



United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

RICH LAVRICH

What is your name, title, and department?

Richard Lavrich, Manager, Regional Processing

Can you tell me about your role at United Way?

I have been an employee of United Way for nearly 35 years now. In my current role as the manager of Regional Processing, I am responsible for overseeing and coordinating our donor online pledge experience and all information related to the giving experience within the five-county United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania footprint. I am fortunate to have a talented and dedicated team who perform these tasks and help to provide the highest level of customer service to our constituents.

What do you love best about working here?

I am proud to be able to see the impact United Way has on our community. I have been fortunate throughout my career to meet a number of the people we have helped and see the lives that have been changed because of it.

How did you end up working at United Way?

I started working here after submitting my resume for an opening as a staff accountant. I honestly had no idea what United Way did in the community, only that I had donated to United Way through my previous employer's workplace campaign. When I started working for United Way all those years ago, I thought I would be here for two years or so, then move on with my career. That goal obviously changed as I met the people we helped and saw the profound impact United Way makes.

Who is the most famous person you have met?



The most famous is tough...with United Way I have had the fortune to meet Art Rooney II, owner of the Steelers. Along with many retired Steelers (Rocky Bleir), Penguins (Mario Lemieux) and Pirate (Steve Blass) players to name a few. Add to that list Denzel Washington who I met on vacation in Maryland.

Do you have any talent or skill that we would be surprised that you have?

I have been a scuba diver for more than 20 years with many certifications including rescue, dry suit, deep, wreck and night diver. I also earned my PADI certified as a divemaster, allowing me to lead scuba tours and assist with classes.

SPEED ROUND: CHOOSE ONE!

Morning person **or** night owl?

Breakfast **or** dinner?

Coffee **or** tea?

Dog person **or** cat person?

Beach **or** mountains?