



Years of Helping People

Celebrate
UNITED

2022 IMPACT REPORT



United Way of the Plains

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

Over the last 100 years, we've seen the world transform and shape humanity. Wars have been fought. Technology has advanced. Medical discoveries have been made. The calendar is marked and marred with history-making moments. But our greatest achievements aren't those that books are written about. They are the deeds of kindness that collectively bind us together and define our community. The quiet, selfless acts of people helping people.

United Way of the Plains was founded in this spirit. For 100 years, we've been harnessing the caring power of our community to help our neighbors reach their potential. We've united the community. Mobilized resources. Created lasting change. We've kept a pulse on the most pressing needs of our neighbors. And as those needs have changed, so have we.

In the midst of the Great Depression in 1934, \$44,600 – the largest allocation of the year – went to “rehabilitate families broken under the strain of the depression and to give them temporary relief pending their adjustment back to a self-supporting and a self-respecting basis of life.”

In 1991, United Way coordinated the Wichita/Sedgwick County Homeless Task Force to gain a better understanding of homelessness in our community and identify ways to help through research, service coordination and resource management.

And now in our 100th year, we launched Bank On ICT, the first coalition of its kind in Kansas to help families find safe and affordable banking services to become financially stable.

We've adapted. Evolved. Innovated. But it didn't happen without you. Day after day. Year after year. Decade after decade. The people of our community have rallied with us as leaders, donors and volunteers. Together, they've passed down a legacy of compassion that has shaped our community. Today, you hold the torch for the next generation, powering the model of people helping people. Because of you, United Way's legacy will grow into the next 100 years.



Peter F. Najera
President & CEO
United Way of the Plains



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OUR HISTORY

AUG. 7, 1922 – A group of community leaders gathered to a sign a letter in support of the formation of a new kind of service organization in Wichita, patterned after similar groups forming throughout the nation. The letter was directed to the Wichita Board of Commerce, the predecessor of the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce.

This organization would help those in need by coordinating the efforts of social agencies and private contributors “to eliminate such social conditions as tend to create dependency, delinquency and defectiveness....by promoting cooperation, efficiency and economy.”

This simple, yet visionary act marked the beginning of the Wichita Community Chest.



Name changes to United Fund of Wichita & Sedgwick County.



A new name, United Way of the Plains, is announced.

Name changes to United Way of Wichita & Sedgwick County.

1922

1943

1951

1953

1957

1975

1977

1980

1985

1987

The name was temporarily changed to Community War Chest from 1943 to 1946. The red feather was then adopted as a symbol of member agencies. Workplace fundraisers were often referred to as Red Feather campaigns.



Glen Gardner
Executive Director
1951 – 1952



Claude Scott
Executive Director
1953 – 1976



Margo Ray
Executive Director
1977 – 1979



John Rush
Executive Director
1980 – 1984



Patrick J. Hanrahan
President & CEO
1985 – 2020

Open page to celebrate those who have chaired our board of directors over the past 100 years.

100 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP

We are grateful to the distinguished group of community individuals who have chaired our board of directors, lending their strategic guidance to steer the direction of our organization.



United Way introduces a new logo.

1997 — 2005 — 2020 — 2022



United Way moves into its current location at 245 N. Water St. as part of its 75th anniversary.



