

IMPACT IN WAUKESHA COUNTY



IN 2024, UNITED WAY'S SAFE & STABLE HOMES INITIATIVE **SERVED 480 WAUKESHA COUNTY PARENTS AND CHILDREN**.

"Having the home that we do, it's everything we ever dreamed of."

Molly knew she needed a place for her family to thrive. "We were struggling. My son has cerebral palsy and recently had some surgeries. We needed a place that was affordable, but also accessible."

That's when she turned to United Way-funded Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha & Jefferson Counties. Habitat's vision is to create a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Safe & Stable Homes plays an important role in the Habitat for Humanity process.

"There are so many obstacles to home ownership, especially for low-and-moderate-income buyers," said Melissa Songco, CEO at Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha & Jefferson Counties.

"United Way's Safe & Stable Homes helps make sure we

get to the closing table, using the funds for closing costs or anything that comes up. We want to be able to support our families all the way to the very end of the home ownership journey. United Way makes this a reality."

The process for Molly started three-and-a-half years ago. "We were just really struggling," said Molly. "We rented a two-story house, and we were having a hard time getting our son up and down the stairs." When Molly mentioned this to her son's physical therapist, the therapist recommended they apply for a home through Habitat for Humanity.

"There are not enough thanks or positive things that I can say," said Molly. "This has literally been one of the most important things that's ever happened to our family."

"Safe & Stable Homes is really an important puzzle piece that makes what we do come together," said Melissa Songco.

UNITED WAY Key initiatives

United Way is using collective impact to drive solutions to our community's problems that are too big for one organization to solve. Collective impact is the commitment of a group of people from different sectors to a common agenda for solving a specific social problem, using a structured form of collaboration.

We know there is no shortage of great nonprofits in our region, but there is a shortage of efficient ways to collaborate more effectively.

FEW NONPROFITS ARE RESOURCED TO LEAD THIS KIND OF NEEDED WORK. **UNITED WAY IS READY TO LEAD THE WAY.**

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.

In 2023-24:

- **Over 9,900 people** were served by Reducing Barriers to Employment & Advancement programs.
- Over 17,500 people were served by Safe & Stable Homes programs.
- We expanded Teen Mental Wellness: Empowering Minds to nine high schools. We are on track to elevate the mental wellness of **over 6,500 students** at these schools.
- Over 7,900 computers were distributed through Techquity.



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IMPACT IN ACTION

Project Homeless Connect is a one-day, one-stop event that assists guests who are experiencing homelessness in Waukesha County. Over 150 guests received access to 48 unique services and resources including health screenings, benefits assistance, connection to community nonprofits, and more. They also received laptop computers from United Way's Techquity initiative. Over 140 computers were distributed at this event.

In 2023-24:

TOGETHER, WE'RE CREATING A FUTURE **WHERE EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE CAN REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.**

United Way mobilizes people to action so that all can thrive. Each year, thousands of corporate partners, donors, volunteers, and local nonprofits all work together for lasting change in Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha counties.

WHY UNITED WAY?

Each year, thousands of people support United Way. Here are three reasons why:

We are a member of a trusted network.

We are part of something big. As one of the world's largest privately funded charities, United Way serves 36 countries and territories, making life better for 48 million people every year. Local United Ways are deeply rooted in their communities, understanding the specific needs and challenges they face.

We are effective.

Our United Way has been recognized nationally and locally for a high rate of fiscal accountability. We've 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.

We are changing lives.

Our United Way is focused on addressing the most pressing issues in the community. Your donation directly supports solutions to big problems in our community, and uplifting individuals and families in need.

23,028

individuals were served by United Wayfunded programs in Waukesha County.

480

Waukesha County parents and children were served by Safe & Stable Homes programs.

220

Waukesha County individuals were served by Reducing Barriers to Employment & Advancement programs.

2,200

students from two Waukesha high schools participated in Teen Mental Wellness: Empowering Minds (Waukesha South and Waukesha West).

Community Coalitions, Collaborations, & Partnerships

Children & Family Services Advisory Committee Emergency Food & Shelter Board Waukesha Housing Action Coalition of Waukesha County **IMPACT Connect - Board of Managers** Partners of Change

- Safe & Stable Homes: Waukesha Family Homelessness Workgroup
- Waukesha County Business Alliance Nonprofit **Executive Alliance**
- Waukesha County Community Foundation Advisory Council
- Waukesha Heroin Task Force

WAYS YOU CAN CREATE A STRONG COMMUNITY

GIVE BACK: DONATE NOW

By making a donation to United Way, you are providing hope, opportunity, and a brighter future for those in need. Every dollar makes a difference–together, we can change lives.

GET INVOLVED: VOLUNTEER

When you volunteer, you invest in your community's future. Your time, skills, and energy can uplift those around you. Get involved today.

TAKE ACTION: SHARE YOUR VOICE

Real change starts with action. Strong policies can shape the future of our community, so stand up, speak out, and help lift up those who need it most.



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