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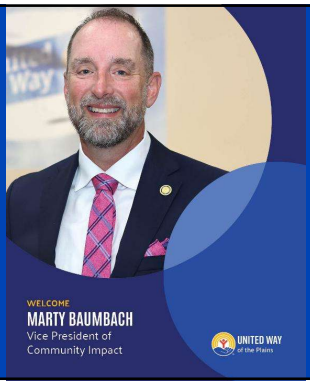
2026 COMMUNITY IMPACT FORUM



1

UNITED IS THE WAY WE....

WELCOME MARTY



WELCOME
MARTY BAUMBACH
Vice President of Community Impact

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AGENDA

- Why This Forum
- Community Resilience Services: Volunteer Center, 211 and GIV
- Coalition to End Homelessness: Update from Matt Lowe
- Community Impact Directors Transitions
- **Networking Break**
- Strategy and Grant Cycle Updates
- Celebrating Your Impact

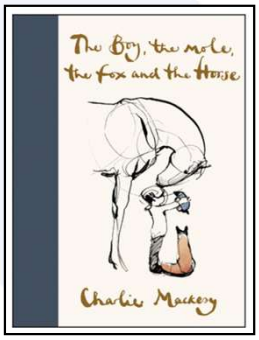
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WHY ANOTHER FORUM?

- Being kind is important
- Asking for **help** is courageous
- Relationships sustain us

- Leadership is an activity
- It starts with you and must engage others
- It's risky



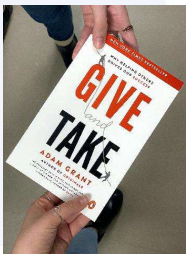
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REMEMBER OUR SUMMIT?

- Are you a giver, a taker, or a matcher?
- Strategic, boundary-setting givers often achieve the greatest long-term success.
- We believe that your success is our success.

- People are hungry for relationships and leadership.



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ASSET **L**IMITED
No safety net in times of crisis

Income **C**onstrained
Income falls short of covering essentials

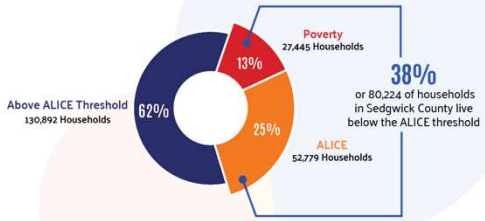
Employed
Working, yet not earning enough



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ALICE IS OUR NEIGHBOR



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MEET YOUR UNITED WAY OF THE PLAINS TEAM



MARTY BAUMBACH
VP of Community Impact



MATT LOWE
Associate Vice President of Housing Initiatives

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COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS in Wichita/Sedgwick County

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MEET YOUR UNITED WAY OF THE PLAINS TEAM



LOGAN BRADSHAW SCHOECH
Director of Community Impact



JOSE TREJO
Director of Community Impact



SARAH CRICK MILLIGAN
Director of Community Impact

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MEET YOUR UNITED WAY OF THE PLAINS TEAM



BROOKLYN BLACK
Associate Director of Philanthropy



CANNON BALL
Community Services Manager



MICHELE GRIMM
Director of 211

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IMAGINE WHAT WE CAN ACCOMPLISH IF WE DON'T CARE WHO GETS THE CREDIT.

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21,862

hours of volunteer service were coordinated by the **United Way Volunteer Center.**



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VOLUNTEER TODAY

- Help with United Way programs and initiatives
- Plan a custom group project
- Explore needs at local nonprofits
- Join Serve United

UnitedWayPlains.org/Volunteer



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COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

2-1-1

Help Starts Here: Celebrating 20 Years of Service in 2026



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COMMUNITY RESILIENCY: HOW DOES 211 HELP

- First point of contact for those in crisis
- Available in 240 languages
- Most comprehensive knowledge base for community services and organizations
- Serves as a triage center for social services
  - Disaster response (Andover tornado)
  - Pandemic support (COVID symptoms, test sites, etc.)
- Can provide critical data to resource providers across the state
- Relieves stress from 911 first responders
  - In 2025, Sedgwick County 911 took 6,965 non-emergency call



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COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

GIV WAREHOUSE



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"The donations through United Way help us to have an impact on the next generation. The kids who are coming up are going to be our leaders of tomorrow. Without United Way, there is no way that we can be able to impact as many kids and try to change as many lives as we do."

Mark Harmon, Pando Initiative, Lawrence Elementary (WPS)



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POWERED BY THE COMMUNITY

With only 2 staff, the success of the program relies on community volunteers to help process, sort, and stock product in the warehouse so that needed items are available when nonprofit agencies visit.

