



Peter Smith

The importance of engaging and creating a strong, connected community is among his most strongly held beliefs. One measure of a connected community is how well we care for each other.

Pete has a long history of supporting the United Way. His volunteer work began in 1988 as a volunteer consultant with the United Way of Greater Portland. Along with many other consulting volunteers, he proved pro bono consulting services to various non-profit agencies in the Portland area. While working as a faculty member with Antioch University in Portsmouth, NH he reached out to the United Way of the Greater Seacoast. This outreach was modeled after the program in Portland, Maine and matched graduate students in Organization Development with consulting needs for small non-profit organizations in the Seacoast area of New Hampshire.

Pete began his service to UWTVA by providing pro bono consultant support for the UWTVA strategic planning process from 2014-2015. In 2015 he joined the board of directors as a way to help further the good work undertaken by the UWTVA and its community partners. He initially served as secretary, then as Vice President. Shortly thereafter as President from 2016-2019. Committee work included Nominations and Governance, Executive, and Finance. Among the accomplishments during this time included significant development of the board of directors. This development included expansion of the use of committees with clear roles and responsibilities, more effective board meetings which included written reporting provided to Board members in advance of meetings, and improved performance evaluation process for the Executive Director.

During this period, UWTVA staff levels expanded to meet the needs of the community. Notably this expansion included the addition of designated staff resources to support the recruitment and coordination of volunteer networks to help match community resources with community needs.