

Helping my fellow man

I am proud of the strong heritage that our community has of giving and volunteering with United Way. Serving as the 2016 United Way campaign chair and board member, I have become even more passionate about the work of United Way and the broad impact our investments have improving the whole circle of life in our community.

Education, basic needs and health — United Way's impact areas — are essential to a strong, vibrant community. United Way is governed by our local board of directors and creates an unmatched model of wonderful stewardship of philanthropic dollars.

I am grateful to United Way for making it easy for me to help my fellow man by giving, advocating and volunteering. One of our employees at Dalton Utilities, Lamar, is directly impacted by United Way — his son



**Tom
Bundros**

Ethan is supported by Cross Plains, a United Way community partner.

Ethan was diagnosed with autism when he was in preschool. After graduating from Northwest Whitfield High School, Ethan was connected with Cross Plains where he found opportunities to socialize with his peers, volunteer and gain employment. Ethan was hired by Irene's Cake and Candy Supply and receives supported employment services through Cross Plains. Ethan has been working at Irene's for three years, and he loves his job. His favorite thing to make is white icing!

"It takes a village to raise a child with autism. Not only is Irene a part of that village, but so is Cross Plains," remarked Lamar.

Ethan's mother Gail also shared her gratitude. "I appreciate United Way supporting Cross Plains and improving the lives of those with developmental disabilities," she said.

Your gift to United Way allows Ethan to actively engage in the community and to have a meaningful day. A gift to United Way of \$1,000 per year will enable daily support such as art, computer programs and volunteer

projects for three adults with developmental disabilities.

Thanks to your gift to United Way last year:

■ 885 individuals who are elderly or have developmental disabilities received nursing care, meals or job support to help make their day brighter.

■ 51 individuals with developmental disabilities were provided job coaching to find and maintain employment.

I would like to congratulate our associates at Dalton Utilities. This year, our employees have pledged just over \$50,000 of their personal funds to United Way. If you see a member of the DU team, please give them a high five — they deserve it!

Today, I ask that you join us in making a personal investment in United Way and reaching the goal of \$3.8 million for Whitfield and Murray counties. Visit ourunitedway.org or call (706) CAN-HELP to make a pledge. Together, we can make great things happen.

Tom Bundros is the 2016 United Way campaign chair and the CEO of Dalton Utilities.