"Volunteering feels good as a person, and it feels good to get out with your team. It helps us work together as a team more."
-Devin Obanion, GM Coach for Walmart



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STAFFING TRANSITIONS

COMMUNITY IMPACT & HOUSING INITIATIVES



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MATT LOWE

Associate Vice President of Housing Initiatives



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MISSION & VISION OF THE COALITION

COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS in Wichita/Sedgwick County

The Mission, or ***What We Do:***

- Ending homelessness in Sedgwick County through housing, supportive services, and community-wide partnerships.

The Vision, or ***Where We're Going:***

- Homelessness should be rare, brief, and non-reoccurring for all our neighbors in Sedgwick County.

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SHELTER CONNECT

A platform to access shelter information including:

- Real Time Availability
- Shelter Criteria
- Shelter Address/Phone number/ Hours



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NEXTENANT: CONNECTING PEOPLE TO HOUSING

NEXTenant is a **free online unit-listing platform** that connects property providers with Coalition clients who are ready to rent.

Benefits for Landlords & Property Providers

- Connect with prospective tenants who have rental assistance and case management support.
- Reduce risk, improve housing stability, and lower unit turnover costs.

Benefits for Case Managers & Clients

- Streamline the housing search and leasing process.
- Provide incentives that expand housing opportunities and help more people find a place to call home.

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Contact Shylee Ziad at sziad@unitedwayplains.org for more information.

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UNITED FOR FAMILIES

- New program launched October 1, 2026.
- **Who Qualifies**: Families with minor children who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness and have household incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- **How to Access:** Families call 211 to be screened for eligibility.
- **Rapid Response:** Eligible families are connected with a Family Housing Navigator within 48 hours.
- **Personalized Support:** Navigators provide diversion assistance or connect families to emergency shelter based on their individual needs.

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2026 SYSTEM HIGHLIGHTS

- **565 individuals permanently housed**
- **88 people** moved directly from encampments and other unsheltered settings into housing
- **148 veterans housed**
- **64 days** — average time from identification to housing
- **United for Families launched** to reduce family inflow into homelessness



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DIRECTORS OF COMMUNITY IMPACT



SARAH

FINANCIAL SECURITY

- Homeless prevention
- Pathways to housing
- Workforce development
- Economic mobility



JOSE

HEALTHY COMMUNITY

- Access to Physical Healthcare
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Equitable Food Access
- Access to Mental Healthcare
- Safe Futures & Survivor Empowerment



LOGAN

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

- Academic Readiness
- Academic Success & Youth Enrichment
- Child & Family Well-Being

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IMPACT AREA

FINANCIAL SECURITY



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IMPACT AREA: FINANCIAL SECURITY

- **Homeless Prevention:** We invest in programs that offer emergency financial assistance to help households maintain stable housing by preventing eviction or utility shutoff. These services aim to prevent homelessness by addressing short-term crises before they escalate.
- **Pathways to Housing:** We invest in programs that provide a safe and supportive space for individuals and families while guiding them toward permanent housing. These efforts center on personalized, trauma-informed care and work to break down the unique barriers each person faces to achieving long-term housing stability.

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IMPACT AREA: FINANCIAL SECURITY

- **Workforce Development:** We invest in programs that equip youth and adults for employment and long-term economic mobility through access to quality jobs. These programs include job readiness training, work-based learning, career exposure and navigation, skill development and credentialing, and supportive employment services.
- **Economic Mobility:** We invest in programs that help households improve their financial well-being by increasing income, reducing debt, and building assets. These services support individuals in moving from living paycheck-to-paycheck toward long-term financial stability and economic security.

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IMPACT AREA

HEALTHY COMMUNITY



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IMPACT AREA: HEALTHY COMMUNITY

- **Access to Physical Healthcare:** We invest in programs that ensure everyone has access to quality care in ways that work for them and their families to help reduce the proportion of people who can't get medical care when they need it.
- **Healthy Lifestyles:** We invest in programs that help increase knowledge of how to be physically active at any ability level, provide accessible opportunities for community members to move their bodies, increase knowledge of nutrition, and how to prepare nutritious food.
- **Equitable Food Access:** We invest in programs that ensure everyone has access to affordable, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food so that community members don't have to choose between paying their monthly bills and feeding their family.

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IMPACT AREA: HEALTHY COMMUNITY

- **Access to Mental Healthcare:** We invest in programs that provide supportive, culturally appropriate mental health resources, ensuring everyone has access to care that promotes emotional well-being.
- **Safe Futures & Survivor Empowerment:** We invest in programs that ensure that community members who face violence and abuse receive services that can help them stabilize in the aftermath, recover from the trauma, and empower them to heal and grow.

