

Name: Barbara L. Walker, CFRE

Company: United Way of Greater Houston

Job Title: Assistant Vice President, Principal Gifts

Fun Fact about you:

I learned to fly while still in high school.

What's been your favorite Women's Initiative moment?

I enjoyed the Kentucky Derby Themed Women's Initiative Mixer held in May 2023 – so many lovely hats and fascinators! It made it a special occasion.



What is the best part of working at the United Way?

The best part of working for our United Way is the sense of purpose. Every day, I believe I'm contributing to something meaningful by working with our principal donors who support our mission to improve lives, build a stronger community and create meaningful opportunities for people to prosper. The team here is passionate and dedicated, so there's also a strong sense of collaboration and camaraderie. Knowing that our work is creating positive change in our community and in people's lives makes every challenge worth it. It's fulfilling to see the direct impact of our efforts, and it's inspiring to be surrounded by people who are all working toward a shared vision to unite people and partners to ensure our neighbors struggling to make ends meet land on their feet—and stay there.

What event could you medal in, if it were an Olympic sport?

I'd definitely medal in Pleasant Persistence. I've been a professional fundraiser for 40 years. I enjoy engaging with principal donors and making sure they know how much their contribution matters, while building lasting friendships along the way.