



Endless Gratitude To So Many

Over the past few weeks I've been surprised and delighted to receive awards for my work in the community from the Wilmington Rotary and the Delaware Black Chamber of Commerce. I sincerely thank both organizations for the recognition.

As I think about the criteria organizations use to identify individuals they select for honors, I realize that these awards, although presented in my name, are truly for the entire United Way of Delaware (UWDE) team, our Board of Directors, our steadfast partners in the community, and our many volunteers.



Indeed, there is no way a single person could accept credit for the mountains of work that go into all that UWDE achieves daily in such a wide range of areas from social services to education, racial justice and community leadership. As I see the many initiatives that are underway at any given time, I am filled with awe and endless gratitude to so many.

I gratefully and humbly accept these honors on behalf of you, the hundreds of people and organizations who do the work. You are the ones whose distinguished service is recognized. Your awards are in my office - stop by and see them any time.

Sincerely,
Michelle

Michelle A. Taylor, Ed.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

Michelle Taylor Receives Rotary Distinguished Service Award

The Rotary Club of Wilmington bestowed its prestigious Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Michelle Taylor, President & CEO of United Way of Delaware. This award is one of our highest honors given to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution,

performed distinguished service and/or has brought special recognition or honor to the greater Wilmington community through the advancement of high ethical standards in business, professional or occupational endeavors.



Michelle's contributions to the City of Wilmington and the State of Delaware have had an incalculable and indelible impact on families, literacy, social justice, and racial equity. She leads a staff of 40, and hundreds of volunteers, as United Way implements a statewide strategy to improve third-grade literacy, to ensure young people are prepared to enter college and/or the workforce, and to help thousands of struggling families achieve financial stability. During COVID-19, she helped raise millions for food, shelter, and other human needs, and she worked with other nonprofit leaders to ensure that agencies have the resources they need to support their own operations throughout the pandemic.

Michelle is also working to improve racial equity and social justice in Delaware. She leads the **Delaware Racial Equity and Social Justice Collaborative**, which includes leaders from 200 grassroots organizations across the state, and she chairs the **Community Policing and Engagement Subcommittee** of Governor Carney's Law Enforcement Accountability Task Force, which is preparing recommendations for improving policing practices in Delaware.

Mayor Mike Purzycki spoke of Michelle's tireless efforts and his work alongside her on the Wilmington HOPE Commission. Past Rotary President David Fleming formally presented the award. Members of the dedicated United Way staff were on hand to celebrate, including the nominator, Rotarian Brandon Brice. We are thrilled to honor such a dedicated individual.

Wilmington Rotary - More than 100 Years of Service

Being over 100 years old does not mean that the Rotary Club of Wilmington is stuck in the past! With nearly 150 members, our club is an inclusive, diverse, hands-on community service organization, committed to making Wilmington a better place by:

- Performing a wide variety of community service projects
- Fostering informed conversation about the city,
- Helping members develop leadership skills and relationships, and
- Engaging public and private sector leaders to encourage collaboration.

While we still participate in some traditional Rotary projects, such as bell ringing for the Salvation Army and raising money for local scholarships, the Rotary Club of Wilmington is a place for members to share service opportunities that interest them and enlist fellow Rotarians.



For more information, visit <https://www.rotarywilmington.org>



Delaware Black Chamber of Commerce - Changing the Economic Footprint in Delaware

The Delaware Black Chamber of Commerce (DEBCC) recently honored Michelle Taylor with the 2021 - 2022 Champion of the Year Award.



The Delaware Black Chamber of Commerce is driven to do our part in changing the economic footprint for small businesses in the First State and beyond. The Chamber remains a solid voice for the Black business community while continuously refocusing its efforts to meet the ever-changing needs of its members.

It's more than a business-as-usual membership organization. It's the best friend and partner of its members, working exclusively on their behalf and providing the assistance and support they need. We strive to build productive relationships and make a positive impact with all of our members.