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IMPACT AREA

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY



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IMPACT AREA: YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

- **Academic Readiness:** We invest in programs that help young people succeed at every stage of their education. Early learning, developmental supports, and successful transitions to kindergarten help children ages 0–5 build a strong foundation. For youth and young adults, investments focus on developing the academic, technical, social-emotional, and real-world skills needed to navigate and succeed in postsecondary education and training.
- **Academic Success & Youth Enrichment:** We invest in programs that ensure children and youth are supported throughout their academic journey, especially those at risk, through literacy development, extended learning opportunities, and addressing non-academic barriers to learning.

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IMPACT AREA: YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

- **Child & Family Wellbeing:** We invest in programs that ensure children grow up in safe, supportive, and thriving environments. This includes promoting the physical, mental, emotional, and social health of children while strengthening the capacity of families to nurture, protect, and advocate for their children and their children's education. Emphasizes proactive support systems that reduce stressors on families, enhance parenting skills, and improve access to education, healthcare, and community resources.

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NETWORKING BREAK



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APPLY FOR FUNDING

OUR INVESTMENT CYCLES

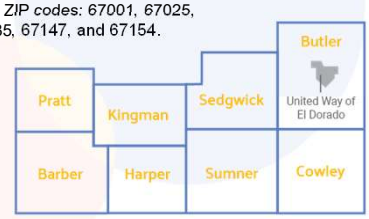


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OUR SERVICE AREA

- Includes Sedgwick, Butler (all ZIP codes except 67042), Barber, Cowley, Harper, Kingman, Pratt, and Sumner Counties, and the following ZIP codes: 67001, 67025, 67035, 67068, 67108, 67135, 67147, and 67154.



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PROMISE ON THE PLAINS

- Aims to invest in the capacity of grassroots organizations
- Grants support health and human service nonprofits that help underserved communities.
- Investments, up to $10,000, are awarded for immediate use. No restrictions.
- Awarded in the spring.
- Recipients will submit a biannual success story.
- Must not have received other United Way of the Plains funding

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IMPACT ON THE PLAINS

- "Shark Tank" style competition
- Looking for bold new ideas to tackle complex community issues
- Program cannot be older than 5 years and cannot be an extension of a funded program
- Top finalists awarded live on stage, including a special People's Choice Award. Semiannual reporting required
- Apply in the summer

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OPPORTUNITY ON THE PLAINS

- The largest, annual investment grant from United Way of the Plains to help meet the most pressing needs in our community.
- Community volunteers review applications and make funding recommendations to our board of directors for final approval.
- Recipients are announced in the late spring. The funding cycle is July to June.
- Quarterly reports required.
- The amount that is being requested for a program cannot be over 30% of the organization's budget.
- Open office hours with each Director through submission deadline.

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OPPORTUNITY ON THE PLAINS APPLICATION

- Grant application portal opens **November 2** and closes **December 18**.
- The application will be online, using the same platform as last year.
- Community volunteer panels are being developed now
- Volunteer panel training is January 8, 2027 – save the date.
- Volunteer review panels hosted throughout February 2027.
- Grant recipients will be announced spring 2027.
- The funding cycle is July 1, 2027, to June 30, 2028.

- *Watch your email for details!*

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APPLICATION REMINDERS

- Give yourself plenty of time to craft your application.
- Even if you have been funded in the past, avoid a copy and paste.
- Each of your outcomes should have a firm connection to the strategy and to improving the lives of your clients in a measurable way.
- Be clear and concise in your narratives.
- **Office hours will be announced.** *Don't hesitate to engage your Director of Community Impact with questions!*

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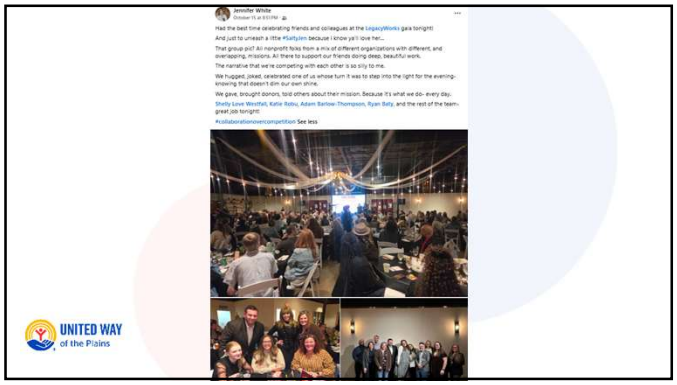
CREATING IMPACT TOGETHER

