

## For Immediate Release

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## United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha Mourns the Loss of Community Leader

[03/26/2019] – Our United Way family has learned the sad news about the passing of a Milwaukee trailblazer and true community champion, **Gwen T. Jackson**.



Ms. Jackson was a community pioneer who dedicated her life's work to volunteerism and early childhood education. Her work and legacy is not only known locally but also on the national level.

Ms. Jackson's involvement with United Way began in 1975. She was a key supporter of the Loaned Executive program, volunteering her time coaching and uplifting Loaned Executives each year with her words of wisdom. She made sure every loaned executive felt appreciated and understood their importance and role in helping the community. Gwen was also instrumental on the United Way Cabinet and grants allocation team.

Gwen T. Jackson's work and legacy spanned more than 50 years with involvement in American Red Cross, YWCA, Milwaukee Urban League, and countless others. She was a role model to all women in the community especially African American women and her leadership has positively impacted the lives of thousands.

Her dedication to volunteerism and advocacy for early childhood education is so notable in our community that

many organizations have named numerous awards and recognitions named after her. Ms. Jackson has even been honored by having a Milwaukee Public School school named after her.

To pay tribute to her work, in 1981, United Way created The Gwen T. Jackson Community Service award. It is presented annually to a United Way volunteer who best exemplifies a spirit of volunteerism and dedication to one's community and fellow citizen.



This year's Gwen T. Jackson Community Service award recipient Jacqueline Herd-Barber, said, "To receive an award named for Gwen Jackson is truly an honor. No one has done more as a Milwaukee volunteer than Gwen—and she has inspired countless of others to walk that walk..."

Gwen T. Jackson will be greatly missed but her legacy will continue.

Sincerely,

Amy Lindner

President & CEO

United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County