last five years and am passionate about supporting food and shelter stability in our communities. I am also currently Treasurer of the Bolton Women's Club and have been with them for the last eight years.

In addition to volunteering, I love to travel and listen to music/attend live concerts. Both of those things have been curtailed with COVID-19, but I have been busy this past year with my 18-month-old daughter and instilling our love of music in her and teaching her the joys of giving back to our community. She and I together, were one of the top fundraisers for the Walk Against Hunger for the last several years (she walked with me this year, the year before I was still pregnant, but I have been a top fundraiser for years).

I stepped into a new role recently as the Vice President overseeing the Billing & Receivables Management function at Travelers. I made this transition after almost 20 years with The Hartford. I am a CPA by background.

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



Sun Life

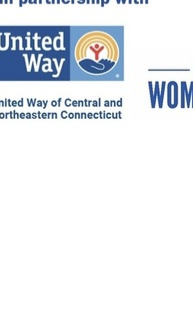
Sun Life

Thank you to Sun Life for returning as our presenting sponsor for *Red, White and Chocolate* on Feb. 25. We appreciate your continued generosity and support with this event and our efforts

to help people become financially stable.



Transforming the lives of girls in Hartford.



School Based Mentoring Program

In partnership with



United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut



Become a Mentor Today!

Who:

Women who want to make a difference in a young person's life are paired with 7th grade girls from Grace Academy.

What:

A mentoring program dedicated to supporting girls in their emotional and educational growth through a connection with an adult.

When:

Once a week on Wednesdays from 12:20-1:05, starting February 17th, 2021 through the end of the school year, and continuing throughout their 8th grade school year (2021-2022).

Where:

Due to COVID-19, we will meet via Zoom video meetings to start, with hopes to transition to in-person mentoring at Grace Academy when it is safe to do so.

About Grace Academy:

Grace Academy is an independent school dedicated to providing a quality, tuition free education to girls from low-income families in the greater Hartford area.

For more information on becoming a mentor, please contact:

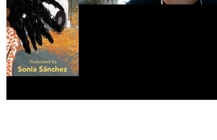
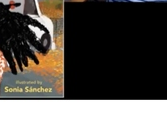
Lauren Carey and Jenn Earnest
lcarey@graceacademyhartford.org and
jeanest@graceacademyhartford.org

Grace Academy

We are excited to announce our partnership with Grace Academy School Based Mentoring Program. Become a mentor today! Only 10 mentors are needed. Please click on the button below and sign up before Feb. 8.

[SIGN UP](#)

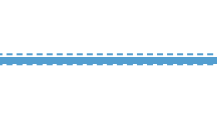
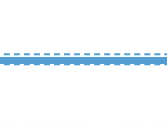
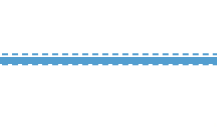
LOOKING BACK WITH WOMEN UNITED



Jumpstart's Read for the Record

In October 2020, Women United members were invited to participate in Jumpstart's 15th Annual *Read for the Record* which took place virtually,

bringing a read-aloud opportunity to more than 40 first grade classrooms in the Greater Hartford area. Members took part in the global movement to read the same book on the same day to children. The 2020 book was "Evelyn Del Rey Is Moving Away" by Meg Medina, a celebration of lasting friendship, the power of connection and encountering change. Thank you to the members who participated.



Women United "Lead-Hers" Series

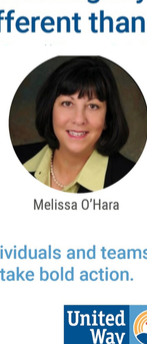
Session #2: Living with Purpose on Nov. 11, 2020

Melissa walked us through the Horizon Life Design framework which uses design thinking to plan your life. The workshop was interactive, fun, and encouraged members to think about their life creatively and courageously. Melissa facilitated a follow-up cohort discussion on Jan. 14 that provided a deeper dive into her framework on using design thinking to design your best life. To learn more or to set up a private consultation today [email Melissa](#).



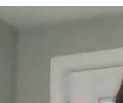
Imagine if you could craft your life – a life of fulfillment and joy that always holds the possibility of surprise. What might you be doing? How might it be different than today?

Melissa is a seasoned business professional who is passionate about motivating and inspiring others. After more than two decades of corporate and business success, she started the O'Hara Solutions Group to help companies, individuals and teams solve complex problems and take bold action.

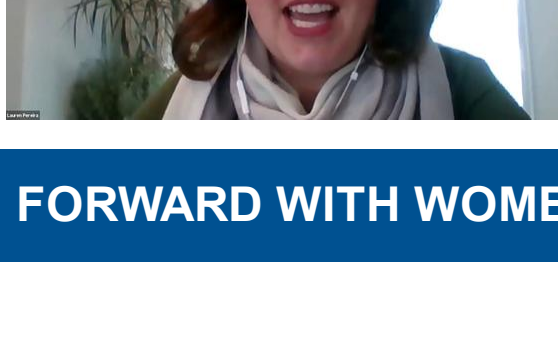


Melissa O'Hara

[@WUforUWCT](#)
unitedwayinc.org/women

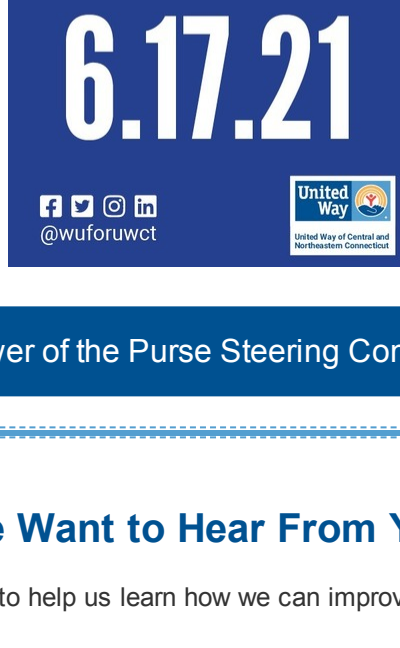


United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut



LOOKING FORWARD WITH WOMEN UNITED

Power of the Purse 2021



FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Click on the calendar below for more information.



Calling All Members

Connecting with Your Community

Would you like to deepen your involvement in your local community? We are currently accepting applications for our Regional Advisory Board. We are interested in hearing from members that want to represent their communities in New Britain, Berlin, Enfield, Suffield, Somers, Windsor Locks, East Windsor, Ashford, Chaplin, Columbia, Coventry, Hampton, Mansfield/Storrs, Scotland, Willington, and Windham/Willimantic. If you live in one of those towns and would like to step up your engagement, please [email Jenna Pettit](#).

Celebrating our Members

We want to celebrate you and spotlight you on our social media! Please complete this questionnaire to be featured.

[Questionnaire](#)

VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

[Read Across America Day](#)

[Grace Academy](#)

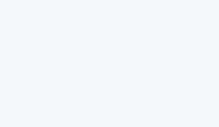
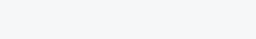
[POP Steering Committee](#)

[Volunteer Now](#)

CONTRIBUTE TODAY

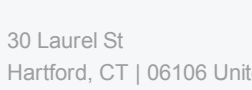
Join Us

Do you want to join Women United by contributing to your community or renew your current membership? Donate to help women and families achieve financial security by selecting "Women United" on [our donation page](#). Every dollar counts and we appreciate your generosity.



United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut

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