Name: Nalani Frank
Age: 12 years old
School: West Middle School
United Way Partner Agency: Sunset Park Afterschool Program
Program Benefits: “Makes your grades go up, I am getting A’s and B’s. It’s fun.”
Dream: To become a detective
Interest: Track
Words of Advice: “Never give up.” “Don’t stop believing.”

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GIVE UNITED.

LIVE UNITED
United Way
United Way of Muscatine
Name: Phyllis Godfrey
Age: 85
Hometown: Marshalltown Iowa, but has been in Muscatine for around 45 years.
Education: 2 years Community College and then went back as a 40 something student and got a Microbiology Degree
United Way Partner Agency: Senior Resources - Meals on Wheels program
Program Benefits: “Meals on Wheels is a Godsend. I love the food. I love the people. I would only eat cold sandwiches and chips without meals on wheels. I can’t see to cook. I hope others take advantage of it too!”
Dreams: “To help as many people as I can and I hope to be around another 40 years!”
interests: Antiques. “I was an antique dealer for 50 years until my eyesight failed me. I like to listen to T.V. Also interested in politics.”
Former Job: “Back in the 60’s I was President of the Community Chest here in Muscatine which changed its name to the United Fund back in the 70’s and is currently now the United Way! I did a lot of volunteer work.”
Words of Advice: “Love everybody, especially God and your family! Keep a positive attitude!”

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Name: Al and Susan Bengtson
Grandchildren: Jasmine and Jordyn
United Way Partner Agency: Muscatine Community YMCA Family Program Services—Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group
Program Benefits: "Less than 3 weeks after my retirement we received a call to come and get our two little granddaughters or they would be taken in to the Foster care system. We were lost. How do we get a doctor, insurance, guardianship? We were given answers to those questions and more. Things have changed so much since our children were young. Thank God we were introduced to the Grandparent Raising Grandchildren Group at our local YMCA. The support we received was definitely a gift from God. Just to know that we were not alone, helped us to be the parents that our little girls needed. The group helped us get the assistance and support that we needed.

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United Way
United Way of Muscatine
Name: Lindsey Serrano
Age: 30
Hometown: Davenport, IA
Degree: Left school in 11th grade
United Way Partner Agency: MCSA’s Homeless Prevention Program
Program Benefits: “Was helpful for me to see that others are going through the same things as we did and that it is okay to need help. The people at MCSA care.”
Dreams: To be a good mom, take care of my family and finish school.
Interests: Reading, coloring, art, activities with my children.
Words of Advice: “Be strong. Keep your head held high. Things will work out.”

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Name: Courtney Casteel
Grade: 11
United Way Partner Agency: Muscatine Community YMCA
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Her Big: Brenda White
Benefit of BBBS: “I’ve met new people and become more confident being in the program.”
Goals: “To finish high school and college and get a job in something I like.”
Words of Advice: “By being yourself, you will find friends and know who your true friends are.”

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United Way
United Way of Muscatine
Name: Kelsey  
Age: 22  
Hometown: Muscatine, Iowa  
Degree: Graduating 2017 with AA Degree  
United Way Partner Agency: Muscatine Community YMCA Family Program Services  
Program Benefits: I first started in Teen Parents Group, and then graduated to First Steps Group. I am now a volunteer and mentor for other Teen Parents and have learned a lot about parenting, which I share with others to help them reach their potential.  
Dreams: My passion is psychology and I hope to someday work in a Psych Unit.  
Interests: I love working with children and spending time with my daughter.  
Words of Advice: Your story is not over yet; this too shall pass.  

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Name: Marian Hayes
Age: 90
Hometown: Muscatine
Education: Senior in High School
United Way Partner Agency: Senior Resources - Meals on Wheels program
Program Benefits: “Keeps me eating.” “Can’t see any more to cook. Volunteers are all so nice!”
Dreams: Stay in own home as long as possible.
Interests: Listen to the radio. Do hanger coverings. Used to love to embroider but can’t see well enough now.
Former Job: Stay at home mom
Words of Advice: Go to the eye doctor right away if your eyesight starts to go bad.

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United Way of Muscatine
Name: Shakerra  
Age: 10  
School: Franklin Elementary School, 5th Grade  
United Way Partner Agency: The Salvation Army  
Program Benefits: “The Safe Haven After School Program helps me with my homework and makes learning fun.”  
Dreams: “To become a famous gymnast”  
Interests: “Helping others, reading, math, learning the piano, and riding my bike. “  
Advice: “Life gets hard, you have to fight and be strong.”

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United Way of Muscatine
Name: Noah  
Age: 9  
School: Jefferson Elementary School, 4th Grade  
United Way Partner Agency: The Salvation Army  
Program Benefits: “The Salvation Army is a safe place for kids to go. It helped me learn spelling and we do science experiments.  
Dreams: “To become a veterinary.”  
Interests: “Video games, basketball, science, and being with my mom.”  
Advice: “Go through life having fun and remember to smile a lot.”

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Name: Jose Coreas
Age: 48
United Way Partner Agency: Flickinger Learning Center - Adult Education
Program Benefits: “The program help improve my communication skills with native English speakers.”
Dreams: "To become a businessman."
Interests: "Playing Soccer and Listening to Music."
Words of Advice: “Speak more English and read books in English.”

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Name: Manie Chelley  
Age: 55  
United Way Partner Agency: Flickinger Learning Center - Adult Education  
Program Benefits: “The program helps me learn to speak, read, and write well.”  
Dreams: "Go to college and work in an office."  
Interests: "Dancing and singing"  
Words of Advice: “Study hard and be patient”

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