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WOMEN UNITED NEWSLETTER

Presented by BURNS & McDONNELL

UNITED WAY Greater Kansas City

International Women's Day Impact Bus Tour

This International Women's Day, Women United is hosting an Impact Bus Tour, presented by Burns & McDonnell, celebrating women and organizations driving change across Kansas City. On March 6th, guests will visit Impact 100 partners Amethyst Place, KC Care Health Center, and Phoenix Family to see firsthand how these organizations are advancing health, safety, and stability for women and families in our community. This event offers an opportunity to connect with local organizations, hear their stories, and celebrate the impact women are making every day. To sign up for the International Women's Day Impact Bus Tour, visit here.

Sign Up for the International Women's Day Impact Bus Tour

Celebrate National 211 Day

February 11 is recognized nationwide as 211 Day, highlighting the vital role United Way 211 plays in connecting individuals and families to essential resources during times of need. Available online or by phone, 24/7/365, and in more than 150 languages, 211 responded to nearly 350,000 requests for support in 2025. Thanks to you, United Way is proud to operate this resource, with 2026 marking 20 years of service! To learn more about the work of 211 in our community, read here.

2026 Purses for Promise Beneficiary: Growing Futures

Grab a friend and join us at Purses for Promise, hosted by Women United and presented by Black & Veatch! This event is our largest annual fundraising event that brings together community-minded individuals for an evening of fun and connection in support of early childhood development. Featuring one-of-a-kind jewelry designed by local artists for you to shop, alongside curated experiences to explore, the event offers an evening with purpose.

This year, Purses for Promise proudly supports Growing Futures Early Education Center, an Impact 100 partner dedicated to expanding access to high-quality early childhood education and development in Johnson County, Kansas. At the event, you'll hear directly from the organization about their work and the impact your support makes for its children and families.

For a limited time, enjoy a special Valentine's ticket offer: **purchase tickets 20% off with code GALENTINE** until February 13th and help make a lasting difference for children and families in Kansas City.

Purchase tickets to Purses for Promise with code GALENTINE

Women United members gathered on February 5th for the Women United Social Hour, presented by Burns & McDonnell, and connected with one another while learning more about Growing Futures' work to strengthen early childhood education in our community.

Thanks to everyone who has generously donated to support the cause. Join us next at Purses for Promise, hosted by Women United and presented by Black & Veatch, on April 16th and continue making a meaningful impact in our community.

Get to Know Nikki Meek of Hallmark

Nikki Meek is a Women United cabinet member and this year's Event Committee Chair. She joined Women United because she wants to make a difference for children in need, and believes every parent and child deserves the resources for a solid start to life.

"If you are passionate about early childhood development and education, if you want to meet like-minded women, if you want to cultivate a community of your own and to help give back, this really is the group to be able to do it," she said.

Joining the cabinet is a great opportunity to build leadership and support Women United efforts throughout the year. If you are interested or are just looking for ways to get involved, reach out to amanda.swanson@uwgkc.org.

When Foster Care Ends, Support Still Matters

For many youth aging out of foster care, adulthood begins without a safety net. Jackson County CASA, an Impact 100 partner, provides guidance, essential resources, and trusted relationships to support youth and young adults ages 14 to 26 as they transition to independence.

"How has CASA's support affected me? It's kept me alive," M.J. said. "Life hits you all at once. To have a support system, it takes a weight off your shoulders." Read the full story here.

RECENT UPDATES

Recent United Way Articles

Helping Refugee Families Rebuild Life in Kansas City

Black History Month: Explore Black History in Kansas City

When Making Ends Meet Isn't Enough: How 211 Helps Families Stay Stable

From Emergency Shelter to Stable Housing: Victoria's Story

United Way Leader and Partner Staff Named Senior Fellows

Upcoming Events

2026 WOMEN UNITED PLANNING CALENDAR

Sponsored by BURNS & McDONNELL

FEBRUARY 5 — WOMEN UNITED SOCIAL HOUR (Presented by BURNS & McDONNELL)	JULY 16 — THE WAYMAKER™ AWARDS
MARCH 6 — INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BUS TOUR (Presented by BURNS & McDONNELL)	AUGUST TBD — REFRESH & CLASSROOM (Presented by BURNS & McDONNELL)
APRIL 16 — PURSES FOR PROMISE (Presented by BLACK & VEATCH)	NOVEMBER TBD — COMMUNITY FEST
APRIL 20-24 — SEASON OF GIVING VOLUNTEER EVENTS	DECEMBER TBD — SEASON OF GIVING VOLUNTEER EVENTS

UNITED WAY Greater Kansas City

International Women's Day Impact Bus Tour Presented by Burns & McDonnell

Date: April 16, 2026
Time: 4PM - 8:30PM
Bus Tour | Presented by Burns & McDonnell | Hosted by Women United | Open to All

Purchase tickets for International Women's Day Impact Bus Tour presented by Burns & McDonnell

Purses for Promise Presented by Black & Veatch

Date: April 16, 2026
Time: 4PM - 8:30PM
Location: The Gallery, Power & Light District
Silent Auction | Presented by Black & Veatch | Hosted by Women United | Open to All

Purchase tickets for Purses for Promise presented by Black & Veatch now! Use code GALENTINE for 20% off

The Waymaker™ Awards: United Way's Annual Impact Celebration

Date: July 16, 2026
Time: 4:30PM - 8:30PM
Location: The Midland Theatre
Awards Celebration | Presented by Hallmark | Open to All

Save the date for The Waymaker™ Awards Annual Impact Celebration presented by Hallmark

CommUNITY Fest Presented by G.E.H.A

Dates: November 2026
Time: 8AM - 2PM
Volunteer Opportunity | Presented by G.E.H.A | Open to All

Save the date for CommUNITY Fest presented by G.E.H.A

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities available for our upcoming 2025 signature events, reach out to development@uwgkc.org, connect with your United Way representative directly or visit here.

Women United Cabinet Members:

Ashlee Harmon, KPMG
Ginger Williams, Kaiser Permanente
Gratia Carver, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City
Jana Scouler, Deloitte
Kim Herman, PNC Bank
Lauren Dunham, Lockton Companies
Mandy Kruger, JE Dunn
Melissa Morley, encompas
Nikki Meek, Hallmark
Renita Molliman, Burns & McDonnell
Sarah Rowan, KC Power & Light District
Tiffany Coleman, Black & Veatch

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