

HOW YOU CAN LIVE UNITED

IMAGINE THE PROBLEMS WE CAN SOLVE AND THE POSSIBILITIES WE CAN CREATE IF TOGETHER WE:

GIVE JOIN HANDS. OPEN YOUR HEART.


Giving to the Community Fund is the easiest and most powerful way to invest in the community. Our expertise and network of relationships in the private, public and nonprofit sectors make the dollars we invest the backbone of a strategy for change in Union County.

ADVOCATE LEND YOUR MUSCLE. FIND YOUR VOICE.

Advocate in your community for lasting change by becoming a member of one of our affinity groups.

 The Women's Leadership Council (WLC), brings together dynamic women from local businesses, government, education, healthcare and other community organizations to work towards creating lasting positive impact in our community.

 The African American Leadership Initiative (AALI) is a network of energetic and dedicated African-American leaders who marshal their resources to address the most pressing issues in the community that affect the African-American population.

 The Hispanic Leadership Advisory Council (HLAC) is focused on ensuring that members of the Hispanic community have access to programs and services that address critical health and human service needs.

VOLUNTEER GIVE AN HOUR. GIVE A SATURDAY.

Our Volunteer Center assists individuals and groups from our communities and the business sector. To find an opportunity in your neighborhood visit www.unitedwayvolunteers.org or call United Way of Greater Union County at 908-353-7171 to set up a group volunteer opportunity.

THINK WE BEFORE ME.

WE INVITE YOU TO BE PART OF THE CHANGE.

It takes the whole community, working together to achieve results. United Way partners with Union County area nonprofits, businesses, government, and volunteers to build initiatives that create lasting change.

Together, united, we can inspire hope and create opportunities for a better tomorrow.

Won't You Join Us?
GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.



Visit www.uwguc.org to learn more about advocating, volunteering and donating to The United Way of Greater Union County Community Fund.



United Way of Greater Union County
33 West Grand Street
Elizabeth NJ, 07202
Ph. (908) 353-7171
www.uwguc.org



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.
LIVE UNITED™
WWW.UWGUC.ORG

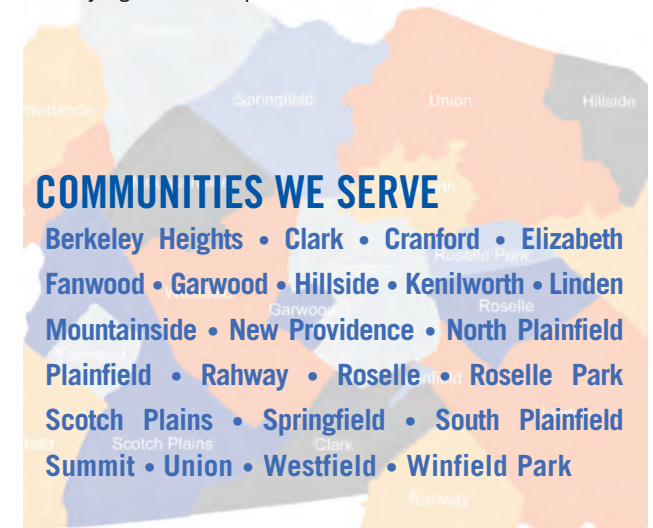


ADVANCING THE COMMON GOOD IN OUR COMMUNITY

United Way of Greater Union County is working to advance the common good by focusing on Education, Income, Health and Family Strengthening—the building blocks for a good life.

A quality education is essential to obtaining and keeping a job with a livable wage and health benefits. An income adequate to pay for today's necessities and save for the future will help families become financially stable. Access to quality health care keeps children on track in school and adults productive at work. Strong, vibrant and healthy families are the cornerstone of every community.

Our goal is to create long-lasting changes by addressing the underlying causes of problems.



COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

Berkeley Heights • Clark • Cranford • Elizabeth
Fanwood • Garwood • Hillside • Kenilworth • Linden
Mountainside • New Providence • North Plainfield
Plainfield • Rahway • Roselle • Roselle Park
Scotch Plains • Springfield • South Plainfield
Summit • Union • Westfield • Winfield Park

OUR MISSION:

The mission of United Way of Greater Union County is to ensure the health and human service needs of the community are identified and addressed in ways that create a better future for the residents of Greater Union County.

MAKING AN IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY

EDUCATION: Helping Kids Succeed

Goal:

Children enter school developmentally on track, prepared to succeed in later grades and graduate high school on time.

Fact:

4 out of 10 4th graders from United Way's target communities did not meet the State's proficiency requirements for Math and Language Arts.



