

TALKING POINTS FOR PRESENTATIONS

History of the United Way of Seneca County

- Founded in 1958 to raise money for local charities.
- We're LOCAL. Run by local volunteer board of directors. All money raised here stays here.

Mission today- Advancing the Common Good

Advancing the common good means creating opportunities for a better life for all.

- When we reach out a hand to one, we influence the condition of all.
- We all win when a child succeeds in school, when families are financially stable and when people have good health.
- These results/changes have benefits that ripple out to the community as a whole.

We work together with people from all across the county to create lasting changes in our community.

Some of our community efforts:

- Seneca County Partners for Children, Youth and Families- Collaboration for Community Change
- EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit)/VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Preparation)
- Seneca County Housing Coalition- helping to increase safe & affordable housing
- 0-5- helping children prepare for success in school
- Seneca County Early Literacy Project

Community (Allocation) Investment decisions made by volunteers based on need, impact & program type.

We take our responsibility seriously and hold agencies accountable to make sure donor dollars are being spent like they're supposed to be. *(See Success Stories for samples of our impact)*

Living United means being a part of the change. We must address these issues together.

- It takes everyone in the community working together to create a brighter future.
- Together we can accomplish more than any single group can on its own.
- Give. Advocate. Volunteer. LIVE UNITED.
- We invite you to be part of the change- LIVE UNITED

Funded Partner Agency Services

- 24 agencies and programs in Seneca County focusing on the three building blocks for a good life- a quality **education** that leads to a stable job, **income** that can support a family through retirement, and good **health**.
- Over 10,000 people are served on an annual basis in Seneca County
- United Way community investments leverage thousands of additional government matching dollars
- Innumerable success stories show PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE with LASTING OUTCOMES

Interesting Statistics/Facts from the Seneca County Community Profile (available online at www.cayugasenecaprofile.org)

Demographics by Size

In Seneca County, the 2010 population was 35,250, up 5.7% from 2000, though the gain of about 2,000 people came largely from the construction of the Five Points Correctional Facility in Romulus. The two largest towns, Seneca Falls and Waterloo, declined in population while the Town of Romulus, the location of the state prison, more than doubled in size. All the villages in Seneca County had population declines over the decade.

Demographics by Age

- From 2006-2010, population under 20 declined 7% while the 20-39 age group grew 1%.
- Like the state and nation, Seneca County has seen double digit growth in residents over age 40. The population between the ages of 40-59 increased 13%, the 60-84 age group increased by 18% and those residents over the age of 85 saw a significant increase of 27%.

Economy & Housing

- Unemployment rate in 2010 of 7.9%, as compared to the national rate of 9.6%.
- About 40% of residents left Seneca County to work in 2006-2008, while 31% of workers came from outside the county resulting in 2000 more workers leaving than coming in.
- In 2009, local governments and schools spent about \$5,500 per resident, up 20% from 2000, but below \$6,600 state per capita.

Income & Financial Self-Sufficiency

- Median household incomes in 2006-2010 were about \$46,700. Since 2000, inflation adjusted incomes have declined 4%.
- In 2006-2010, 14% of Seneca County residents were considered poor, up 3 points since the year 2000.
- In 2010, 79 out of every 1,000 residents received Food Stamps. Rates have risen sharply since the national recession began in 2008. Food Stamp use increased each year of the past decade resulting in an overall increase of 84% from 2000-2010.
- In 2010, 15% of residents were enrolled in Medicaid. This is the highest level in the past decade.
- The percentage of students eligible for free or reduced price school lunches was 40% in 2010 while the state rate is 33%.

Children & Youth

- In 2009, 65% of mothers received early prenatal care compared with 75% for the state and about 5% of babies had low birth weights compared to 7.7% for the state.

- From 2006-10, 37% of families were led by a single parent, a rise of 7 points from the year 2000.
- The child poverty rate in 2006-2010 was estimated to be about 22%, as compared to the state poverty rate of 14%. It is up 6 points from the 2000 levels.
- The rate of juvenile delinquency petitions was 163 per 10,000 children in 2010. Juvenile delinquency petitions more than tripled from 2009-2010 with 70 petitions filed in 2010.
- In 2010, the rate of “indicated” reports of child abuse or neglect was 25 children (per 1,000). This rate is 8% lower than in 2000, but above the state rate of 17 per 1,000.

Education

- In 2011, 64% of third graders passed both the English and math exams.
- 41% of low income 8th graders passed the state math & science exams compared to 63% of other 8th grade students.
- By 2010, 75% of students were graduating on time and the dropout rate was 11%.
- High School graduates make up about 36% of the adult population, about 30% had some college or an associate’s degree, 18% held a bachelor’s degree and the rest lack a high school diploma.
- In 2010, 8.1% of the jobs in the county were considered high-tech falling from a high of 12% in 2002.

Health

- In 2009, 14% of Seneca County residents had no health insurance compared to a regional rate of about 10.5% .
- Since 2000, the rates of people admitted to drug or alcohol treatment programs increased by 47%.
- In 2008-2009, 71% of Seneca County residents were either overweight or obese.

Public Safety

- Serious crime declined by 10% in the past decade. The rate of serious crime in 2010 was 186 crimes per 10,000 people.
- Violent crime increased almost 60% from 2000-2010.
- Serious crime declined by 10% over the last decade.
- There has been a decline in reported domestic violence incidents. This decrease may be due to a change in reporting definitions over the past several years.