Peter F. Najera
President & CEO
2020 – Present

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1923 – Harry W. Stanley | 1948 – Elmer Moore | 1973 – Will Price, Jr. | 1998 – Robert J. O’Brien |
| 1924 – C. M. Jackman | 1949 – Paul Foley | 1974 – Ralph Fiebach | 1999 – LeRoy E. Rheault |
| 1925 – Gifford M. Booth | 1950 – George Siefkin | 1975 – Fred F. Berry, Jr. | 2000 – Marlon Dauner |
| 1926 – L. W. Clapp | 1951 – Harry Corbin | 1976 – Harold L. Walton | 2001 – Eric F. Melgren |
| 1927 – L. W. Clapp | 1952 – Sidney Brick | 1977 – B. N. Lancaster | 2002 – Bernie Zalaznik |
| 1928 – Robert Foulston | 1953 – Lance Coffey | 1978 – G. Robert Gadberry | 2003 – David L. Strohm |
| 1929 – Harry Dockum | 1954 – Paul Roberts | 1979 – William A. Boettger | 2004 – Marilyn Richwine |
| 1930 – L. O. Ripley | 1955 – Gordon W. Evans | 1980 – E. A. Jarvis | 2005 – S. Edwards Dismuke, M.D. |
| 1931 – Earl W. Evans | 1956 – Roy C. Russell, Sr. | 1981 – Richard D. Hite | 2006 – Arnold Hudspeth |
| 1932 – L. O. Ripley | 1957 – O. A. Sutton | 1982 – Duane J. Buckley | 2007 – Thomas R. Docking |
| 1933 – C. J. Chandler | 1958 – Olive Ann Beech | 1983 – Linwood B. Sexton | 2008 – Thomas R. Docking |
| 1934 – Mrs. J. E. O’Donnell | 1959 – Walter Schimmel | 1984 – C. James Mans | 2009 – Patricia M. Dengler |
| 1935 – A. J. Cleary | 1960 – Max H. Miller | 1985 – H. Marvin Bastian | 2010 – Steven J. Martens |
| 1936 – Sam Wallingford | 1961 – Fred M. Kimball | 1986 – Arnold D. Gray | 2011 – Stuart Ray |
| 1937 – Harry D. Cottman | 1962 – Don W. Pray | 1987 – William B. Bunten | 2012 – Gloria Farha Flentje |
| 1938 – Paul H. White | 1963 – J. T. Koelling | 1988 – Larry E. Soice | 2013 – Rhonda Dennis |
| 1939 – A. R. Ohmart | 1964 – Ben M. Wheat | 1989 – Richard D. Smith | 2014 – Paul S. Allen |
| 1940 – Rev. Samuel West | 1965 – Owen C. McEwen | 1990 – R. Joe Aleshire | 2015 – John F. O’Leary |
| 1941 – Ken Fitch | 1966 – A. Dwight Button | 1991 – R. Joe Aleshire | 2016 – John F. O’Leary |
| 1942 – C. J. Chandler | 1967 – S. O. Beren | 1992 – Alan L. Rupe | 2017 – Richard Kerschen |
| 1943 – C. J. Chandler | 1968 – Paul H. Woods | 1993 – Jim Biltz | 2018 – Richard Kerschen |
| 1944 – R. S. Millar | 1969 – Harry F. Scribner | 1994 – Cheri M. Updegraff | 2019 – Angel Gomez |
| 1945 – R. S. Millar | 1970 – Robert L. Cory | 1995 – K. Gordon Greer | 2020 – Ginger Farney |
| 1946 – M. E. Garrison | 1971 – Glen L. Montague | 1996 – Steven A. Houlik | 2021 – Steve Dixon |
| 1947 – M. E. Garrison | 1972 – Jordan Haines | 1997 – Gregg L. Lesh | 2022 – Jodi Noah |



WICHITA, KANSAS, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1925



OUR APPROACH

For 100 years, we've united the community. Mobilized resources. Created lasting change.

At United Way, we bring individuals, businesses, nonprofits and government decision makers together to have critical conversations to generate the best ideas and implement new solutions to complex problems, so that every person and every family in south central Kansas thrives. We rally the community in a way no single organization can to develop, fund and scale collective solutions that tackle our community's most pressing problems at their roots. Our work focuses on the building blocks of a quality life and strong community:

