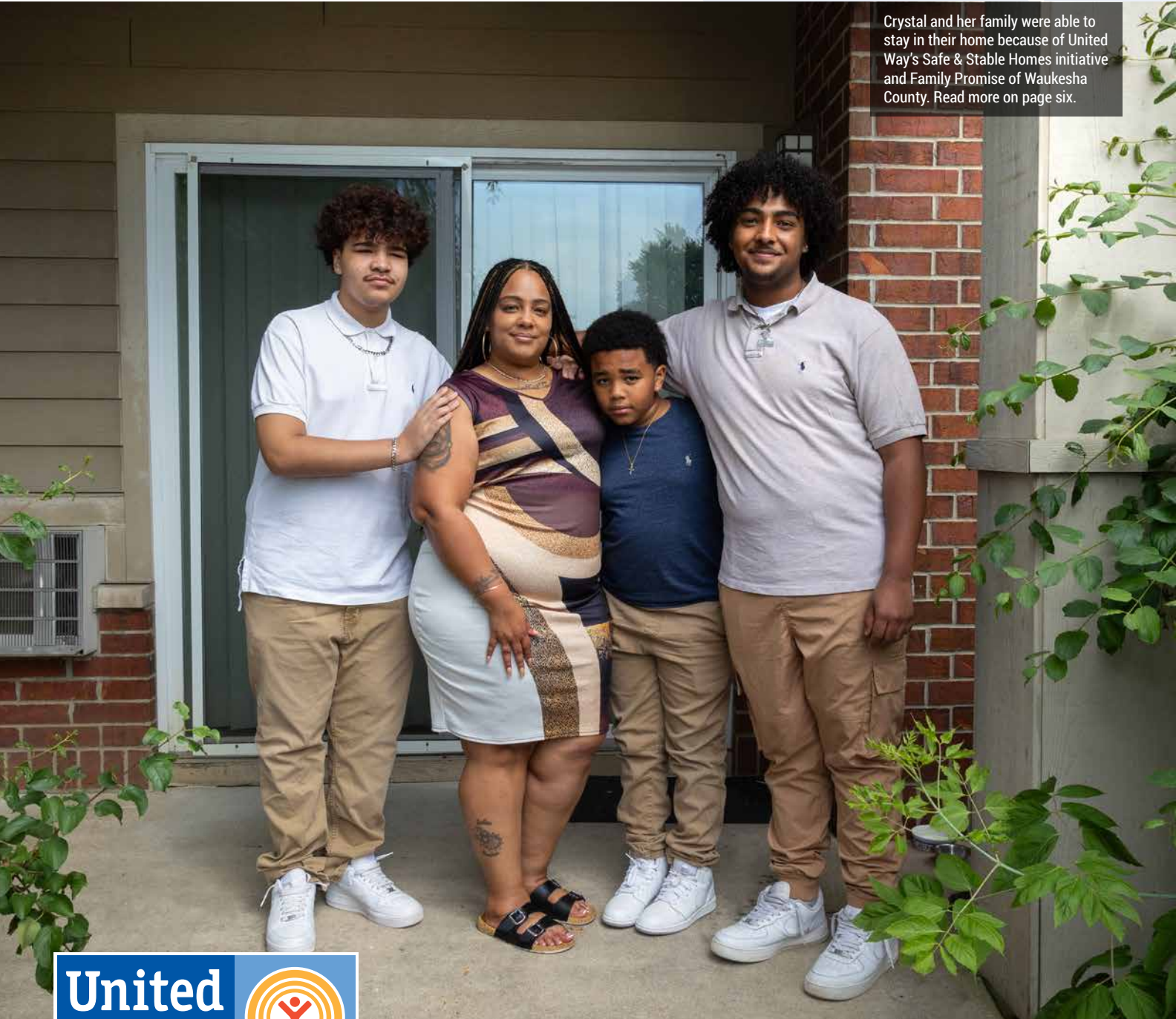


# 2024 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT



Crystal and her family were able to stay in their home because of United Way's Safe & Stable Homes initiative and Family Promise of Waukesha County. Read more on page six.



United  
Way



Greater Milwaukee  
& Waukesha County

Thank you to our print sponsor

 Northwestern Mutual®



In 2023, United Way and partners announced meeting the 58 criteria established by U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and ended family homelessness in two counties in our region, including Milwaukee County, the largest county in our footprint.

In 2024, United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County marks its 115th anniversary in our community. The legacy of our organization is something we take deep pride in upholding.

Since 1909, the core of that legacy has been one simple purpose: help people live better lives.

We are proud of both our roots and our ability to grow.

We also know that the way United Way is helping people today is very different than it was over a century ago. In fact, I think we can even say that the way we are helping people looks different today than it did even five years ago.

In the midst of this change, one thing has remained constant and that's the inspiring generosity of everyone in Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha counties. Tens of thousands of people have partnered with us to achieve some amazing things for our community.

And we are grateful.

