



BE THE SOLUTION

Having lived in Ithaca most of my adult life, I have a deep appreciation for the many organizations whose dedicated work continues to help make our community a better place to live. I'm honored to chair the United Way Annual Campaign and very excited about sharing some of the impacts of that work throughout our community and, also, encouraging even greater levels of support to ensure that work continues.

I've long been inspired by John Donne's familiar words – which I paraphrase in saying: “No person is an island unto themselves; everyone is a piece of the continent; each, a part of the main, and what diminishes one, diminishes all because we are all involved in humankind”.

Herman Melville was equally inspiring in saying: “We cannot live for ourselves alone. Our lives are CONNECTED by a thousand invisible threads, and along these sympathetic fibers, our actions run as causes and return to us as results.”

Giving of our resources in support of others is a significant and concrete way of demonstrating what someone so eloquently said:

“I'm only one, but I am one. I can't do everything, but I can do something!
And, that which I can do, I must do; And, that which I must do, I will do!

Giving in support of causes that are important to us is one of the things we can do. We give because we genuinely CARE! Caring engages us at an emotional level and taps

into something at the very core of our being. Genuine and authentic caring prompts us to ask the questions:

- “How can I help?”
- What contributions can I make?

The answer to those questions is simply: give! Give to directly support the efforts of our many and varied organizations who, collectively, do what no single one can do alone. In doing so, we are helping to make ours a more caring, supportive and sustainable community!

Cal Walker,

2019-20 Community Campaign Chair