“When we arrived we did not have the resources and the connections that we needed to get off the ground, and United Way has been a crucial support in that whole endeavor.

I remember my teachers telling me that there was access to mobile dental clinics, that there were people willing to help me out and connect me with resources that will provide me with free school supplies. All of these were critical for me and my family to get the equal footing, and for us to get started with our lives here in the United States.

You know, if I don’t have access to good dental care, if I don’t have access to school supplies or food, I will not be able to succeed academically at school. And so, although it is external to the educational system, all of these components are required for a student to succeed.

I think it is important to give back to my community because I see my story a lot. These are the kids of immigrants. These are the kids who need the resources to succeed. I see myself in them, and I feel like it is very critical to give back and allow them the same opportunities that I was so fortunate to have received to be able to succeed within my own life.

To Live United means to understand that when we help one person succeed the whole community succeeds and that by Living United, we are all able to raise ourselves up as a whole and together we will build a brighter future for all of us.”

MEET LAP. He and his family immigrated to Olmsted County 12 years ago. He recently graduated from John Marshall High School, a Full-Service Community School, and is about to go to Harvard! Lap knows the power of opportunity and hopes to be an advocate for economic prosperity and international relations.

We are better when we connect and build lasting relationships.

We are better when we listen because listening is the beginning of healing.

We are better when we defend each other and look after those in need.

Everyone can benefit from working together and United Way of Olmsted County is asking you to join the fight.

Because your unique passion, expertise, and resources will help the fight become a win!

A win that’s not just a short-term contribution but a long-term and sustainable solution for ALL. Whether that means helping a vulnerable child, working with isolated seniors or anything in between, it’s all about building connections and delivering support to the people and communities who need it.

THIS IS OUR HOME. And TOGETHER we’re fighting to make sure it’s a place where ALL people can thrive.

Yet across Olmsted County, 200-300 families are dealing with homelessness. Housing instability is directly linked to poor health outcomes, educational outcomes and employment outcomes.

That’s why we support programs that connect youth and families to the resources they need, when they need them.

WE’RE BETTER TOGETHER, WON’T YOU JOIN US?

WHAT MATTERS MOST?

Your bi-weekly contribution will add up to big wins for your local community.

*A Data calculated using annual gift amounts over 26 pay periods.

- **A $5 Cup of Coffee**
  - OR
  - **8 Backpacks with School Supplies**
  - Preparing students in Olmsted County for school

- **A $10 Online Purchase**
  - OR
  - **5 People Access Support Groups**
  - Improving mental health and overall well-being

- **A $20 Pair of Movie Tickets**
  - OR
  - **7 Children (0-5yr) Receive Scholarships**
  - Access to high-quality early education, offering lasting social, economic, and academic benefits for kids and their parents

- **A $50 Clothing Item**
  - OR
  - **12 Seniors Extend Independent Living**
  - Supporting individuals to remain healthy in their own homes

- **A $100 Night Out**
  - OR
  - **4 Families Stabilize Housing**
  - Helping to avoid a housing crisis

*Data calculated using annual gift amounts over 26 pay periods.
For more information, visit uwolmsted.org