I'm proud of the way we continue to look for new solutions and fresh perspectives that help us improve our area's toughest challenges.

Today, together, we are ready to continue our legacy.

**Amy Lindner**  
President & CEO  
United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County

## PEOPLE...

For many in our community, the everyday challenges of life are overwhelming.

A family faces the possibility of losing their home.

A teen struggles in a moment of panic as they enter the high school building.

A person spends most of their day battling the barriers of finding a good job.

Caregivers know that every day that passes without a computer in their home, their child falls once step further behind.

In a time of need, everyone should have someone they can turn to for help.

## ...POSSIBILITIES

This is about neighbors looking out for neighbors.

It's about ending family homelessness.

It's about changing the lives of high school students by focusing on mental wellness support and services.

It's about reducing the barriers that prevent someone from finding a good job.

It's about creating opportunities for individuals and families by bridging the digital divide.

Each year, thousands of corporate partners, donors, volunteers, and local nonprofits all work together to create a strong community.

**Together, we are connecting people to possibilities.**

# WE ARE UNITED WAY

## United Way has always been a leader in the community.

Our organization began in 1909 as Milwaukee's Central Council of Philanthropies to prevent duplication and standardize delivery of human services among charitable organizations. In 1916, a committee from the Central Council proposed and implemented a plan to organize 22 philanthropic organizations in the city into a financial confederation called the Centralized Budget of Philanthropies. This fund-raising organization conducted Milwaukee's first community-wide campaign.

Today, United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County continues to tackle big problems with big solutions.

- We championed efforts to reduce teen births in our community by 65%.
- We are the first community in the nation to have met the criteria set by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness and have ended family homelessness in two of our four counties.
- We are one of the leaders in the United Way network that is creating solutions to bridge the digital divide.

## We are a trusted and effective network.

As one of the world's largest privately funded charities, United Way Worldwide serves 37 countries and territories, making life better for 47 million people every year.

United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County has been recognized nationally and locally for a high rate of efficiency and fiscal accountability.

Over the past several years, United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County has received awards from the Milwaukee Business Journal, Milwaukee BizTimes, the Waukesha County Business Alliance, and the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

## We are focused on local.

United Way funding supports a network of agencies that provide vital programs to thousands of people in our region. Donations to United Way support programs in Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha counties.

## We are delivering hope.

United Way is dedicated to improving the health and well-being for all. We are guiding individuals and families to build their financial stability and strength. We are helping young people reach their full potential. And we are addressing urgent needs and advancing a better tomorrow.

## Our promise to you.

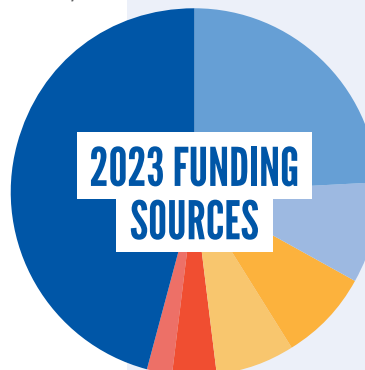
For 115 years, our United Way has worked hard to develop deep roots and build trust in the communities we serve.

Our promise is to continue to take our role as stewards of donor dollars very seriously, and invest these funds to drive community change.



### This is how donations are invested in our community.

- 55%** Strategic Program Grants & Community-wide Initiatives
- 40%** Donor Designations
- 5%** United Way's Programmatic Oversight & Volunteer Services



### Breakdown of the funding United Way received in 2023.

- 46%** Employee & Retiree Workplace Contributions
- 24%** Corporate Contributions
- 9%** Government Grants
- 8%** Individual Contributions Outside of Workplaces
- 7%** In-kind Gifts & Sponsorships
- 4%** Private Foundations
- 2%** Workplace Special Events



United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County has been recognized by both the Better Business Bureau and Charity Navigator for our track record of efficiency. Charity Navigator awarded us a Four-Star Charity rating—their highest rating.

# OUR MISSION

United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County changes lives and improves our community by mobilizing people and resources to drive strategic impact in health, education, and financial stability.

## We Believe.

We believe we all have an obligation for the care and well-being of the Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County community.

We believe in working in concert with local agency partners to make a critical difference in our community.

We believe that together, with our community, we can advance equitable and sustainable solutions that address gaps and disparities to ensure that every person has access to the resources needed to thrive.

