

Poland Spring supports Community through United Way's Corporate Champion Circle

Tom Bernardino, a Factory Manager for Poland Spring, is excited to have the Kingfield factory join United Way's Corporate Champion Circle at the Platinum Level. Poland Spring recognizes the contribution and work that United Way does within the community and is a strong supporter of the United Ways of Maine. Tom believes that Poland Spring's and United Way's commitment within the communities where they operate are in perfect alignment.

Poland Spring has three factories in Maine and the Kingfield factory has more than 90 dedicated and passionate employees. Bernardino's vision for this factory is for it to operate at its best and for his team of associates to continue to make a positive impact in the community. Poland Spring, with roots dating back 175 years, has a long history of investing in the community and helping to make Maine a great place to live and work.

Poland Spring recognizes that United Way is a leader in setting the standards for volunteering and community engagement – and impact – which aligns with the company's values. It is truly a team effort. United Way offers engagement for individuals and businesses alike. "I am fortunate to be in a position with a company that is involved with United Way on all fronts – environmentally, financially and through volunteering," states Bernardino. Poland Spring is proud to be working with United Way of the Tri-Valley Area as a member of the Corporate Champion Circle."

Part of the benefit of joining the Corporate Champion Circle is the opportunity to sponsor specific initiatives and events. Demonstrating its interest in community, quality of life and youth, Poland Spring sponsors the Packs for Progress initiative, making sure youth are prepared with backpacks and school supplies; the Color Me United 5k race, a fun healthy way to stay active for all ages; and the Trail of Terror, a haunted walk for Halloween, in which United Way partners with Titcomb Mountain to create a scary event for the community that attracts many participants statewide.

Additionally, Poland Spring and Nestlé Waters North America supported United Ways of Maine through a recent telethon. On April 9th, NEWS CENTER Maine (NBC) hosted an all-day telethon to support United Ways of Maine's COVID Response Fund. Poland Spring and Nestlé Waters North America matched call-in pledges during the "Matching Mainers" noon hour, totaling \$58,000, with 100 percent of the funds going to COVID-19 support programs.