We commit our resources of people, time, information and capital toward providing opportunities that create wealth and equity within our communities. We look forward to representing the interests and advocating on behalf of our members throughout Delaware, from the heart of Wilmington, down the bustling streets of Dover, to the shores of Rehoboth Beach.



Pancakes and Progress for Positive Change

Delaware changemakers filled the room at Wilmington Country Club last week for Pancakes & Progress, an event designed to spark and facilitate conversations about issues impacting our communities and our daily lives. Presented by United Way of Delaware, Delaware Racial Justice Collaborative and MySherpa, Pancakes and Progress is an ongoing series of open discussions.

[To learn more, watch the video recap of the event here.](#)

Attendees who participated last week are invited to share your feedback on how to continue to improve Pancakes and Progress by completing the survey [here.](#)



Philadelphia Phillies Representing



We send our thanks to Jim Buck and Kevin Gregg from the Philadelphia Phillies organization. The pair recently spoke to Delaware youth taking part in the *Young Men United* mentoring program, The Brothers Brunch, and 100 Black Men's Delaware chapter.

During Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15 - Oct. 15, we want to introduce you to some of our Latino neighbors and friends and highlight their valuable contributions to life in Delaware.



Meet Yina Gabriela Rosa

Immigration Attorney at the Latin American Community Center



Yina Gabriela Rosa is a native of Honduras. She is a lawyer in her home country from the Universidad Nacional Autonoma of Honduras and has been a member of the Honduras Bar Association since 2019.

Following completing her degree in Honduras, she came to the US to study for her master's at the Pennsylvania State University and obtained a Master's degree in law (LLM). Yina started her journey in the immigration field upon her graduation.

She now works for the Latin American Community Center (LACC), which just obtained recognition from the Department of Justice.

Also, accreditation was approved for Yina from the Department of Justice to practice law and represent clients in the immigration area. The Immigration Program at the LACC has become a great asset to the community since it helps and empowers the community by helping them to adjust their status or seek relief in their immigration status.

Contact information for the Immigration Program at the LACC is: yrosapaz@thelatincenter.org and phone number 302-655-7338.



The [Delaware Afterschool Network](#) invites you to join us for two free and exciting conferences this October!

**Fall Multi-State Afterschool Conference
October 13th, 2022**

Afterschool Networks from Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia are joining to host the *Virtual Constellation of Afterschool Stars - Illuminating the Field* Conference.

This event will bring together speakers from the four states and across the country to discuss the latest science, news, and trends from experts in the field.

To register and learn more, head to the [conference website!](#)

**Delaware STEM Equity Conference
October 15, 2022 (virtual)**

Leaders of Delaware's STEM Council, Delaware Foundation for Science and Mathematics Education, Delaware Mathematics Coalition, and Forum for the Advancement of Minorities in Engineering (FAME) are committed to building structures and systems that eliminate barriers to success in mathematics. The DE STEM Equity Conference engages PK20 educators, policymakers, and business leaders in meaningful learning experiences that are designed to leverage their capacity as agents of change.

Register [here!](#)

How We Help Every Day

Delaware 211, powered by United Way of Delaware, connects our neighbors in need to essential resources throughout the state. Our service is free, confidential, and available in multiple languages.



Here's a real-life example from one of our 211 Specialists that shows one way we helped:

A grandmother with custody of her 6-year-old grandson called looking for tutoring help. She was connected with our UWDE Student Help contact, who then helped get tutoring set up.

On follow-up, the grandmother was happy to report that her grandson was getting tutoring thru the UWDE program. She was very appreciative of the follow-up call. She said all non-profits should follow up with clients to make sure needs were met and the client was satisfied. She was so excited that we reached out to her and that we were concerned that her needs were met.

This is how we help, one person at a time, every day. If you believe our work is important and would like to help us expand our capacity, please **consider a donation** to Delaware 211.

When you **give to Delaware 211**, you're helping to meet someone's most pressing needs. With your financial support, we can give our neighbors hope. Together, let's raise \$211,000 this year!

Three Wilmington Schools of the Christina School District took on Literacy!

