## TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY

By: Brittany & Matt Ashby

United Way of Laramie County



As the holidays draw closer it is a good time for us to reflect on the blessings that we have been given and worked for in our lives, while looking for ways we can help provide opportunities for others to share in those blessings. The recent events in Paris have brought about renewed discussion on how we can help, what will actually help, and who should lead the way? These hard questions can lead many people to hunker down and believe that there are no answers - so the best option is to just not do anything.

It can be very tempting to step back and say, 'it's not my job' or 'I don't have the ability to deal with it', but ultimately you do have the light that we need to overcome our community's obstacles and bring true joy to Laramie County and the Holiday Season. No, you can't do it alone but together we can make a real difference.

There are many organizations in our community that do good work in helping others when they fall and providing opportunities to overcome obstacles and live fuller, happier lives. It can be very confusing for someone who wants to give or help to understand where they can really make a difference. United Way of Laramie County shines a light on the issues and brings together the people and organizations to do the work and to find solutions and bring joy to the people in our community. United Way holds organizations accountable for the money, it assures that needs are being met while leveraging the talents of all the people and organizations to truly make an impact.

We invite you to join us! Together let's step up and make a difference in the lives of our neighbors who face uncertainty each and every day. Together let's support programs that face obstacles and provide income stability to families. Together let's support our children in reaching their full potential. Together we will build a healthier community. Together let's show our community what GREAT THINGS HAPPEN WHEN WE LIVE UNITED!