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C.ORG/WLC

**Women's Leadership Council (WLC)  
Steering Committee Members**

Linda Bowers, Co-Chair

Mary Junck, Co-Chair

Tara Barney

Julie Bechtel, Founding Chair

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Learn more at [unitedwayqc.org/wlc](http://unitedwayqc.org/wlc)



*United Way Women's Leadership Council*

PREPARING CHILDREN  
BIRTH TO FIVE FOR  
SUCCESS IN LIFE.

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UNITEDWAYQ

# WHO WE ARE

The Women's Leadership Council (WLC) is an educated, informed and dedicated group of women working to improve the lives of children birth to five in our community.

# OUR GOALS

To ensure children birth to five:

- Begin kindergarten ready to learn.
- Have access to and receive quality child care and preschool.
- Have their basic needs met.

We're working to improve centers' quality ratings for child care and education. We want to help them bring their services from excellent to exceptional.

## Why Early Childhood Learning Is Important

High-quality preschool increases a child's chances of success in school and in life. Children who attend are less likely to be held back a grade or need special education. They have higher earnings as adults and have improved language, academic and social skills.

Ensuring that children are ready for school is just the first step to make sure they are prepared for success in life. 29% of 4th graders in Rock Island County and 24% in Scott County are not achieving reading proficiency. By focusing on early learning, we can change these statistics and give these children a better, brighter future.

## Our Partners

The WLC is currently partnering with two award-winning centers serving high-need neighborhoods:

- **Skip-A-Long, Rock Island Campus**
- **Scott County Family Y, Downtown Davenport**

# WLC GIVES

WLC fundraises for efforts that improve the quality of early learning in the Quad Cities.

To meet our goals, we are embarking on a fundraising campaign to raise \$2.75 million to increase the quality of child care at the centers in the areas of:

- Staff training
- Health and safety
- Environment
- Education

As a result of our work, we are helping both centers attain the highest national standards for child care and education, so local children are prepared for kindergarten. We have already started this process by investing close to \$20,000 in both centers, which provided:

- Playground equipment that is handicap accessible
- Continuing education/staff training at both centers
- Increased basic health at the Scott County Family Y
- Parent training at Skip-A-Long

# WLC ADVOCATES

WLC monitors and engages in activities to promote early childhood learning, for example, speaking with legislators and hosting educational sessions. Our strongest voice is being used to make sure that daycares are registered in Iowa and that early child care receives the necessary funding from both states.

# WLC VOLUNTEERS

WLC identifies projects and needs within the area of early child care and develops volunteer opportunities and allocates dollars raised to meet these needs.

## Operation READ

Each week, volunteers spend one hour reading to children at the centers and engaging the students in creative activities related to the stories.

To volunteer for this opportunity, visit [unitedwayqc.org/wlc](http://unitedwayqc.org/wlc).

## Hygiene Kits

We are collecting hygiene items for the families who need basic supplies at both of the centers.

To learn about the supplies that are needed, and how you can donate, please visit [unitedwayqc.org/wlc](http://unitedwayqc.org/wlc).

The volunteer committee will continue to organize custom, unique opportunities depending on the needs of the centers.

***"The children benefitted from the volunteers (reading to them). They are meeting new people that care about them and their future. (This) program gives them something to look forward to every week!"***

***-Mariah  
Teacher, Skip-A-Long***

***"Being able to take the training classes has been a dream come true. I am learning so much. Not only do I benefit, but the children I teach benefit from all the new techniques and ideas I share with them"***

***-Andrea  
Teacher, Scott County Family Y***



# JOIN US

We invite you to join us in our efforts. You can Give, Advocate or Volunteer by filling out the enclosed form. Be one of the women who steps forward and shapes not only this movement but also children's lives.

Visit [unitedwayqc.org/wlc](http://unitedwayqc.org/wlc) to join today.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime/Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Email \_\_\_\_\_

Union/Local \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes, I want to give to the Women's Leadership Council
- My gift of \$2,500 or more to the WLC qualifies me as a Charter Member.
- I want to join a committee

I am interested in volunteering

**I WANT TO GIVE A ONE-TIME GIFT OF:**

AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Direct gift to be paid by:

- Cash
- Credit/Debit (Visa/MC/Discover/AMEX)
- Personal check (enclosed)
- Bill me (\$25 donation minimum)
- Automatic withdrawal from bank account \*
- Stock (contact United Way to facilitate)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card Number (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date

\* United Way will contact you to facilitate.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_