

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Capital Area United Way's Ashley McDermott to be honored at the Great Futures Gala

Baton Rouge, La. (March 9, 2022) – Ashley McDermott, Director of Workplace Campaigns at Capital Area United Way, will be honored at Club Blue's annual Great Futures Gala on Saturday, March 26th benefitting the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Louisiana. McDermott is a member of Club Blue, which is an affinity group of the Boys and Girls Club of Metro Louisiana.

"It is difficult to express how truly humbled and honored I am to be a part of the Great Futures Class of 2022," said McDermott, Director of Workplace Campaigns at Capital Area United Way. "This year's honorees, as well as previous classes, are all extraordinary individuals who have accomplished incredible things for our state, and I know the best from all of us is yet to come!" said McDermott, Director of Workplace Campaigns at Capital Area United Way.

McDermott's passion for helping others runs deep, most notably with her volunteer involvement at the Alzheimer's Association. There she has been named the Louisiana Volunteer of the Year, served as a Regional Board Member, chaired both the Walk to End Alzheimer's and the RivAlz flag football events, and was honored to be the keynote speaker at several events including the Sue Gunter Legacy Dinner. She earned her Master's degree in Public Administration, which inspired her policy work for Alzheimer's Disease that began at the state level where she helped pen and pass into law [Act 308 of the 2019 Regular Session](#) with former State Representative Frank Hoffmann. Her work with Alzheimer's Disease has also taken her to Washington, D.C. where she served as an AIM Ambassador to U.S. Senator John Kennedy. While in Washington, she was able to successfully advocate for the passing of the BOLD Act and a \$414 million funding increase with both U.S. House and Senate members. Her work and personal stories about Alzheimer's Disease have even been featured in "HBO's Inspiration Room" exhibit in Manhattan.

For the past three years Ashley has also served as the Boys & Girls Clubs Co-Chair of Club Blue's Volunteer Committee where she plans engagement activities for Club Blue members to work with Boys & Girls Club members. Her passion for animals has also inspired her to lead the Marketing & Outreach Committee for FurBall and Co-Chair Cap City Beer Fest, both benefitting Companion Animal Alliance.

Each year, Club Blue selects 15 honorees across southern Louisiana to be honored at their Great Futures Gala. Honorees are selected based on their professional achievements, leadership, philanthropic endeavors, and desire to give back to the local community. The Great Futures Gala will be held at Capital Park Museum on March 26th from 7:30 p.m.- 11:30 p.m. Tickets are open to the public and can be purchased at greatfuturesgalabr.com. All proceeds of ticket sales, donations, and fundraising will directly benefit the members of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Louisiana.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Louisiana, a Capital Area United Way partner agency, was established 30 years ago to provide out-of-school-time programs for members. Annually, Clubs serve nearly 10,000 young people across 15 parishes throughout afterschool, summer, youth legislature, and violence prevention programs.

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Capital Area United Way

For more than 97 years, Capital Area United Way has touched thousands of lives in our 10-Parish service area. We envision a community where everyone is empowered to reach their full potential. Our mission is to solve our community's toughest challenges by leveraging partnerships to advance the common good in education, income stability, and healthy living. To learn more visit www.cauw.org.