



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER. LIVE UNITED™



United Way
of North Rock County

Paul Benish

Janesville Resident

I am Paul Benish and I am a Financial Advisor with M&I Bank. My wife Pam and I are proud to give to United Way at the Leadership Circle level. We do this because we know that our contribution will do the most good for the truly needy, right here in our communities.

I also make my dollars work when I spend time volunteering for what I believe in. I found a great volunteer opportunity through Volunteer Network. Last year I was privileged to help 71 year old Donna Mae learn math skills in working towards a lifetime goal of earning her GED.

I always hear people say, "They should do something about that". I think we must be the "they". If we don't act, it won't get done. I just got back from hiking the Grand Canyon. Standing at the top, there were hundreds of people. My wife Pam and I drove off by ourselves, to a remote location on the rim of the canyon and walked down in. We hiked for four days. Volunteering is like that. You can stand at the top and look in wonder, or you can start walking.

As a founding board member of God is Faithful Temporary Shelter - G.I.F.T.S- a men's homeless shelter hosted by various churches, I can help those who can probably never repay. Helping those who cannot cope by themselves and who desperately need assistance is what we're called to do.

I like to think of it like this: We are all God's children. The time, talent and treasure that we've been given are not really ours to keep, we're just borrowing them. We've all been given so many blessings and I find that, when we share them, to help out others, they seem to multiply. *I'm happy to give so we can live united.*

Note: Paul won the "Volunteer of the Year" award at Volunteer Network's Helping Hand Volunteer Award event in 2008 to recognize his outstanding efforts in volunteerism.

Paul other involvement: YWCA – "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" Event (wore red high heels to raise awareness of violence against women); Janesville Noon Rotary; Camp Rotamer Committee Member; YMCA of Northern Rock County Board Member; Lazarus Foundation Board Member; Finance Committee Member and Outreach Committee Chair for Trinity Lutheran Church; Meals on Wheels Volunteer Driver; United Way Workplace Campaign Speaker; Samaritans Purse – week-long mission trip to repair hurricane damaged homes in Mississippi and much more.