EMERGING LEADERS SPOTLIGHT
Mattea Nybo, Microsoft

Meet Mattea Nybo, Employee Experience Manager for Microsoft and proud Emerging Leader.

**What motivates you to want to make a difference in your community?**
I grew up going to the lowest income schools in my community. I have been positively impacted by the generosity of others and seen my peers also be impacted. Now that I’m an adult and am in a fortunate situation, I try to give back through my time and resources to help be one piece of the puzzle to make our community stronger. “When you have more than you need, build a longer table not a higher fence” - Unknown author.

**Tell us about your profession.**
I am the Employee Experience Manager for our North Central Region at Microsoft. I wear a variety of hats in my positive from space planning to communications to hosting impactful events. It is amazing because I get to tie in all my strengths to create a positive work environment for employees. Can you tell I love my job?

**Why is United Way's work important to you?**
During college, I worked at an afterschool program for many years and saw the direct impact of United Way of Cass Clay’s work. I vividly remember my favorite little boy coming up to me with his bag of food and goodies for the weekend. He was SO excited that this was his and couldn’t wait to tell me. Once I found out that he got this service from the United Way of Cass-Clay, I was all in. All in to help, evangelize and learn. Now at my current job at Microsoft, giving back is a huge part of our culture so I am encouraged to give back to my community and I love supporting this work.

**Share something about yourself that might surprise us.**
I have been to 16 countries and counting! Traveling is one of my favorite passions in life. I can't wait to get back out in the world once it's safe to do so.

**What is a piece of leadership advice would you give to an aspiring leader?**
I am still learning myself, to be honest! I would say that one thing that I keep in the back of my head always is, “Feel the fear and do it anyways”. Being so new to career, I often find myself fearful of making mistakes or feeling like I am always second guessing myself. I remind myself to keep going forward even when I do feel that way and acknowledge that I will not always get it right. If you’re uncomfortable, that means you’re growing!

**You have 30 seconds to encourage someone to become an Emerging Leader – what would you say?**
Do it, you won't regret it! You get to meet amazing people, give back to the community and learn cool stuff along the way. It is seriously a win-win-win situation across the board.

**What are 3 things you like about the Emerging Leaders program?**
I love being around others with the same passion for giving back, I love the energy of everyone involved and the learning opportunities. It is an incredible opportunity to grow and give to your community with others that care about the same things that I do.

If you’re an Emerging Leader, we are so glad you’re a part of this network of community leaders! We would love to feature you in an upcoming Emerging Leader Spotlight. Click here to submit your information to our team.

If you aren’t yet an Emerging Leader, we invite you to join our network of nearly 1,000 passionate, community-minded professionals who UNITE to give, connect, build skills, and volunteer to lead change for a better tomorrow for our community. United Way donors who invest at least $300 annually gain access to this program to maximize their impact on the community and engage in a wide variety of exclusive networking, volunteering, and professional development opportunities throughout the year to grow as leaders and affect positive change for decades to come. Visit unitedwaycassclay.org/emergingleaders to learn more and join today!