Karen Townsend

Karen Townsend has meant much to this community, and even though her term as chairman of the board of the United Way of Northwest Georgia is coming to an end, don't expect her impact to not be felt.

Instead, expect her legacy of service and devotion to giving to others to continue as 2017 board chair Matthew Moore of Shaw Industries seeks to continue



To nominate an individual or group, contact Jamie Jones at (706) 272-7723 or jamiejones@daltoncitizen.com. Fax nominations to (706) 275-6641 or write to The Daily Citizen, Attn: Citizen of the Week, P.O. Box 1167, Dalton, GA 30722.

organization does. "Her passion for making our community a better place is evident in all that she does," said Amanda Burt, president of the local United Way. "Under her leadership, the board focused on education and engagement. She spent countless hours educating

the good work the

our community on the impact of United Way and its importance in a healthy, thriving community."

Townsend was co-founder of the Women's Leadership Council in 2012 and has served on the board of directors and as an executive committee member in addition to various other board-level committees for the organization. She participates in the Meals on Wheels program and serves on the board of the Family Support Council, organizing the annual Toast of the Town celebration. She is a volunteer at Christian Heritage School and Dalton First United Methodist Church.

"She has been a huge advocate with United Way," said Jessica Trivino, director or donor engagement and strategy. "Karen has been a long-term advocate and supporter, and she carried the reins of the United Way board and does a great job of educating the community on what United Way offers and stands for." Burt agrees.

"Karen is a shining example of someone who has consistently been engaged in making great things happen in our community," she said. "She leads by example, encouraging us all to get involved and to be the change. It has been my pleasure to work with Karen in this capacity."

For her work in helping make our community a brighter place, The Daily Citizen names Karen Townsend Citizen of the Week.