The Bayard School, The Bancroft School and The Stubbs Early Education Center held a literacy-themed event across all three schools. The event centered around fostering a love of reading, promoting literacy, and exposing students to local African American Authors and other forms of storytelling such as spoken word. The event included multiple guest readers from various community partnerships, district leaders, and members of the community.

We congratulate these schools for their innovation and collaboration to foster the love of reading in their students.





“A CONVERSATION WITH PARENTS”

Date: October 18th **Time:** 6pm-7pm **Location:** Route 9 Library
(3022 New Castle Ave, New Castle, DE 19720)

Parents, join us for the latest event in our series "A Conversation with Parents". These conversations pertain to education, health and financial stability for your family, and provide a safe space for you to discuss issues with others and share your experiences and life lessons.

This session celebrates a continuation of Mental Health Awareness Month. Information on the programs below will be shared:

GUEST SPEAKER: Angie Bivens - Energize Delaware

SESSION TOPIC:

Energize Delaware will be providing information to individuals who are interested in saving energy. The session will also focus on providing information about energy-saving resources/programs about available rebates for energy efficient home improvements. Each household in attendance can receive One FREE Weatherization Kit (\$50 Value) mailed to them after attending the session.

For more information please contact:
Mr. Ken Livingston at klivingston@uwde.org

Child Care and Dinner will be provided!

**TO REGISTER
PLEASE SCAN
WITH PHONE**





**AFRICAN
AMERICAN
MEN
ENCOURAGING
YOUNG
SCHOLARS
TO READ**

During the month of October, in partnership with My Very Own Library/University of Chicago and the United Way of Delaware (UWDE) we would like to highlight African American men reading and discussing a book of their choice as part of UWDE's Virtual Reading Angels program.

Our goal is to feature African American male readers throughout the month of October. We want to ensure we have enough content for the entire month.



To become a Reading Angel please contact Ken Livingston at 302-256-1920 or klivingston@uwde.org



SIGN UP NOW TO ATTEND!

UNITED WAY OF DELAWARE | PRIDE COUNCIL | UN... OF DELAWARE

PRIDE COUNCIL | UNITED WAY OF DELAWARE

10th Annual
**ANTI-BULLYING/ GSA
 SUMMIT**

The 10th Anti-Bullying Summit is a half-day gathering to connect and uplift members of Gender Sexuality Alliances, their parents, advisors, and allies that support them as they fight for equity and justice.

 **Saturday | October 15, 2022**

 **11 am - 3:30 pm**

 **Georgetown, DE**

To register, text **GSA22 to 91999** or, visit uwde.org/GSA




COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

LATIN FOOD FEST



October 8, 2022



Para todas las pequeña empresas que buscan promocionar o vender sus productos en este evento, comuníquese con **Josue O. Ortega** at latinfoodfest@newcastlede.gov



Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Glasgow Regional Park

2275 Pulaski Hwy, Newark, DE 19702




Matt Meyer
 County Executive

Hispanic Heritage Celebration at Wilmington Library

Saturday, October 1 Noon to 4 p.m.

Join The Wilmington Library in a celebration of Hispanic Heritage. We will have food, music, live performances, fun activities for children and more! Hope to see you there.



**THE
WILMINGTON
LIBRARY**

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER FELIPE LUCIANO!
No registration required.

Enjoy music by DJ Willie & Los Bomberos de La Calle, food by Los Taquitos de Puebla and Raspado BAYU, local vendors, dances by Alma de Mexico & Ballet Folklorico Mexico Lindo, Aztec ceremony by Tonantzin Yaotecas, children's face painting, bilingual Storytime and more...

Únase a nosotros en la celebración de la Herencia Hispana. ¡Tendremos comida, música, presentaciones en vivo, actividades divertidas para niños y más!

¡PONENTE INVITADO ESPECIAL **FELIPE LUCIANO!**

No es necesario registrarse.