## PEOPLE SERVED IN OUR FOUR-COUNTY AREA



people were served by United Way-funded programs and partnerships across our community last year.\*

An additional 266,907 individuals were served by United Way funded partner IMPACT 211.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

2,547

OZAUKEE COUNTY

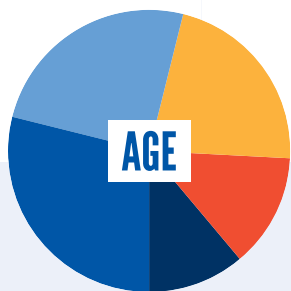
3,142

WAUKESHA COUNTY

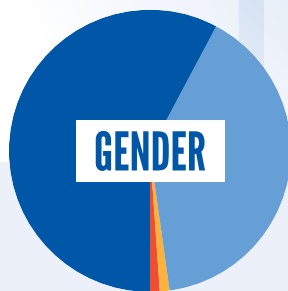
20,820

MILWAUKEE COUNTY

121,839



- 0-11 25%
- 12-17 11%
- 18-34 22%
- 35-64 29%
- 65+ 13%



- Female 59%
- Male 41%
- Transgender/Other <1%
- Gender Nonbinary <1%



- Caucasian 36%
- African American/Black 35%
- Hispanic 20%
- Multi-racial 3%
- Other 3%
- Asian 2%
- Native American 1%



- \$0-9,999 37%
- \$10,000-14,999 14%
- \$15,000-24,999 14%
- \$25,000-36,999 12%
- \$37,000-49,999 8%
- \$50,000-74,999 7%
- \$75,000+ 8%

\*45,677 individuals who were served in our community did not provide a ZIP code at intake.

# UNITED WAY KEY INITIATIVES

Big problems. Big solutions. United Way brings the right people together to explore all the options for our community's toughest challenges.

Our Key Initiatives each have a time-bound, community changing goal for Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha counties.



## REDUCING BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT & ADVANCEMENT

**Our goal:** 15,000 people will be ready to start stable careers having overcome key employment barriers by 2029.



## SAFE & STABLE HOMES

**Our goal:** End family homelessness in our entire four-county footprint by 2025.



## TECHQUITY

**Our goal:** We will provide 50,000 computers to people who need them by 2027.



## TEEN MENTAL WELLNESS: EMPOWERING MINDS

**Our goal:** Empowering Minds schools will elevate the mental wellness of 21,000 high school students by 2030.



Dominique's passion for pursuing childhood education may not have been possible without Next Door's Pathways Program. She's now an assistant teacher with goals to become a lead teacher at Next Door.

## THE FACTS

Funded Programs Results  
from June 2022 to July 2023:

**3,700+ PARTICIPANTS**  
were served by funded programs.

**26,400+ RIDES**  
were provided for people to get  
to or from employment.

**420+ PEOPLE**  
received industry recognized  
credentials to further their careers.

**160+ ARREST RECORDS**  
were expunged for nonviolent crimes.

**100+ DRIVER'S LICENSES**  
were recovered.

## 2024-25 GRANTEEES

Benedict Center  
Down Syndrome Association  
of Wisconsin  
Employ Milwaukee  
Forward Careers  
Goodwill Industries  
of Southeastern Wisconsin  
JobsWork MKE  
Legal Action of Wisconsin  
Literacy Services of Wisconsin  
MATC Foundation  
Milwaukee Community Services Corp  
MobilISE (MetroGO)  
My Way Out  
Next Door Foundation  
Project RETURN  
Wisconsin Community Services (WCS)  
WRTP | BIG STEP

# REDUCING BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT & ADVANCEMENT

**OUR GOAL: 15,000 PEOPLE WILL BE READY TO START STABLE CAREERS  
HAVING OVERCOME KEY EMPLOYMENT BARRIERS BY 2029.**

Many people in our community face systemic barriers when seeking sustainable employment. Barriers like educational attainment, the digital divide, lack of access to reliable transportation, and criminal records. Individuals who experience these barriers often are unemployed or have jobs that pay far below what is needed to support themselves or their families.

Reducing Barriers to Employment & Advancement is anchored in the belief that all adults of working age should have the opportunity to start stable careers.

A stable career allows for the opportunity to support and provide for a family.

**Reducing Barriers to Employment & Advancement** supports programs aligned with these strategies:

- **Education, Training, and Credentials:** Help adults learn to read, earn their GED or other employment credentials.
- **Transportation:** Provide innovative transportation solutions or assist with driver's license recovery.
- **Involvement in the Justice System:** Focus on strengthening justice impacted individuals in the workplace and/or advocating for policy change that assists individuals who have been impacted by the justice system.



Crystal, a single mother, was faced with a serious medical procedure; she was unable to work, and the bills began to pile up. That's when she found help from a United Way-funded partner Family Promise of Waukesha County. They provided financial support and case management to help her stay in her home.

## WHAT IT MEANS TO END FAMILY HOMELESSNESS.

An end to homelessness means that a comprehensive response is in place that ensures family homelessness is prevented whenever possible and when it can't be prevented, is a rare, brief, and one-time experience.

