



December 2023

Dear Friends of UCP Heartland,

Holiday cheer is in the air, and I am hopeful this time of year is a blessing to you and your family. Over the past couple of weeks, you might have seen on social media or received a mailer that shares a story of hope, impact, and what our mission means to the communities we provide services to. As 2023 closes and you have many choices of investment, I ask you to thoughtfully consider making a gift to UCP Heartland. For 70 years, our communities and all of you have had a tremendous effect in helping UCP Heartland continue to thrive and make an impact on thousands of people's lives. We have a goal of generating \$100,000 through the year-end campaign and are 20% away from making it happen. Please help us reach and even exceed this goal by the end of December. Click [here](#) to donate!



I had the pleasure of joining one of my colleagues, Tanya' McGee, Vice President of Community Living, and her husband Jermaine, at the Queen of All Saints Church last Saturday to help organize and wrap gifts for every single client we support in UCP Heartland's Residential program. These gifts come from the members of the church along with thousands of other individuals in the community they support through their ministry. This is our 4<sup>th</sup> year to be included and we are grateful for their incredible generosity.



UCP Heartland also puts a gifting tree together and this year it was organized by Cassie Sumpter, Vice President of Community and Employment Services. It is a wonderful opportunity for our staff and Board members to purchase a gift or 2 to help make this time of year special for individuals we support that may need a little extra help. Every tag was accounted for and again, the care and generosity of our staff and Board is much appreciated.



Thank you to the Child Development Center (CDC) for inviting me to their annual Holiday program. A wonderful turnout of kiddos, family members, and friends. The show was fantastic, and Santa even showed up to join in on the fun. Thank you to the staff at the CDC for making this a special time for the kids and families in Columbia.



I also want to send my gratitude to the UCP Heartland Young Professionals Board for hosting a cookie decorating event for individuals we support. Besides the cookies and the colorful icing, Saturday morning was a hit with hot chocolate and some holiday tunes sung with the karaoke machine. Thank you YPB!!



In closing, I want to say thank you to all the individuals we support and the family members, loyal friends, partners, staff, and Board of Directors that make our UCP Heartland community so amazing! Your trust in UCP Heartland and our mission is what continues to inspire us each and every day, month, and year. This year brings us to the close of 70 years strong. I am looking forward to a bright future and am confident based on the track record of success this organization and the people involved has had over the years.

Happy Holidays,  
Clint