



# UNITED WAY'S WORK: IMPACTFUL & INNOVATIVE

Through Community Wide Care, your United Way contribution helps more than 190,000 local people through 80 funded programs with our agency partners, our initiatives and grants.



*Last year, \$11 million was raised to support community needs and invest in high priority and high performing programs.*

## How Does United Way Make a Difference?

### Agency Partners

United Way works closely with **33 agency partners** and provides funding for a broad range of programs within the focus areas of: **Education, Health, Financial Stability and Safety Net Services.**

Programming includes: youth development, after-school programming, access to food, services for older adults, physical and mental health programs, disaster response and more.



### Ready.Set.READ!

**We help kids become better readers to achieve greater academic and future success.** United Way manages this community initiative and partners with the educational community, businesses, community organizations and volunteers.

As in-person activities resume, **more than 200 trained volunteers currently tutor students in 28 elementary schools** as part of the Star Readers program within the initiative. We also support **Read Alliance** and Summer Learning Grants and activities.

Additional RSR components:

- Read With Me
- Growing Readers
- Opening Doors
- Reach Out and Read
- Neighborhood Bridges

### Initiatives

**The Volunteer Center** connects individuals and groups with volunteer activities throughout Berks County.

**211** connects people to the help they need with a single phone call. **Bilingual service, 24/7, or by texting your zip code to 898211.**

**SingleCare Discount Prescription Drug Program** (formerly FamilyWize) for those without prescription drug coverage and may reduce costs for those with coverage.



### Grants

**We expand our work through a variety of grant relationships with area nonprofits.** The grants support unanticipated changes jeopardizing a program's effectiveness, expand programming and focus on grass-roots programs.

Recent grants focused on **local programs supporting transitional housing, shelter, and access to food, healthcare and transportation.** Other grant funding supports literacy, summer learning programs, veteran services and community engagement.

**Innovative and impactful education, workforce development and health-centered initiatives are supported by our Focused Grants** (with support from the MacKenzie Scott grant we received). This programming helps kids achieve greater academic success, puts more people to work and helps people live healthier and stronger lives.

### Community Engagement

Our **Leadership United Division** advances community and nonprofit leadership through **Blueprint for Leadership** (trains diverse individuals for community leadership roles), **Emerging Leaders United** (volunteer, personal development and philanthropy experiences for ages 21-45) and **Leadership Berks** (develops nonprofit leaders).

We mobilize volunteers for our signature events, **Day of Caring** and **The Big Cheese**, which supports the community's food needs.