—U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

## 2024-25 GRANTEES

Advocates of Ozaukee  
Cathedral Center  
Community Action Coalition  
for South Central Wisconsin  
Community Advocates  
Dominican Center  
Family Promise of Ozaukee County  
Family Promise of Washington County  
Family Promise of Waukesha County  
FRIENDS  
Guest House of Milwaukee  
Habitat for Humanity  
of Waukesha County  
Hebron Housing Services  
Hope House of Milwaukee  
IMPACT  
Legal Action of Wisconsin  
Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee  
Mediate Wisconsin  
Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity  
My Way Out  
Pathfinders  
Rooted & Rising  
VetsNet  
Zelia

## SAFE & STABLE HOMES

**OUR GOAL: END FAMILY HOMELESSNESS IN OUR ENTIRE FOUR-COUNTY FOOTPRINT BY 2025.**

With the combined efforts of dozens of partners, we've made extraordinary progress in Safe & Stable Homes. Our goal is to meet 58 criteria established by the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness for ending family homelessness. At the end of 2023, we reached this goal in two of our four counties – including Milwaukee – the largest county in our footprint. We've increased efforts to hit those metrics in the remaining two counties.

**Safe & Stable Homes** is guided by these strategies to prevent and end family homelessness:

- Increase awareness of and provide access to eviction prevention resources through a centralized resource center.
- Provide free legal aid and mediation to prevent evictions.
- Optimize coordination between agencies and resources to swiftly move families from homelessness into housing.
- Boost case manager effectiveness through wraparound support funds to prevent future evictions.

### BEFORE SAFE & STABLE HOMES

An average of four families were unsheltered on any given night.

Less than 3% of Milwaukee tenants had legal representation in their eviction case.

Families remained in shelter without flexible resources to assist them.

### SINCE THE LAUNCH OF SAFE & STABLE HOMES

Unsheltered families dropped to zero in Milwaukee and Ozaukee counties.

Over 8,000 local households have received legal aid in their eviction cases. Now nearly a quarter of all Milwaukee evictions filed have legal representation for tenants.

The Family Flex Fund has prevented or ended homelessness for over 290 families through flexible financial assistance and housing case management.

Techquity's device distribution events provide free computers to people who need them.



## TECHQUITY

**OUR GOAL: WE WILL PROVIDE 50,000 COMPUTERS TO PEOPLE WHO NEED THEM BY 2027.**

The digital divide is the gap between those who have access to essential digital skills and tools, like the internet, and those who do not. The digital divide prevents equal participation and opportunity in all parts of life, disproportionately affecting people of color, indigenous peoples, households with low-incomes, people with disabilities, people in rural areas, and older adults.

The vision of Techquity is to ensure the digital equity and inclusion of every resident in Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha counties.

Techquity is guided by these strategies:

- **Broadband:** Ensuring all members of our community have access to affordable and reliable broadband.
- **Devices:** Ensuring all members of our community have access to the digital devices needed to flourish.
- **Skills:** Equipping our community with the digital skills, literacy, and vocational opportunities needed to participate and excel in the digital economy.

### THE FACTS

#### 5,000+ COMPUTERS

have been distributed to organizations and residents in need of technology.

#### 650+ PEOPLE

were assisted with Affordable Connectivity Program eligibility and/or enrollment.

#### 50+ PARTNERS

supported affordable broadband access, computers, smartphones, hotspots, and data plans, as well as digital skills and literacy trainings, for thousands of community members.





Students at Waukesha South High School.

## TEEN MENTAL WELLNESS: EMPOWERING MINDS

**OUR GOAL: EMPOWERING MINDS SCHOOLS WILL ELEVATE THE MENTAL WELLNESS OF 21,000 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS BY 2030.**

In early 2022, United Way brought together mental health experts to collaborate on solutions for youth mental health within our community. Advice and guidance came from local, state, and national experts, as well as those with lived experience. Together, we launched and piloted Empowering Minds.

### Pilot Phase Results:

- Our two pilot schools served 1,800 students at James Madison Academic Campus and Waukesha South High School.
- Both schools completed a comprehensive school mental health needs assessment, the first step toward becoming an Empowering Minds school.
- Each school identified their specific needs, which included:
  - ▶ A structure to provide interventions to students identified as needing mental health support.
  - ▶ Resources that help decrease stigma and promote daily well-being among students and staff.
  - ▶ An implementation process that connects students to the appropriate resources.

### Future Plans:

We are adding seven schools beginning in the 2024-25 school year for a total of nine schools.

- In the coming years, schools will focus on implementing more of the milestones of a comprehensive school mental health system.
- Schools will then enter the sustainability phase for up to two years before completing their time in the initiative.

United Way plans to add schools to Empowering Minds over the next five school years on our way to elevating the mental wellness of 21,000 total students by 2030.

### EMPOWERING MINDS SCHOOLS OF DISTINCTION MILESTONES:

**Needs Assessment:** Mapping the current state and sharing existing resources with students and parents.

**Collaboration:** Building bridges with students, parents, community providers and the school to regularly engage on mental health.

