



January 2022

Dear Friends of UCP Heartland:

Happy New Year and I hope you have had a good start to 2022. This week is my 2-year anniversary with UCP Heartland and I continue to be honored and privileged to have the opportunity to work with incredible people, including people served and employees. We cannot seem to get out of the storm of COVID-19, but I continue to see resiliency, dedication, and commitment as we continue to manage through the ever-changing landscape. The good news is everyone is learning to adapt and as it has been for the past 2 years, it seems that we all know that we are in this together. Our communities we serve, families, clients, staff, stakeholders, donors, funding sources, and all of you have always been there to provide support when needed. We are certainly grateful!!!

As a year ends and a new year begins, I am excited to announce the promotion of Kevin Litt to become UCP Heartland's next Vice President of Development. In December 2021, Mary Hebrank announced she was retiring and it was important to find someone who could continue to expand the public support revenue at UCP Heartland. After going through a search process, it was clear we had this leader at UCP Heartland. Kevin served under Mary for three years as a Major Gift Officer and Director of Development. Kevin also brings over 20 years of successful fundraising experience and has played an instrumental part in the advancement of philanthropy at UCP Heartland over the past 3 years. Under his leadership, the development team will continue to increase program funding, grow community involvement, and build UCP Heartland's relationships throughout Eastern and Central Missouri. I am extremely excited for Kevin's succession and his ability to work with leadership, the Board, and communities served, in growing fund development in the future. Please join me in congratulating Kevin.



UCP Heartland is a little over a month away from presenting "A Night with the Stars" Gala. I am thankful for Will and Chrissy Teske for stepping up and leading the charge in hosting this event. It will be held on Saturday February 26th, 2022, at the Marriot St. Louis Grand Hotel beginning at 6:00 p.m. The event will also be broadcast virtually so if someone cannot attend in person, you can participate and engage in the festivities in the comfort of your own home. The evening will be a showcase, celebration, and an incredible opportunity to make an investment in the lives of people with disabilities supported by UCP Heartland in the St. Louis and Central Missouri area. I am personally excited and honored to recognize Hallie and Karen Gibbs and Shari Clay with the Heart of Community Awards. Without these 3 individuals' investment, leadership, and commitment to this agency over the years, UCP Heartland would not be where it is today. UCP Heartland raised over \$260k last year and it is our goal to surpass this number in 2022. This link <https://one.bidpal.net/ucpheartlandgala22/welcome> will take you to the Gala invitation

and the opportunities for you to participate and support UCP Heartland. I look forward to seeing everyone!!!!

Thank you for your continued interest in UCP Heartland, walking alongside us in this journey, and most importantly believing in people with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in our communities. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions about the upcoming Gala or want to learn more about UCP Heartland.

Sincerely,

Clint Bolser, CEO
UCP Heartland