SOURCE: New Jersey Department of Education, 2005-2006, New Jersey School Report Card (NCLB)

United Way of Greater Union County works to ensure

1. Young children have the foundation they need to begin kindergarten ready to learn.
2. Students receive the support they need to overcome obstacles to learning and succeed in school.
3. Families become more engaged in their children's education.

INITIATIVES

Ready to Learn

• Ready to Learn makes available, affordable quality early childhood education in Union County's academically underachieving communities.

Keeping Kids on Track

• Keeping Kids on Track, provides supplemental academic enrichment programs designed to reinforce school-based instruction and provide additional support for students falling behind.

INCOME: Fostering Self-Sufficiency

Goal:

Low-income working families move toward financial independence by increasing their income, learning to save and building appreciating assets.

Fact:

More than 11,000 children in Union County are living below the federal poverty level.



SOURCE: Kids County Data Center: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

United Way of Greater Union County works to ensure

1. Working parents are able to provide for their families as well as increase their savings and build assets.
2. Adults gain the training and skills required to secure quality employment that provides a livable wage.
3. Union County families have access to basic needs while increasing their financial education.

INITIATIVES

Earn It, Keep it, Save It

• Earn It, Keep It, Save It, provides a system of resources to families and individuals to gain educational opportunities to earn a livable wage, keep that wage through maximizing their Income Tax benefits by filing for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and learning to save by understanding the fundamentals of financial management.

HEALTH: Improving People's Health

Goal:

Youth and adults are healthy and avoid "risky" behavior.

Fact:

1 out of 3 children in NJ are overweight or obese.



SOURCE: Trust for America's Health: <http://healthyamericans.org>

United Way of Greater Union County works to ensure

1. Union County families have access to affordable health care.
2. Children in Union County have access to obesity prevention programs.
3. Low-income first time mothers receive adequate pre-natal care.

INITIATIVES

Healthy Kids, Healthy Adults

• Healthy Kids, Healthy Adults, combines education on healthy eating and nutrition with recreation and physical activities to start children on the path towards a healthy and active lifestyle.

FAMILY STRENGTHENING: Fostering strong, healthy and vibrant families

Goal:

Families gain access to programs and services to support their needs and enhance family success.

Fact:

Over 80% of the referrals to NJ's child abuse and prevention agency from Union County originate from United Way's target communities.



SOURCE: "Child Abuse and Neglect in New Jersey, Statistical Report for Calendar Year 2004." New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Division of Youth and Family Services, Sept. 2006.

United Way of Greater Union County works to ensure

1. Individuals and families have the resources and support to be productive and healthy.
2. Parents and care givers have the resources and skills to successfully support the children and youth in their care.
3. Parents/guardians are actively involved with their children in the school, in the community and in non-school related activities.

INITIATIVES

Strong, Vibrant and Healthy Families

• Strong, Vibrant and Healthy Families, provides support and access to a broad range of community-centered services to families based on their strengths and needs—making families and neighborhoods stronger.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

UNION COUNTY FAMILY STRENGTHENING NETWORK

United Way of Greater Union County (UWGUC), in partnership with the County of Union Department of Human Services, has become one of the key leaders in the overall county effort to forge a comprehensive strategy to address the needs of children and families in the County. The Union County Family Strengthening Network has three components:



UWGUC oversees a network of Family Success Centers in Union County.

Family Success Centers are community based neighborhood gathering places where any community resident can go for family support, information and services. Services are tailored to meet the specific needs of each community and provides the following core services:

Child-care access • Maternal and family health information • Development of "Family Success" plans • Self-sufficiency/employment related services • Information and referral services • Life-skills training • Housing-related services • Parent education • Parent-child activities • Advocacy • Home visiting

Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect

United Way of Greater Union County administers a statewide initiative that supports and encourages positive parenting and strengthens families by providing voluntary programs and services. This approach assesses a family's strengths and needs, and provides services to meet those needs.

Nurse Family Partnership

UWGUC is facilitating the implementation of the Nurse Family Partnership program in Union County. Nurse-Family Partnership is an evidence-based, community health home visitation program that helps transform the lives of vulnerable mothers pregnant with their first child. Each mother served is partnered with a registered nurse early in her pregnancy and receives ongoing nurse home visits that continue through her child's second birthday. This program can make a long lasting impact in the lives of these families by improving prenatal health; preventing childhood injuries; ensuring the proper growth and development of children and promoting preventive health practices.



UNITED WAY'S 2-1-1 help-line connects people in Union County and throughout New Jersey to local services, community resources, and government assistance they need. **2-1-1** is available **24/7/365** and calls are free and confidential.