**Referral Pathways:** The school knowing when and how to triage students who need support.

**Comprehensive Resources:** Promoting and supporting overall mental wellness and early interventions.

**Sustainability & Evaluation:** How we know what's working and how to keep it going.

### PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Dr. Howard Fuller Collegiate Academy  
Grafton High School  
James Madison Academic Campus  
Messmer High School  
Milwaukee Academy of Science  
Pius XI High School  
Waukesha South High School  
Waukesha West High School  
Wauwatosa West High School

# VOLUNTEERS TRANSFORM OUR COMMUNITY

In 2023, United Way brought together workplaces, organizations, individuals, and families to help make our community stronger.

## 30,000+ TOTAL HOURS LOGGED

Volunteers supported Project Homeless Connect, kit and diaper packing, Backpack Coalition, and fundraising and support for the United Way campaign, just to name a few.



Over 400 volunteers supported over 400 guests at Project Homeless Connect in Milwaukee and Waukesha. 95% of volunteers stated they would return again as a volunteer in 2024.



Family volunteering opportunities are teaching youth and families the importance of giving back and helping others.

## 4,500+ YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH KITS ASSEMBLED

These kits supported the Key Initiative Teen Mental Wellness: Empowering Minds.



## 7,100+ BACKPACKS PACKED

Age-appropriate schools supplies were delivered to Milwaukee Public Schools, School District of Waukesha, Germantown School District, and schools in Ozaukee County.

## 12,900+ OTHER KITS BUNDLED

These included winter care, food, older adult, house and home, and fight the flu kits.



## 311,000+ DIAPERS MOBILIZED IN 2023

Diapers are delivered to 15 Diaper Bank Hubs at local nonprofits.



## 3,700+ PERSONAL CARE KITS PACKED

These kits were made up of essential hygiene and self-care supplies for local men, women, and children.



## 7,300+ WISHES FILLED

These gifts were delivered to local nonprofits who then shared with local children, adults, and seniors.



## ORGANIZED DISTRIBUTION OF 187,000+ PRODUCTS

Companies and organizations donated new home goods, clothing, hygiene products, and more, as part of our Uniting Products for Good program.



Dr. Julissa Ventura, assistant professor from Marquette, leads a collaborative session on Transformative Student Voice with the Community Schools support staff. "This is an approach to youth voice that centers students in decision making at their schools—young people as the experts of their lived experience. We're having conversations about the challenges in schools and how we are working together to overcome those challenges."



In partnership with Milwaukee Public Schools and lead agencies, United Way is working with the following schools:

**Alexander Mitchell Integrated Arts School**  
TBD

**Auer Avenue Community School**  
Milwaukee Urban League

**Bradley Tech High School**  
Milwaukee Christian Center

**Browning Elementary**  
Silver Spring Neighborhood Center

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School**  
WestCare Wisconsin

**Grantosa Drive School**  
TBD

**Hopkins Lloyd Community School**  
Walnut Way

**James Madison Academic Campus**  
YWCA

**Lincoln Avenue School**  
Sixteenth Street Community Health Center

**Longfellow School**  
Journey House

**North Division High School**  
Milwaukee Urban League

**O. W. Holmes School**  
Milwaukee Public Museum

**South Division High School**  
Sixteenth Street Community Health Center

**Washington High School**  
Dominican Center

**Westside Academy**  
TBD

**Zablocki Elementary**  
Sixteenth Street Community Health Center

## COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Milwaukee Community Schools Partnership transforms schools into places where educators, local community members, families, and students work together to strengthen conditions for student learning and healthy development.

**Milwaukee Community Schools Partnership is guided by these strategies:**

- **Shared Leadership:** Diverse stakeholders participate in the development and ownership of local strategies.
- **Equity:** Schools use data to organize and manage partnerships to ensure everyone has the resources they need to be successful.
- **Cultural Relevance:** Schools relate and interact with their students, families, and community in a more culturally relevant and restorative way.

### Focus On: Shared Leadership

Empowering students as active participants in the decision-making process is the essence of shared leadership.

At the start of each school year, Community School Coordinators recruit students to serve on Youth Councils. Youth Councils are comprised of students from various grade levels who are given a platform to voice their opinions, concerns, and innovative ideas.

Youth Councils not only provide students with valuable leadership experience, but also give them a sense of ownership in their education. Students have unique insights into their learning experiences, and involving them in shaping school policies, curriculum decisions, and extracurricular activities can lead to more relevant and engaging educational experiences.

The involvement of parents and caregivers is also a cornerstone of shared leadership. By including families in the decision-making process, schools create a more inclusive and supportive community.

Shared leadership is not limited to students and families. It also extends to the dedicated educators and staff within the school community. Encouraging collaboration among teachers and staff fosters a culture of continuous improvement.

Shared leadership in schools is a powerful force for positive change.



## RACIAL EQUITY FUND

Equity and inclusion are at the heart of what it means to Live United.

United Way's Racial Equity Fund supports Black- and Brown-led organizations. The goal of the fund is to build the capacity of these organizations to address Black- and Brown-focused priorities.

We know that we do this better side-by-side with the community. Investments are guided by the Racial Equity Fund Advisory Council. This council represents community members who demonstrate personal commitment to racial equity and justice.

