

United Way is good steward of charitable dollars

- 36 min ago

THESE DAYS, money is tight.

So, when you make an investment, it is understandable — you want to be sure that it goes for something that will result in a measurable outcome.

And the United Way of Mercer County understands that.

That's why Executive Director Jim Micsky and his executive board decided to hold accountable those who want to use your money for good.

Getting funds from the United Way is not a done deal or a quick “sign on the dotted line.”

Agencies that apply must not only prove that they are running their operation soundly, but also that they have a goal of not perpetuating the conditions that their efforts are seeking to relieve. They have to show that they are giving their clients the skills they need to stand on their own.

And that is what we should all want. In fact, it is likely what those who are seeking help would like for themselves.

Taking care of those in need in our community is a moral obligation for those of us who have been blessed ourselves.

But often, it feels like the situations that put families at risk are not improving, and that some people are forced to seek help year after year.

That is not what any charitable organization should want — and it is definitely not the outcome those who donate to local causes want either.

It is that old saying — Give a man a fish and he eats for a day. Teach him how to fish and he can eat for a lifetime.

Giving to the United Way is a way to make sure that happens.

Organizations share skills that change lives. And over the next few weeks, you will see some of the many people who have benefited from the work of the United Way's partner agencies.

It is proof positive that this investment will pay dividends — in helping build a stronger community and in creating more people who will have the means and the knowledge to pay it forward.

And that is how we all benefit.

We hope that you will join us in making a difference by supporting your local United Way.