



## MEET RON – INFLUENCING LIVES THANKS TO YOU

United Way of Siouxland strives to better the lives of people in the community. We fund 30 programs that work to advance the education, income and health of Siouxland. The services provided allow for stories like Ron McKewon's.

Several years ago in a conversation, a friend asked Ron if he would consider taking over an art instruction class at the "senior center." The friend knew that he had taught classes at Western Iowa Tech and thought he would be a good fit for Siouxland Center for Active Generations.

Ron's first reaction was "you're talking about a place for old people, right?" After several conversations about the Center, he agreed to try it for a while to see if was something he really wanted to do. And now he's happy to say that his initial perception was entirely wrong!

Fifteen years later, Ron says joining Siouxland Center for Active Generations was one of the best decisions he ever made. He says he found a community of people who are vital and full of life. They are eager to exercise, stay in shape, learn new things, and look forward rather than backward.

Ron has taught people from all walks of life. He says he's taught dentists, doctors, nurses, teachers, and many other business professionals.

Art class students learn from beginning to end how to produce an excellent piece of artwork. The classroom is also a very social place, allowing students to talk about art techniques and styles.

No matter what else is going on in their life-whether personal, financial, or health-related-for the time they are in art class, those troubles fade into the background. For the time they are in art class, they focus on an enjoyable hobby, thriving in an environment that fosters artistic expression and creativity.

So for Ron, becoming a member of Siouxland Center for Active Generations was truly one of the most satisfying decisions of his life. He says he's come to realize that he loves teaching art as much as he loves creating his own paintings. And he knows that he's made a difference in other people's lives.

Thank you for **LIVING UNITED** | United We Can Do So Much