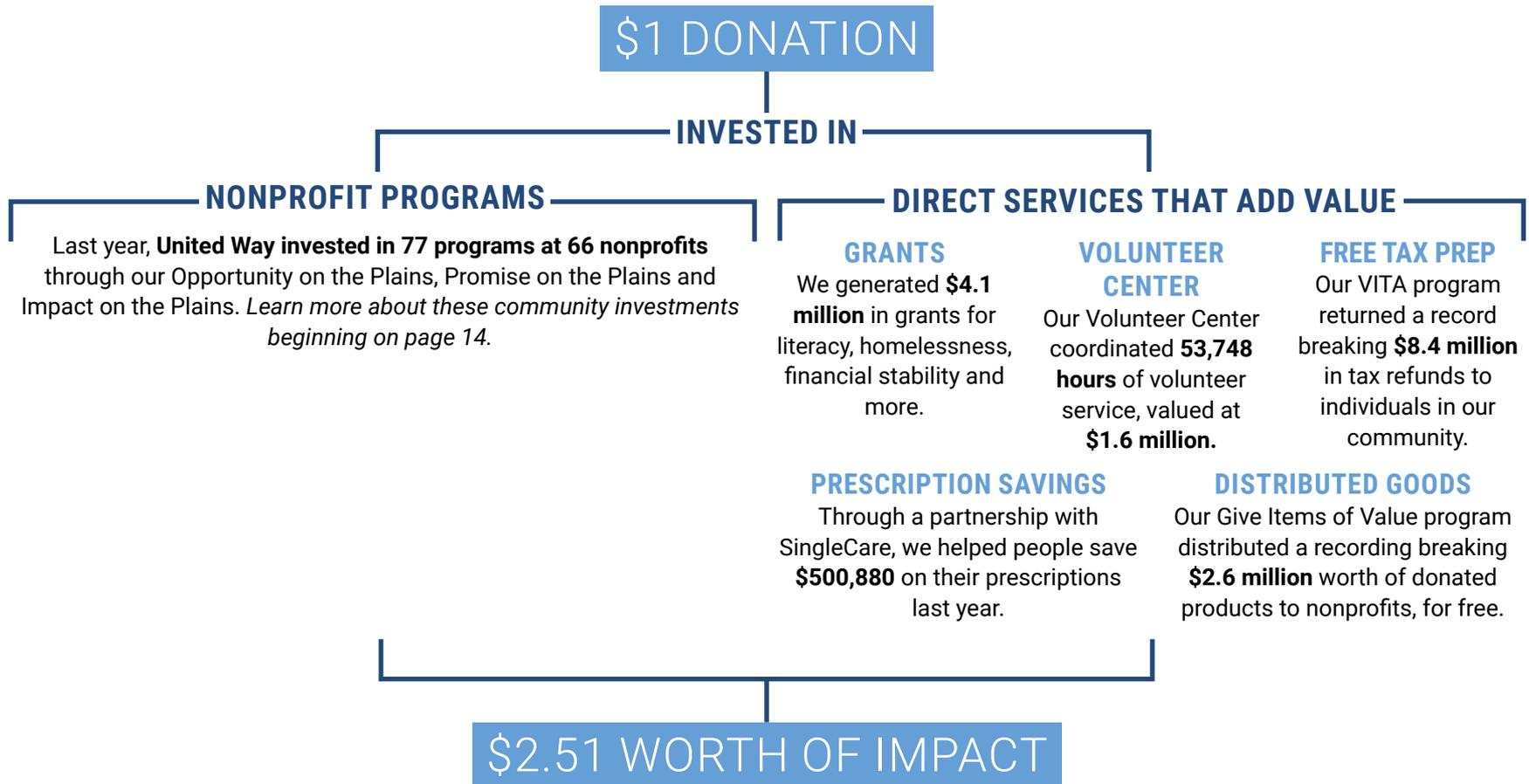
- **HEALTH:** We're helping our neighbors get – and stay – healthy by ensuring access to equitable, affordable and quality health services and providing the tools to lead a healthy lifestyle, including making nutritious food readily available.
- **EDUCATION:** With an approach to education that spans from cradle to career, we're making sure children start school ready to learn, achieve on-grade reading levels, maintain strong attendance and graduate on time.
- **FINANCIAL STABILITY:** We're helping our neighbors find not just short term financial success but long-lasting stability. That means connecting people with career development opportunities, pathways to homeownership and financial literacy skills to leverage their resources effectively.
- **BASIC NEEDS:** When our neighbors find themselves in crisis, we help them recover by meeting their basic needs and providing a social safety net that every community requires.

611,643
TIMES WE HELPED OUR NEIGHBORS IN
SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS LAST YEAR.