Beginning in 2021, United Way and the Racial Equity Advisory Committee made a commitment to distribute \$7.5 million over five funding cycles through the Racial Equity Fund.

Today, we have fulfilled that commitment and have been able to provide funding to 40 organizations to help with general operating support, special projects and initiatives, and emergency needs.

At United Way, we believe a community that offers access, resources, and opportunity will lead to long-term success for all.

The Racial Equity Fund does not require the funded organization to be a nonprofit, allowing for increased diversity in investments.

### 2024-25 GRANTEES

African American Breastfeeding Network  
 African American Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin  
 Alianza Latina Aplicando Soluciones (ALAS)  
 Asian American Pacific Islander Coalition of Wisconsin  
 Black Arts MKE  
 Black Educators Caucus  
 Black Space  
 CAPITA Productions  
 Carvd N Stone  
 City On A Hill  
 College Possible  
 Community First  
 CORE/El Centro  
 Data You Can Use  
 Diverse & Resilient  
 Dominican Center  
 Dr. Howard Fuller Collegiate Academy  
 Fathers Making Progress  
 Fresh Start Learning  
 Healthy MKE (A Social Impact Initiative of Inpower Solutions)  
 HIR Wellness Institute  
 Hope Through Restoration  
 Lassid Ministries dba Convergence Resource Center  
 Metcalfe Park Community Bridges  
 Midtown Neighborhood Alliance Incorporated  
 Milwaukee Community Land Trust  
 Milwaukee Muslim Woman's Coalition  
 Neu-Life Community Resource Center  
 Nia Imani Family  
 PRISM Economic Development Corp  
 Public Allies Wisconsin  
 Riverworks Development Corporation  
 Running Rebels  
 Serenity Inns  
 Southside Organizing Committee  
 VIA CDC  
 Walker's Point Center for the Arts  
 Walnut Way Conservation Corp

# THE COMMUNITY FUND

A community is only as strong as the people who call it home. That's what drives United Way's Community Fund.

1

You donate to United Way's Community Fund. You can give in the amount that's comfortable for you. No gift is too small. Your donation is combined with other donors' money to create one large pool of funds.

2

You don't have to decide on one specific issue to support. United Way connects people to possibilities by funding programs at local nonprofits.

3

United Way always invests in programs that are measurable, sustainable, and meet current community needs. The Community Fund is creating lasting change for thousands of people right here in your own neighborhoods.

# YOU'RE NOT JUST MAKING A DONATION. YOU'RE CHANGING LIVES.



As a volunteer, Larry takes Carol—who is blind—grocery shopping every two weeks as part of Eras Senior Network's Outreach Project.



Born of immigrant parents, Richard was able to graduate from college all because of near-peer coaching support he received from College Possible.



When Mikayla was a student in middle school, she had a City Year mentor guide her in her young life. Today, Mikayla is a mentor for City Year as part of the Whole School Whole Child program.

## DONATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY FUND SUPPORT PROGRAMS AT LOCAL NONPROFITS:

**45,200+ INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES**  
were helped with our investment in health.

**43,700+ CHILDREN & THEIR CAREGIVERS**  
were helped with our investment in education.

**40,500+ INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES**  
were helped with our investment in financial stability.

# NONPROFIT PARTNERS

Below are the 2024-25 nonprofit program partners and the focus areas that United Way invests in. Learn more about these programs and United Way's special initiatives at [UnitedWayGMWC.org/Our-Impact](https://UnitedWayGMWC.org/Our-Impact).

■ Health ■ Education ■ Financial Stability

## Nonprofit Program Partners

H E FS

Adaptive Community Approach Program (ACAP)	■		
Advocates of Ozaukee			■
American Red Cross in Southeastern Wisconsin			■
Ascension Wisconsin Foundation	■		
Aurora at Home	■		
Aurora Family Service		■	■
Aurora Healing & Advocacy Services	■		
Bay View Community Center		■	■
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Milwaukee		■	
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ozaukee County		■	
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee		■	
Bread of Healing	■		
Cathedral Center, The			■
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee	■	■	■
Centro Legal			■
Children's Wisconsin	■		
City Year		■	
COA Youth & Family Centers	■	■	
College Possible		■	
Community Advocates			■
Community Outpatient Health Service	■		
Community Smiles Dental	■		
Curative Care Network	■		
Diverse and Resilient	■		
Easterseals Southeast Wisconsin	■	■	■
Eras Senior Network	■		
Family Service of Waukesha	■		
FRIENDS			■
Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast		■	
GPS Education Partners		■	
Grand Avenue Club			■
Guest House of Milwaukee			■
Harry & Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center	■		
HEAR Wisconsin	■		
Housing Resources			■
IMPACT			■
IndependenceFirst	■		
Jewish Family Services	■		
La Casa de Esperanza		■	■
La Causa		■	
Lad Lake	■		

