

“Why should someone support United Way?”

Change does not happen alone. Over 1,500 corporate partners, 50,000 donors, and 220 local programs all fight together for lasting change in our four-county community.

United Way fights...

- ...**for young people to delay becoming parents until adulthood.** Since 2009, the community's teen birth rate (15-17 year-olds) has declined by 65%.
- ...**for literacy.** Since 2015, over 229,000 books have been distributed to children through My Very Own Library and Build My Bookshelf. An average of 6,710 students per year have received books with a total investment of \$1.3 million.
- ...**for the safety of people experiencing intimate partner violence.** Since 2009, an average of 9,500 people were served per year in intimate partner violence prevention programs with 96% gaining knowledge about safety planning and their rights and options in the legal system.
- ...**for families facing economic challenges to maximize their tax returns.** In 2017-18, 14,987 tax returns were filed under the United Way-funded Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and \$6,950,917 dollars were returned to local families.
- ...**for the basic needs of individuals in the community.** Since 2009, over 400,000 individuals and families struggling to meet their basic needs received food, transportation, legal, and housing assistance at the most vulnerable time of their lives.

United Way works across our four-county region and convenes resources, volunteers, experts, and other service providers for short-term relief and long-term success.

Who United Way helps

With the help of so many, we did some amazing things:

- **Our community is healthier.** Last year, 115,535 youth and adults had increased access to health care programs, health and wellness services, and safer and healthier communities.
- **More youth are succeeding in school.** Last year, 79,315 children or their parents/caregivers received support for early childhood education, youth development, and services for children and families.
- **More families are achieving financial stability.** Last year, 48,206 adults and families benefited from programs that reduced barriers to employment and provided safe and stable homes.

United Way also helps increase the capacity and efficiency of our program partners through technical assistance and training, as well as connecting them to volunteers and other resources.

Tools You Can Use

If you want to learn more (or simply be inspired) use some of the tools we have posted on our website:

Videos—meet the people who are impacted by United Way agency program partners.

Stories—read stories of how United Way is creating lasting change.

Living Local podcast—listen to the voices making a difference in our community.

Voices United blog—meet the people who are changing lives, every single day.

United Way event calendar—see upcoming events and invite prospects to join you.

Visit UnitedWayGMWC.org.