OUR IMPACT

What happens when you donate a dollar to United Way? **We turn it into \$2.51 worth of impact.**

United Way adds value to multiply every dollar donated by serving as policy experts, creating efficiencies, leveraging resources and building relationships across all business sectors to fund causes that drive impact.



Left: A kindergarten student at L'Ouverture Elementary School shows United Way of the Plains President and CEO Pete Najera the new books she received in a summer reading kit provided by United Way in collaboration with Coaching for Literacy.



DIRECT SERVICES

Throughout our history, we've kept a pulse on the needs in the community, evaluated gaps in services and developed innovative solutions to meet those needs. We provide unique programs to meet local and statewide needs.

VOLUNTEER CENTER: TRANSFORMING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE POWER OF PEOPLE

The United Way Volunteer Center connects the passions of people with the needs of nonprofits to create lasting change. Whether it's reading with children, stocking shelves at a food pantry or delivering meals to home-bound seniors, volunteers are at work throughout our community everyday.

In 2022...

- **213 GROUP PROJECTS** were organized by the United Way Volunteer Center.
- **53,748 VOLUNTEER HOURS** were served in the community through the United Way Volunteer Center, **WORTH \$1.6 MILLION** in value to the nonprofits they assisted.

Left: Textron Aviation employees helped prep the grounds at the Kansas Aviation Museum for the Frontiers in Flight Air Show.

Right: George Chandler with INTRUST Bank maintains a bike at Bike Walk Wichita as part of Serve United, a week dedicated to volunteering throughout the city that was organized by United Way's Young Leaders United affinity group.



“ Our family would like to thank you for the financial support given to us. We feel fortunate and blessed to live in such a caring and compassionate community.”

— John, Mandy, Valerie, Ben and Jenna



When disaster strikes, United Way of the Plains has a legacy of harnessing the caring power of our community to help victims in the hours, days, months and years that follow.

Left: United Way of the Plains Director of Community Services Mark Stump directs a crowd of volunteers responding to the Haysville tornado in 1999.



DISASTER RESPONSE:

HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS RECOVER, REBUILD AND REIMAGINE

Imagine taking shelter in your basement, listening to the home above you collapse and blow away.

Imagine climbing out to find your car wrapped around a tree down the street.

Imagine the moment you realize your tangible memories are lost forever.

This was reality for 208 neighbors in Andover and Sedgwick County the night of Friday, April 29, when an EF-3 tornado struck.

Now, imagine if there was someone there to guide you through the chaos in the moments and months that followed. That's your United Way.

Within the first 24 hours, our 211 Information and Referral service was directing victims to assistance and connecting those wanting to help their neighbors recover with the best ways to support them. We stood up a Residential Disaster Assistance Center. This multi-agency resource center served as a hub of 15+ organizations who offered food, clothing, basic needs, cleanup materials, registration for financial assistance and emotional support. And we set up a fund that raised over \$900,000 to help with long-term recovery efforts.

But that was just the beginning of the recovery. In the weeks and months that followed, the City of Andover partnered with the United Way Volunteer Center to organize community cleanup days to restore parks and public spaces.

United Way continues to walk alongside those who were impacted that night to make sure they have the resources they need to succeed.



211 INFORMATION & REFERRAL: FROM HELLO TO HOPE

What do you do when you don't know where your next meal will come from? Or how to pay this month's rent and utilities? Or when you don't have health insurance but your child is sick and needs a doctor?

United Way's 211 Information and Referral service helps people in 98 counties across Kansas when they're faced with life's toughest questions. 211 is the most comprehensive source of information about local health and human services. This free, statewide program is powered by caring professionals who are experts in identifying underlying problems and connecting people in need with the best local resources in their community. The service is accessible by phone, text, chat and an online database 24/7 in 180+ languages.

- **TOP 5 REQUESTED NEEDS IN 2022**

- Utility Assistance
- Tax Preparation Assistance
- Rent Assistance
- Food Pantries
- Homeless Shelters

1,325,525

TIMES KANSANS HAVE BEEN CONNECTED
TO HELP SINCE 211 BEGAN IN 2006.