Disfruta de la música de DJ Willie y Los Bomberos de La Calle, la comida de Los Taquitos de Puebla y Raspado BAYU, los vendedores locales, los bailes de Alma de México y el Ballet Folklórico México Lindo, la ceremonia azteca de Tonantzin Yaotecas, la pintura de caras para niños, la hora del cuento bilingüe y más...



Inaugural | Virtual
Delaware Health Literacy Forum
Wednesday, November 16, 9 am-12 pm

**SAVE
THE
DATE**



Keynote Speaker Dr. Rima Rudd
Harvard School of Public Health
*Health Literacy and Its Implications
for Equity and Social Justice*

PANEL DISCUSSION

Health Literacy:

- A Strong Foundation
- Innovation in Health Literacy
- Policy to Practice

PANELISTS

- **Michael Villaire**
Institute of Healthcare Advancement
- **Wilma Alvarado Little**
New York State Department of
Public Health
- **Teresa Wagner**
Safer Care Texas
and more!



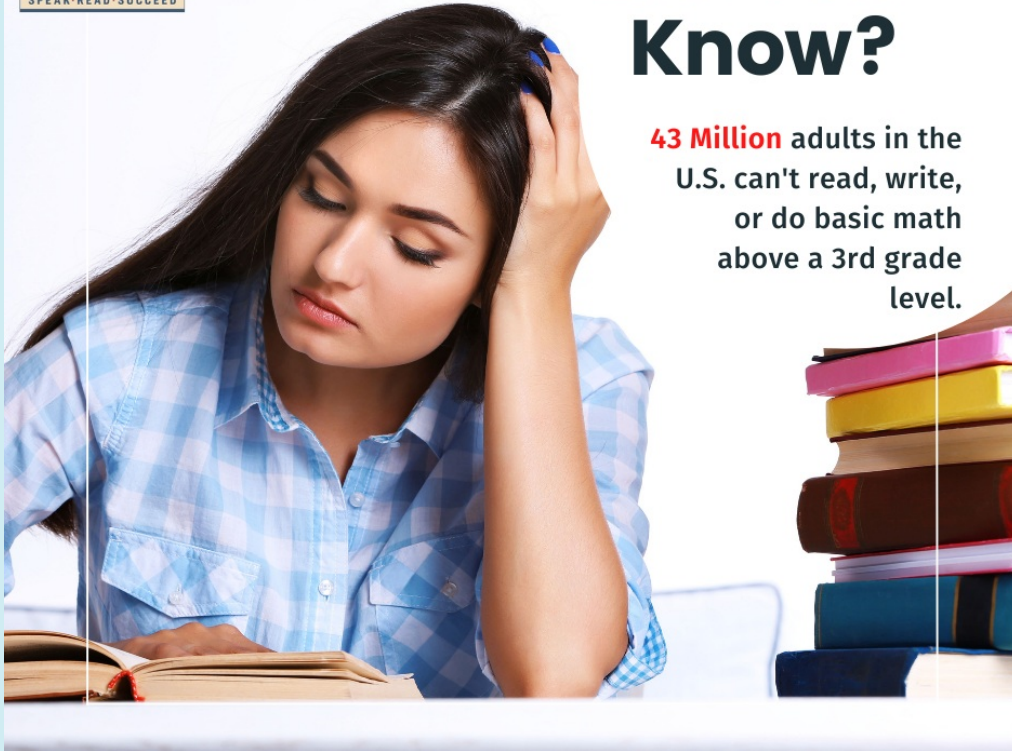
DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Partnership for Healthy
Communities



Did You Know?

43 Million adults in the U.S. can't read, write, or do basic math above a 3rd grade level.



It's Easy to Support United Way of Delaware

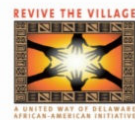
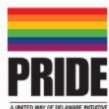
Your donation to United Way helps us work to make Delaware a great state to live, work and play for all our neighbors.



[Make an online donation here](#)

Start With a Smile

Shopping at Amazon? Start at Smile.Amazon.com and feel better about spending money! Just set United Way of Delaware as your charity of choice. Then spend away and Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to us — no fees, no extra cost!



Notice

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