Statement of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

River Region United Way (RRUW) values and seeks diversity by respecting the knowledge, abilities and experience of all individuals in a nondiscriminatory manner, without regard to background. Our commitment is to support an equitable and inclusive environment reflecting our local communities.

*Diversity is about representation and inclusion is about involvement.*

As a champion and catalyst for building strong and healthy communities, RRUW believes all people should have an opportunity to make an impact in society. It is through the collective efforts of individuals within our communities that we create a responsible and vibrant society, one that respects, honors and thrives on the unique attributes of its members.

RRUW seeks to represent the broadest possible constituency, including people from a range of backgrounds and points of view and as such, fosters and promotes an inclusive environment that leverages the unique contributions of diverse individuals and organizations in all aspects of our work. We know that by bringing diverse individuals and viewpoints together, we can collectively and more effectively create opportunities for a better life for all. RRUW opposes any form of discrimination against any individual or organization. RRUW values, champions and embraces diversity in all aspects of RRUW activities and respects others without regard to race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, national origin or ancestry, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, or status as a qualified disabled or handicapped individual.

RRUW takes the broadest possible view of diversity, going beyond visible differences, to affirm the spirit of all individuals, including the realities, background, experiences, skills and perspectives that make each person who they are. Engaging the power of diverse talent and partners results in innovative solutions necessary to address complex community issues.

**Responsibility:**
Diversity, equity and inclusion are at the heart and core of what it means to LIVE UNITED. In our daily operations, RRUW will continue to provide funding to programs that target underserved populations as identified through continuous community assessment. River Region United Way expects the active participation and support of all members of the organization, regardless of their form of association, and full compliance with this statement.

Reviewed by members of the Board of Directors – Approved 02/24/2021