



**NO MATTER THE ODDS.**

**LIVE UNITED®**

**“When Connor talks about the medals he has won for swimming, a big smile lights up his face.”**

“United Way recognizes that inclusive opportunities like those offered by YMCA at Pabst Farms are critical in developing both physical and social skills for children of all abilities,” said Vickie Hay, health portfolio manager at United Way. “Connor’s story is a powerful example of what happens when people are given the time, space, and support to thrive.”

When Connor turned eight, he joined the YMCA’s Special Olympics team and now loves going to practice with his friends.

Brenda is excited about Connor’s future. “The Y is such an inclusive environment. In addition to the teams, you see people with different abilities working here,” said Brenda. “It gives me hope.”



UNITED WAY of GREATER MILWAUKEE & WAUKESHA COUNTY  
[UnitedWayGMWC.org](http://UnitedWayGMWC.org)

6/18

# THE BEST WAY TO GIVE.

A gift to United Way’s Community Fund allows you to help more people than a gift to a single nonprofit can.

Our community’s problems are interrelated, and only the Community Fund’s diversity of programs work together to address the complex causes of poverty, homelessness, teen pregnancy, and many others – in a way that no single agency, donor, volunteer, or sector of the community can do alone.

United Way experts look for gaps and duplications so Community Fund dollars go to the needs everyone is aware of, but also to needs that are less obvious but no less important.



Agency Designation

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Community needs are assessed and the most critical issues are identified   | ✓ |   |
| Funding stays local and is based on program performance and overall impact on our community                        | ✓ |   |
| Rigorous program oversight is provided by United Way staff and volunteers year-round                               | ✓ |   |
| Agencies are visited by United Way staff and volunteers to ensure program compliance and progress                  | ✓ |   |
| Quarterly reviews of agencies’ financials are conducted  | ✓ |   |
| Opportunity exists for your donation to be matched through challenge grants sponsored by companies and foundations | ✓ |   |
| Donate conveniently through workplace campaign and payroll deduction   | ✓ | ✓ |
| Donation is distributed directly to nonprofits   | ✓ | ✓ |



**NO MATTER THE OBSTACLES.**

**LIVE UNITED®**

**“He was scared, just like any little kid.”**

Born with Down syndrome, Connor started adaptive swim lessons when he was three years old with YMCA at Pabst Farms, a United Way-funded program partner in Oconomowoc.

“It took a while for him to get comfortable jumping in and putting his face in the water,” said his mom, Brenda.

United Way funds Special Programs at YMCA at Pabst Farms, ensuring everyone has access to programming like aquatics.

“The Y gives kids like Connor the opportunity to have new experiences and opportunities to make friends, to belong,” said Brenda. “Having different abilities, Connor doesn’t always get the chance to feel included with other kids.”



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