## Nonprofit Program Partners

H E FS

Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee			■
Literacy Services of Wisconsin			■
Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin & Upper Michigan			■
Mental Health America of Wisconsin	■		
Meta House			■
Milwaukee Christian Center	■	■	■
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center		■	
Milwaukee Urban League			■
Milwaukee Women's Center, The	■		■
MKE Fellows			■
NAMI Southeast Wisconsin	■		
Neighborhood House of Milwaukee		■	
Neu Life Community Development	■		
Next Door		■	
NourishMKE			■
Ozaukee Family Services	■		
Parenting Network, The	■	■	
Parents Place		■	
Pathfinders	■		■
PEARLS for Teen Girls	■		
Penfield Children's Center	■		
Portal			■
Potawatomi Area Council, Scouting America		■	
Salvation Army - Waukesha County, The			■
Salvation Army - Wisconsin & Upper Michigan, The			■
Silver Spring Neighborhood Center		■	■
Sixteenth Street Community Health Center	■		
Sojourner Family Peace Center	■		■
St. Joseph Academy		■	
Three Harbors Council, Scouting America		■	
United Community Center	■	■	
Vision Forward Association	■		
Vivent Health	■		■
Walker's Point Youth & Family Center			■
Waukesha Free Clinic	■		
Wisconsin Community Services	■		■
Women's Center, The	■	■	■
YMCA Glacial Community - Pabst Farms	■		
YMCA of Greater Waukesha County		■	
YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee		■	
YWCA Southeast Wisconsin			■



loving memory of  
rt and Jennie Chorte  
reciation of the gen  
ort of Irving L. Cho



CaSandra greets Arlene at Jewish Family Services. Children, adults, families, and couples receive counseling through the Individual & Family Counseling program. "For me, when someone enters our building, they are more than a client," said CaSandra. "They are a person looking for help. I try to create a safe and brave space for them."

## 2024-25 PROGRAM GRANTS

**Below are the nonprofits that receive annual health program grants.**

Adaptive Community Approach Program (ACAP)  
Ascension Wisconsin Foundation  
Aurora at Home  
Aurora Healing & Advocacy Services  
Bread of Healing  
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee  
Children's Wisconsin  
COA Youth & Family Centers  
Community Outpatient Health Service  
Community Smiles Dental  
Diverse and Resilient  
Easterseals Southeastern Wisconsin  
Eras Senior Network  
Family Service of Waukesha  
Glacial Comm YMCA - Pabst Farms  
Harry & Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center  
HEAR Wisconsin  
IndependenceFirst  
Jewish Family Services  
Lad Lake  
Mental Health America of Wisconsin  
Milwaukee Christian Center  
Milwaukee Women's Center, The  
NAMI Southeast WI  
Neu Life Community Development  
Ozaukee Family Services  
Parenting Network, The  
Pathfinders  
PEARLS for Teen Girls  
Penfield Children's Center  
Sixteenth Street Community Health Center  
Sojourner Family Peace Center  
United Community Center, Inc  
Vision Forward Association  
Vivent Health  
Waukesha Free Clinic  
Wisconsin Community Services  
Women's Center, The

## Health Objectives

**Increase the number of youth and adults who:**

- Are able to live independently and with dignity.
- Have access to high quality and affordable mental, behavioral, dental, and general health care services.
- Have access to prevention education and can avoid risky behaviors.
- Have a network of support for children with disabilities, their families, and caregivers.
- Have access to domestic and intimate partner violence support services.
- Have access to high quality, affordable prenatal care and pregnancy support services.

## Mental Health Improvement Fund

Beginning in 2024, The Mental Health Improvement Fund (formerly the Health Improvement Fund) will support organizations that provide mental health services for low-income, underserved adult and youth populations in Milwaukee County. The goal is to increase access to mental health care, improving mental health outcomes, and promoting health equity.

Grants are awarded to organizations through the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership (Ascension Wisconsin, Advocate Aurora Health, Children's Wisconsin, Froedtert Health) and United Way.

Supported activities include increasing access to mental health outpatient diagnostic, treatment services, and improving care coordination. Grants are one-time investments to nonprofit, health and human service agencies in Milwaukee County.



Since 2015, United Way has distributed over 500,000 new books to kids at schools for their home libraries.

## Education Objectives

Increase the number of children who:

- Meet developmental milestones.
- Enter school ready to succeed.
- Read proficiently by 3rd grade.
- Graduate high school on time.
- Resist negative influences.
- Are prepared for success in school, work, and life.

## Helping Kids Succeed

United Way works directly with Waukesha and Grafton school districts to address specific needs of select schools. These efforts include supporting parent liaisons, mental health navigators, quality after-school programs, and more.

### In the School District of Waukesha:

- The PATH program provided over 100 students with at-school mental health therapy, delivering over 1,900 therapeutic hours to students.
- Playworks delivered high-quality recess programming to five elementary schools that made play safer, more student-led, and more fun for nearly 2,000 students.

