



United Way of Youngstown  
and the Mahoning Valley

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **United Way Welcomes ESPN's Kirk Herbstreit for Champions Among Us**

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(Youngstown, OH) – The United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley is excited to welcome Kirk Herbstreit to the 13th Annual Champions Among Us event. The former Ohio State quarterback and popular College Football Analyst for ABC and ESPN will be the honored guest at United Way's annual fundraiser on Thursday, May 17th at The Lake Club in Poland, Ohio.

"The Youngstown area has such strong ties to College Football. It's a great sports town, and I'm excited to be there for the Champions Among Us event," said Herbstreit, "United Way is doing great work in early childhood education. I'm honored to help the organization raise money for such a good cause."

Herbstreit joined ESPN's College Gameday in 1996 alongside of Chris Fowler and co-analyst Lee Corso. This year he will be entering his 23rd season on the popular Emmy Award winning show. Herbstreit is also the game analyst for ABC's Saturday Night Prime Time College Football Game winning two Sports Emmy Awards for that role. He is also a former Buckeye quarterback and team captain for the 1992 season.

"Our Champions Among Us event has welcomed some amazing sports icons and legends over the past 13 years, and Kirk Herbstreit is no exception. He is the College Football expert who knows the game, teams, and players inside and out." said Bob Hannon, President of United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley, "We are thrilled he is going to be our guest for our largest fundraiser of the year. And I'm sure everyone in attendance will enjoy his stories of traveling around the country following College Football."

Herbstreit joins the ranks of other former Champions Among Us guests such as golf legends Jack Nicklaus and Annika Sorenstam, Ohio State Head Coach Urban Meyer, Former University of Oklahoma Head Coach Bob Stoops, Former YSU and OSU head coach Jim Tressel, YSU Head Coach Bo Pellini, boxing legend Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini, and Pittsburgh Steelers great Franco Harris. All the money raised stays in the Mahoning Valley, and goes to fund United Way

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education programs and initiatives. This year's Title Sponsor for Champions Among Us event is sponsored by PNC Bank. For more information on tickets, please contact the United Way office at 330-746-8494.