

Heather Piawlock
Campaign “Up, Up & Away” Award Recipient
Nursing Service Systems Coordinator at Franklin Health Commons

For some of us, we stumble upon our passions unexpectedly; this is true for Heather Piawlock, the Nursing Service System Coordinator at Franklin Health Commons. Heather attended Southern Maine Community College and graduated with a degree in Graphic Design and New Media; she then took photography classes at University of Maine Augusta. After graduation she began working in a lab as a phlebotomist in 2011, later working in registration, then became the Lead Emergency Room Tech. Finally this past December, Heather accepted her current position as the Nursing Services Systems Coordinator at Franklin Memorial Hospital. “Even though my job doesn’t revolve around graphic design and new media, it has been a helpful part of the job in rather unexpected ways,” says Heather.

United Way of the Tri-Valley Area is proud to honor Heather Piawlock with the *Up, Up, & Away* Award. This award recognizes individuals, businesses and organizations that are newly supporting United Way and whose enthusiasm for the work United Way does is growing. Their involvement with the United Way is yielding great results. Heather has involved herself with the United Way by participating in a supply drive for our Packs for Progress program, spreading the word throughout her work environment about our programs and events, and helping with FCHN’s Cookies in the Cafeteria event.

Like most of us who live in Maine, including myself, when she isn’t working Heather tries to soak up as much of the warmer weather as she possibly can. “Some of my hobbies include skydiving, motorcycle riding, white-water rafting, and relaxing at the beach,” says Heather. I was surprised to learn that someone as shy in front of the camera as Heather was is actually quite the daredevil. “Talking in public scares me to death” says Heather, “I’m more of a ‘behind-the-scenes’ type of person. I took photography classes in college... I’m perfectly comfortable behind the camera, just not in front of it!”

I asked Heather why she chose to support United Way. “I really like the United Way because I don’t have to be putting my money towards one specific fund if I don’t want to. The United Way spreads my donations around to the community where it is needed most. I knew about the United Way, and that they helped the community, but I didn’t really know how. You don’t actually have to donate money to be a part of the change if you’re not financially able to; you can volunteer your time helping at fundraising and community building events!”

Lastly, I asked Heather how she felt being honored for her service. “It came as quite a shock!” She says, “It really shows that the United Way does care, since they are willing to go out of their way to involve and recognize people who are not immediate members of their organization.” We at United Way of the Tri-Valley Area, are proud to support those like Heather who help spread awareness and push for workplace involvement. Heather has helped our network and community support grow; without people like her, United Way would have a harder time reaching those who may benefit by hearing our message. Thank you Heather, for your time and efforts into making Greater Franklin County more accessible and aware of our resources; and paving the way for families and individuals to seek the services they need and to get involved in what we do here at United Way of Tri-Valley Area.