When I was 23, I was put on bedrest three months before my son was born. My husband and I both had jobs but neither of us made a lot of income. How were we going to pay rent, make our car payment, or cover car insurance? I called 211 in tears, telling them what I was facing. They gave me resources to help pay those bills.

To me, 211 is a life saving resource.

It's something that is simple but underestimated. The fact that at any point in time someone can call and find the resources they need is amazing. **I honestly think that we'd be in a different place if we hadn't received that assistance."**

— Kisty, *right with her family*



2006

2022



GIVE ITEMS OF VALUE WAREHOUSE: SAVING NONPROFITS \$2.6 MILLION

Imagine if companies could make better use of surplus products – and benefit others at the same time?

United Way of the Plains Give Items of Value (GIV) program creates a bridge between organizations with excess inventory and nonprofits in south central Kansas, whose tight budgets limit their ability to purchase critical supplies to support their mission. With the help of volunteers, like Amy Schafer (*pictured above*), donations are sorted and stocked so nonprofits can “shop” for the items they need, free of charge. It’s a win-win: Companies are able to recycle products while nonprofits keep their overhead low so more resources can be funneled into programming.

- **RECORD BREAKING \$2.6 MILLION** worth of goods were distributed in 2022.
- **232 NONPROFITS** shopped at GIV over 1,100 times in 2022.

Right: Elleicia McFadden, with Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas, loads household items she found at GIV. These basic necessities will help a client experiencing homelessness furnish their new home, for free.



We piloted the program in 1984 with a small closet of supplies. **It became evident very quickly that we were meeting a real community need.** We finished 2022 as our most successful year on record. That achievement is a result of strong partnerships with area retailers and businesses, continuous outreach to nonprofits and the dedication of our staff and volunteers.”

— Mark Stump, United Way Director of Community Services



1984

2022



OUR INVESTMENTS

100 years ago, our community rallied together to raise \$183,296 for 25 social service agencies. Each fall, the fundraising campaign captures our community's collective efforts in the same spirit to bring help and hope to our neighbors.

In 2022, United Way of the Plains invested in 77 programs at 66 nonprofit partners through three grant funding opportunities: Opportunity on the Plains, Promise on the Plains and Impact on the Plains. Each supports our work to advance the common good in our focus areas of health, education, financial stability and basic needs.

Above: United Way banners line downtown Wichita streets, marking the annual fall fundraising campaign.

\$586,880,280+

**HAVE BEEN INVESTED IN PROGRAMS THAT
STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1922.**



OPPORTUNITY ON THE PLAINS

Opportunity on the Plains is the largest, annual investment program from United Way of the Plains to help meet the most pressing needs in our community.

It provides grants to health and human service programs in our focus areas of health, education, financial stability and basic needs. Thanks to the caring power of our community, this program invested a total of **\$6,582,311** in area programs, including **24 NEW PROGRAMS**, from July 2022 to June 2023, that help individuals and families throughout south central Kansas achieve their human potential. *Grant recipients are listed in each focus area section that follows.*

Above: Abel Frederic, United Way Vice President of Community Impact (center), and Pete Najera, United Way President and CEO (right), congratulate Kristi Oberg, Wichita Public Library Foundation President and CEO (left), on the grand opening of Evergreen Community Center and Library. The foundation received a grant through Opportunity on the Plains to provide bilingual books and resources to help ensure children are kindergarten ready.

PROMISE ON THE PLAINS

In 2022, we launched Promise on the Plains to help create a more equitable and inclusive community where individuals of all racial and ethnic backgrounds can succeed.

Through Promise on the Plains, United Way invests in Wichita area nonprofits led by and serving Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) to help close gaps and disparities in health, education, financial stability and basic needs. Grants assist in building organizational capacity to help foster a more just and inclusive community. This new grant opportunity was announced during Black History Month in February. **TEN RECIPIENTS, EACH RECEIVING \$10,000**, were recognized as part of Juneteenth observances (*pictured below*).