### In the Grafton School District:

- After-school tutoring and busing were provided to students at three schools in the district.
- Thanks to thousands of combined hours of tutoring, the median math growth of tutored students at Kennedy Elementary was 141%, higher than any other grade level cohort in the district.

## 2024-25 PROGRAM GRANTS

Below are the nonprofits that receive annual education program grants.

Aurora Family Service  
 Bay View Community Center  
 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Milwaukee  
 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ozaukee County  
 Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee  
 Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee  
 City Year  
 COA Youth & Family Centers  
 College Possible  
 Curative Care Network, Inc.  
 Easterseals Southeastern Wisconsin  
 Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast  
 GPS Education Partners  
 La Casa de Esperanza  
 La Causa  
 Milwaukee Christian Center  
 Milwaukee LGBT Community Center  
 Neighborhood House of Milwaukee  
 Next Door  
 Parenting Network, The  
 Parents Place  
 Potawatomi Area Council, Scouting America  
 Silver Spring Neighborhood Center  
 St. Joseph Academy  
 Three Harbors Council, Scouting America  
 United Community Center  
 Women's Center, The  
 YMCA of Greater Waukesha County  
 YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee



When Glendalys and her family suddenly found themselves without a home, she was introduced to the Bay View Community Center Emergency Food Pantry. The pantry provides a nutritionally balanced supply of food, educational programs, and referrals. "I was nervous when I first came to the pantry," said Glendalys. "But they greeted us with arms wide open."

## Financial Stability Objectives

Increase the number of adults and families who:

- Have a stable place to call home.
- Are able to meet their household's food needs.
- Have access to free or reduced cost legal aid.
- Gain educational and/or training skills to secure and maintain employment that offers a family sustaining wage.
- Increase their wealth by achieving asset goals like homeownership or a strong savings account.

## Financial Empowerment for Women

We know that women face greater risk of financial insecurity throughout their lifetime. This initiative provides educational tools and resources that assist women in planning their financial future.

One of the important programs that supports this initiative is the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). This program offers free tax preparation to low- and moderate-income individuals and families who live in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties.

VITA is primarily aimed at helping individuals who may not have the resources to pay for professional tax services but need assistance in understanding their tax forms.

The Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credits are the most successful federal program to bring low-income families above the poverty line, yet many families do not know or apply for these credits while completing their tax returns. Trained VITA staff and volunteers ensure local household incomes are boosted by applying for all eligible tax credits and encourage households to save a portion of their return.

Last year, VITA helped tax filers receive over \$6 million in refunds and saved them over \$1.3 million in tax preparation fees.

## 2024-25 PROGRAM GRANTS

Below are the nonprofits that receive annual financial stability program grants.

Advocates of Ozaukee  
 American Red Cross  
 in Southeastern Wisconsin  
 Aurora Family Service  
 Bay View Community Center  
 Cathedral Center  
 Catholic Charities  
 of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee  
 Centro Legal Por Derechos Humanos  
 Community Advocates  
 Easterseals Southeastern Wisconsin  
 FRIENDS  
 Grand Avenue Club  
 Guest House of Milwaukee  
 Housing Resources  
 IMPACT  
 La Casa de Esperanza  
 Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee  
 Literacy Services of Wisconsin  
 Lutheran Social Services  
 of Wisconsin & Upper Michigan  
 Meta House  
 Milwaukee Christian Center  
 Milwaukee Urban League  
 Milwaukee Women's Center  
 MKE Fellows  
 NourishMKE  
 Pathfinders  
 Portal  
 The Salvation Army-  
 Waukesha County  
 The Salvation Army-  
 Wisconsin & Upper Michigan  
 Silver Spring Neighborhood Center  
 Sojourner Family Peace Center  
 Vivent Health  
 Walker's Point Youth & Family Center  
 Wisconsin Community Services  
 The Women's Center  
 YWCA Southeast Wisconsin



**Milwaukee Christian Center:** Lue and Jaya lead the Youth Development Team at Milwaukee Christian Center. The program engages 400+ youth, ages 4–18, in academic support, hands on learning, and leadership development, providing the platform for youth to thrive now and lead tomorrow.



**La Causa:** As a child, Maritza attended the Early Education & Care Center at La Causa. Today she brings her children to La Causa for the same experience. The center is a full-service bilingual center that focuses on the education and social-emotional development of children ages four weeks through 12 years old.



**Catholic Charities:** Whitney and her family received support from Catholic Charities and their Supported Parenting Program. This program provides parenting support services to parents with developmental disabilities. It focuses on creating a support system for parents so that they can more effectively care for their children.



 **CONNECTING PEOPLE  
TO POSSIBILITIES**

Whenever there is a need in our community,  
United Way is there.

Join us in taking action so all can thrive.

When you give to United Way, you're not just  
making a donation. **You're changing lives.**



**Greater Milwaukee  
& Waukesha County**