

Heartfelt Gratitude to You!

It's hard to believe, but this is the last issue of *Feel Good Friday* for 2022!

Looking back on the year, we realize how incredibly proud we are of our achievements. But more than that, we are deeply grateful for the many ways in which you helped make life in our community better and more equitable for all. Because the truth is, while we at UWDE are often on the front line, it is your encouragement, volunteerism, donations and support that make our work possible.

Whether you're a donor, a partner agency, a legislator, a school teacher or administrator, a government official or employee, a child care provider, an after-school professional, a volunteer, a committee member, a corporate or a small business partner, a campaign coordinator, a friend who reads our emails...or any one of the thousands of people who reached out in some way to support and encourage UWDE in 2022...**Thank You.** Thank you a million times over.

As you gather with family and friends over the holidays, please take a moment to remember those for whom your support has meant so much. A child who has a winter coat, because of you. A family whose lights and heat are on, because of you. A senior who has a hot meal, a third grader who has learned to read and a teen whose future is brighter, all because of you.

And as we turn to face a new year, be assured that UWDE will be there with you, just as you have been there for us. There's so much more to be done and we can't wait to get going.

May you and yours be blessed with a healthful, peaceful and joyous holiday season.



Thank You Very Sincerely,

Laina Michelle A. Taylor
Fallon N. McClain *Abbie Armstrong*
Ken Livingston *Laina M. Henderson* *Donna Snyder White*
Michelle Shavitz *William M. Cotter*
R. Jeremy Braun *Laurie Guardi* *Chelsea Gilbert*
Marcus Watkins *Amber Battle-Winston*
Alanna Southant *Jamie Jones*
Brandon Brice *Will Torres* *Ebony Brown*

From all of us at UWDE

Men's Health Fair Promotes Annual Checkups for Black Men

One Hundred Black Men of Delaware, United Way of Delaware (UWDE) and Christiana Care conducted the first "Man Up Delaware" Men's Health Fair early this month. Nearly 100 attendees visited the nine health booths.

Sponsored by Novo Nordisk, the event was designed to encourage men ages 18 and older to get check-ups and health screenings. The event also featured haircuts, massages and food. Attendees had a chance to network with other men from the greater Wilmington area as well as Brothers of the One Hundred Black Men of Delaware.

Special guests included Mayor Mike Purzycki, City of Wilmington; Dan Cruce, COO, UWDE; Rick Deadwyler, Chairman, UWDE; Markevis Gideon, 100 Black Men of Delaware; Doug Henderson, I-Heart Radio; Logan Herring, CEO, WRK Group; Levar Johnson, Novo Nordisk; Milli Ogwayo, Christiana Care; Colby Owens, Wilmington Urban League.

We thank our partners Christiana Care, City of Wilmington, DETV, Henrietta Johnson Medical Center, Teen Warehouse, Novo Nordisk and WDEL.



Coming Soon! Second Annual *Pitch or Ditch* Minority Small Business Competition

Pitch or Ditch is a business competition for minority businesses and entrepreneurs, modeled after the hit tv-show **Shark Tank**. Nine entrepreneurs will have the chance at a cash prize if they win the competition. Contestants will have seven minutes to pitch their business and another seven minutes to answer questions from an esteemed panel of judges.

The competition will highlight the creativity, innovations, and business strategies in Delaware's small business community. The event looks to bring light to the economic needs of minority entrepreneurs and serve as a bridge to form essential relationships with high-level corporations and potential investors.

Pitch or Ditch will be moderated by Dr. Randall Pinkett of NBC's show *The Apprentice*. The panel of judges includes Norman Oliver, Owner and President of Rock Solid Works; Brian DiSabatino, President of EDIS, LLC; Tanisha George, President of Trilogy One Consulting; Chris Kenny, President & CEO of Kenny Family ShopRites of Delaware; and Italo Carrier-Russo, Co-Owner & GM of V&M Italian American Bistro.

Many thanks to our corporate sponsors Chase Bank, Discover, New Castle County and the City of Wilmington.

Businesses can [Register here.](#)

PITCH OR DITCH

FEATURING AMERICAN BUSINESS CONSULTANT RANDAL PINKETT,
STAR OF "THE APPRENTICE"



An opportunity for Delaware's Minority
Entrepreneurs to pitch their business
ideas for a shot at a cash prize!

