

2018 CAMPAIGN CHAIR

CASE STATEMENT

CASEY CRABB

I was very fortunate to be raised in a family where giving back and giving to others was not only the right thing to do but the natural way of life. It was simply what you did, one person helping or assisting another. It just was second nature to me. It was also one of the things I enjoyed most about growing up in a rural community. Everyone just seemed to care about each other.

For me, this type of belief system really came from my Grandpa. He was very giving and caring. A man with no high school education, he had a love for God, poetry, baseball, his family, and his fellow man. He believed and preached about those building blocks to his children and they were raised in this belief system.

One of his children moved from our hometown and settled in Monticello back in the early 1960's. Annual visits to White County lakes and Indiana Beach--it's truly a story hundreds of thousands can share over all these decades. When it came time settle down and find a career, White County was a natural fit for me. My family had paved the way all those years ago.

I came to White County to become a Juvenile Probation Officer, a new, much-needed role in this community. In those beginning years, I got to know several people who became great resources to me because of their work in several services within White County. People like Andi Janke, Leslie Goss, Cinda Kelley, and Ellen Bartlett, who had a drive and a passion for helping kids and families, were such a source of inspiration.

After leaving the probation world, I was grateful to discover that one of REMC's driving principles is *Concern for Community*. This principle allows me to work with such giving organizations as White County United Way. These efforts make me a part of something greater, a *bigger picture* assignment where we can so positively affect others' lives. Still, when it comes to White County United Way and the organizations it supports – we can do better, we can do even more!

There are so many real-life stories of those who have been assisted by a United Way supported agency, but the fight continues and we need to strive to be even more giving. Let's face it, sometimes life hits all of us hard and it's very unpredictable. White County United Way and its organizations are here to help, but they can only assist as far as their tight budget stretches.

It is so easy to give today. For just \$1.00 per week, we can fight for cleaning supplies for a family who has been displaced by a fire. \$1.00 per week also fights for literacy with weekly books to children at Kindergarten Countdown Camps. Many spend more than \$1.00 every day on pop or coffee--and we are talking about \$1.00 each week! I am encouraged to know that such a small contribution can do such a great deal for our community. We can all make that contribution to fight for our neighbors. We can do more! Our generous donors realize that their gifts are multiplied and numerous neighbors can fight better, stronger . . . together.

I love this community! United we fight. United we win.

We are what it means to Live United.