**2025 UNITED WAY “FACT A DAY”**

**Fact #1 –** When you give to United Way, your donation is combined with those of thousands of other donors, funding local nonprofit programs. In 2024, 197,000 people were served by United Way-funded programs and partnerships across our community. [Learn more about What We Fund.](https://unitedwaygmwc.org/What-We-Fund)

**Fact #2 –** EvictionFreeMKE and the Eviction Defense Project provides legal aid & tenant/landlord mediation to prevent evictions. Most tenants without a lawyer by their side will be evicted, and most of those with a lawyer will have their eviction dismissed. United Way’s Safe & Stable Homes initiative provides these lawyers – currently representing about ¼ of all evictions filed. In 2024, nearly 3,500 households had housing attorneys in their cases through Safe & Stable Homes at no cost to them. Learn more at [UnitedWayGMWC.org/Safe-and-Stable-Homes.](https://unitedwaygmwc.org/Safe-and-Stable-Homes)

**Fact #3 –** According to the World Health Organization, half of all mental health conditions start by the age of fourteen. **I**n 2024, United Way expanded their newest Key Initiative, Teen Mental Wellness: Empowering Minds, to nine high schools. They are on track to elevate the mental wellness of over 6,500 students at these schools. Learn more at [UnitedWayGMWC.org/Empowering-Minds](https://unitedwaygmwc.org/Teen-Mental-Wellness-Empowering-Minds).

**Fact #4 –** Employment barriers affect a person’s quality of life and ability to provide stability for their family. While having not yet done all the work in removing barriers, over 9,900 people have been served by programs supported by United Way’s Reducing Barriers to Employment & Advancement initiative. Learn more at <https://unitedwaygmwc.org/Reducing-Barriers-to-Employment-and-Advancement>.

**Fact #5 –** Across our four counties, over 93,000 households lack a basic computer, and over 120,000 households lack a basic home internet connection. United Way’s Techquity initiative and partners help to bridge the digital divide through access, skill-building, and devices. In 2024, over 7,900 computers were distributed through this initiative. Learn more at [UnitedWayGMWC.org/Techquity](https://unitedwaygmwc.org/Techquity).

**Fact #6 –** United Way partners with the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership on the Mental Health Improvement Fund, previously known as the Health Improvement Fund. The Mental Health Improvement Fund supports organizations that provide mental health services for low-income, underserved adult and youth populations in Milwaukee County with the goal of increasing access to mental health care, improving mental health outcomes, and promoting health equity.

**Fact #7 –** Each year, United Way’s Backpack Coalition mobilizes thousands of resources to pack and distribute more than 8,000 backpacks and school supply kits for children in both Milwaukee and Waukesha counties. Learn more at [UnitedWayGMWC.org/Backpack-Coalition](https://unitedwaygmwc.org/Backpack-Coalition).

**Fact #8 –** United Way’s Seasons of Caring connects thousands of volunteers to meaningful experiences across our region. Last year, United Way volunteers logged over 31,000 hours supporting Project Homeless Connect, Techquity device distribution events, kit and diaper packings, Backpack Coalition, and fundraising support for the United Way campaign, just to name a few. Family volunteering opportunities are teaching youth and families the importance of giving back and helping others. [Visit United Way's website to see how you can get involved.](https://unitedwaygmwc.org/Volunteer)

**Fact #9 –** No family should have to go without basic needs for their children. Last year, United Way's Diaper Bank mobilized over 345,000 diapers and wipes for local families to 15 Diaper Bank hubs at local nonprofits. Learn more at [UnitedWayGMWC.org/Diaper-Bank](https://unitedwaygmwc.org/Diaper-Bank.htm).

**Fact #10 –** Project Homeless Connect is an annual event held in Milwaukee and Waukesha that brings resources and services together under one roof to best serve those experiencing homelessness. Last year, over 500 volunteers supported over 650 guests at the Milwaukee and Waukesha events. Learn more at <https://unitedwaygmwc.org/Project-Homeless-Connect>.