Jan. 26th, 2023 - 6PM-9PM

Wilmington Public Library

10 E 10th Street Wilmington, DE 19801

Register: uwde.org/pitch



Get to Know *My Very Own Library*

United Way of Delaware's *My Very Own Library* program provides free, new books to students so they can build a personal home library. When students can choose the books they want to call their own, they develop stronger literacy skills, which can lead to better test scores and a lasting love and joy for reading.

The program is free for participating students, thanks to generous partnerships with Scholastic®, DuPont, Global Shapers, and the University of Chicago.

For more information, [check out the video below](#) and/or visit UWDE.org



DEANcember Coffee Chat & Teatime Talk

December 21, 2022

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
[REGISTER HERE](#)



Join us on December 21 at 11 a.m. for our virtual
DEANcember Coffee Chat & Teatime Talk Meeting:
SEL and Afterschool Programs!

Come hear from national afterschool and out-of-school-time leaders discussing strategies for integrating social and emotional learning into afterschool programming. Panelists will share examples of funding opportunities, discuss how to collaborate with districts and schools, and review [Delaware's SEL OST Toolkit](#).

The meeting will be facilitated by Dr. Teri Lawler, Education Associate, Trauma-Informed Practices and Social and Emotional Learning School Support Services Work Group, and special guest Jocelyn Brown, Ed.D., LPCMH – Supervisor of Equity, Wellness and Culture and District Coordinator of Capital School District 21Century Community Learning Centers.

In Delaware, we know that after-school programs promote young people's social and emotional learning (SEL) skills – whether the programs use that term or not. Many afterschool and summer enrichment programs have broad learning objectives for youth that include social, emotional, and character development. Afterschool and summer learning programs are a unique setting where youth can connect to positive adult mentors, feel safe to try new things, and have the opportunity to acquire new skills and develop mastery.

Research shows that developing the kind of productive, healthy relationships with caring adults that are a mainstay of many afterschool and summer enrichment programs is critical to the social and emotional development of youth.

Together with families and schools, afterschool and summer learning programs can work to ensure that all children and youth are given the supports they need to build their social and emotional skills and competencies, paving a clear pathway to a healthy and fulfilling future.

We hope you will join us -- and don't forget your coffee, tea, or hot chocolate!

Regina Sidney-Brown, MS
Director, Delaware Afterschool Network &
Chair, IRMC Extended Learning Opportunities Subcommittee

Pathways to Service Podcast Features Brandon Brice

Pathways to Service is a program about Rotary, featuring Rotary related guests and topics. Each Sunday morning at 6 a.m. on WDEL, hosts Allison David and Lisa Bixby interview Rotarians about how they help make communities better. The December 11 show highlighted United Way of Delaware and Delaware Racial Justice Collaborative as explained by Brandon Brice, UWDE Director, Philanthropy & Equity.

[Listen to the interview here.](#)





"A CONVERSATION WITH PARENTS"

Date: December 20th, 2022 **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: Joyce Powell & Richard Munsey

SESSION TOPIC: Protective Life Check Up (Understanding Your Life Insurance Needs) If something happened to you..

- What would happen to your family?
- Would they have to worry about money?
- Would their lifestyle be changed?
- What would happen to their dreams for the future?

There's no denying it — life insurance brings up uncomfortable questions. No one wants to think about a time when they won't be around. But there's a lot riding on those answers, for both you and your family. At Protective Life, we've developed a Life Check-Up process to help you think through these important questions, and many more. Together with your financial professional, you can develop or update your plan to protect your family, in the event you're not there to do it yourself. You'll be able to stop worrying about the future and be free to embrace all that today can bring.

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

Child Care and Dinner will be provided!



Community Announcements

Save the Date!




The Health Literacy Council of Delaware

Invites you to the:

Statewide Strategic Planning Session

WHEN: Tuesday, January 24, 2022 from 11:00 AM- 3:00 PM

WHERE: Modern Maturity Center, Dover DE

-  Availability for first 100 registrants!
-  Lunch will be provided!
-  Be a part of goal setting for our statewide health literacy plan!

**Registration
information
coming soon!**

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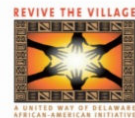
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