CELEBRATION OF PARTNERS

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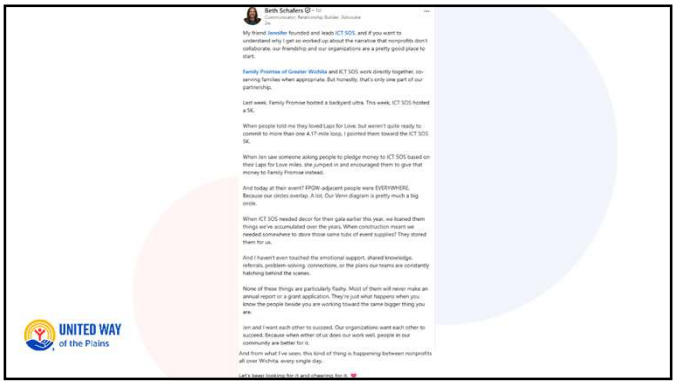


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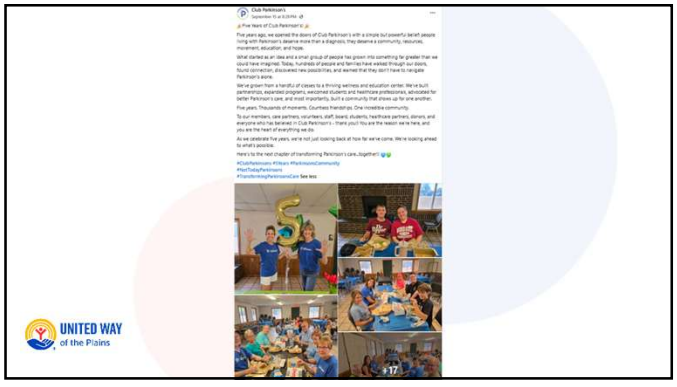
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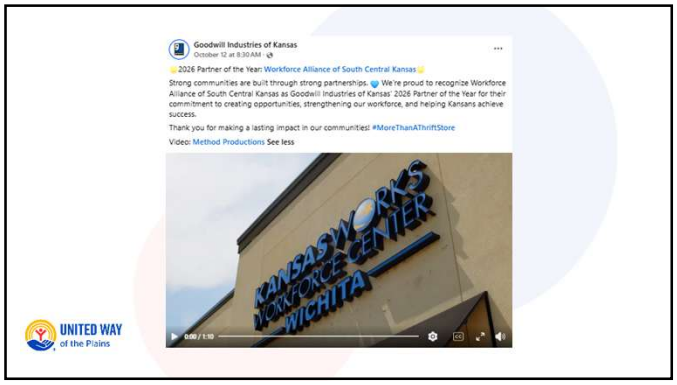
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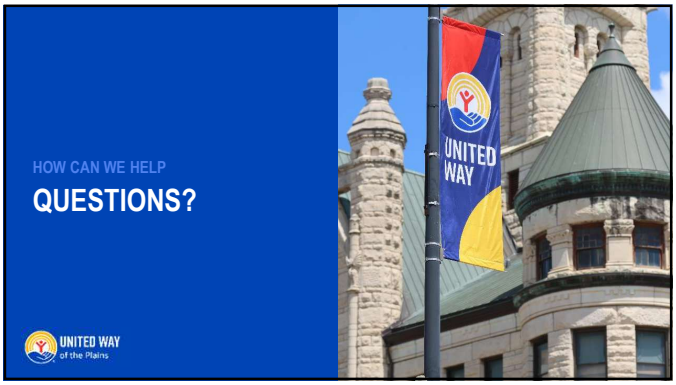
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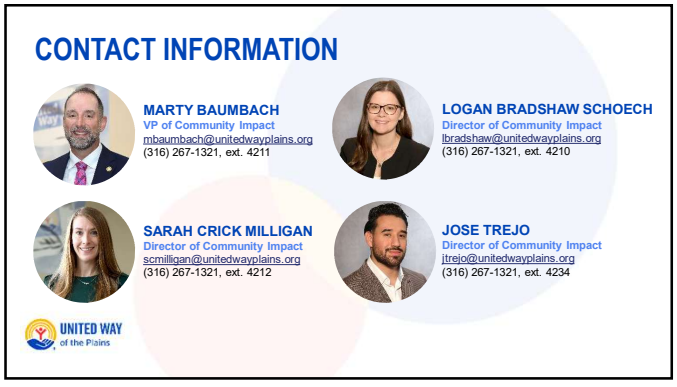
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