Common Ground Producers and Growers
CHD Boxing Club
ICT Launchpad
Progressive Community Outreach Program
Reach Out 2 Someone Else

Wichita Asian Association
Wichita Birth Justice Society
Wichita Intertribal Warrior Society
Women Aspire
Women's Project of Kansas





IMPACT ON THE PLAINS

Impact on the Plains is a social innovation competition that promotes an entrepreneurial ecosystem in the nonprofit community to transform how complex social issues are addressed.

Impact on the Plains invites nonprofits to pitch their ideas for bold solutions to community issues in a “Shark-Tank” style event. In its second year, 39 nonprofits submitted applications with compelling answers to needs in the areas of health, education, financial stability and basic needs. Eight finalists pitched their transformative programs to judges at a live event.

WINNERS, RECEIVING \$25,000 EACH:

- Exercise & Wellness Program /**
Club Parkinson’s
- Summer Enrichment & Exploration Program /**
ICT Launchpad
- Wings Up: A Pathway to Economic Stability /**
Destination Innovation
- Emergency Help for Victims of Trafficking /**
Hope Ranch for Women

RUNNERS UP, RECEIVING \$5,000 EACH:

- Trauma-related Support for Vets /**
Sojourner’s Coffee House
- Empowering Youth Through Debate /**
Ad Astra Debate League
- Bridges Out of Poverty /** Children First
- Mobile Shower & Hygiene Program /**
Shower Up Wichita

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS:



BY TEXTRON AVIATION





HEALTH

Our work helps people of all ages lead healthier lives. Good health is critical for children to grow and develop, and for adults to live full and productive lives. We take a comprehensive approach to health – both mental and physical – because we understand our community is only as strong as the health of our neighbors.

OUR PARTNERS

In 2022, United Way invested **\$1,309,508** in a cohort of **22 PROGRAMS** at **18 NONPROFITS** that are increasing access to health care and mental health services, building equity and promoting healthy lifestyles. Together, they are reducing health disparities and improving the well-being of individuals and families in our community.

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- Cana Counseling Services** / Catholic Charities
- Direct Client Services** / Cairn Health
- Mental Health Services for Sexual Assault Victims** / Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center
- Outpatient Mental Health** / Kansas Children's Service League
- Project Access** / Central Plains Health Care Partnership
- RSVP of Sumner County** / Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas
- Therapeutic Evidence Based Treatment Education** / Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County - **NEW**
- Transportation** / Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas
- Vision Clinic** / Guadalupe Clinic - **NEW**

HEALTH EQUITY

- Kitchen Restore Program** / K-State Research and Extension Sedgwick County - **NEW**
- Neighborhood Doula Advocates Program** / Kansas Birth Justice Society - **NEW**

38,997

TIMES PARTNERS HELPED OUR NEIGHBORS LIVE A HEALTHIER LIFE IN 2022.

Removing Language Barrier to Health Care Access / GraceMed Health Clinic - **NEW**

Wheelchair Clinic & Assistive Technology Funding / Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas

Wichita Student Dignity Project / Giving the Basics - **NEW**

Workplace Support for BIPOC Breastfeeding Parents / Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition - **NEW**

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Camp Discovery for Youth with Type I Diabetes / American Diabetes Association - **NEW**

CARES: Compassionate Advancement of Resiliency, Equity and Support / Central Plains Health Care Partnership

Exercise & Wellness Therapy for People with Disabilities / Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas

Great Plains Diabetes / Great Plains Diabetes Research - **NEW**

Healthy Lifestyle for Marginalized Adults / Breakthrough - **NEW**

Promoting Good Oral Hygiene Habits for Good Health / GraceMed Health Clinic - **NEW**

Sober Active Community / The Phoenix - **NEW**

Left: Chitra Harris, a board member for the Wichita Asian Association, welcomes guests to their first-ever health fair. The goal of the fair, hosted as part of the Wichita Asian Festival, was to break down barriers to access affordable health care. The program was supported by a grant through United Way of the Plains' Promise on the Plains initiative.



DELTA DENTAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT PLAN: \$274,343 IN FREE CARE

Maintaining oral health reduces the risk of serious health conditions. Delta Dental partners with United Way to administer the Community Benefit Program to ensure financial barriers are removed for working individuals who lack dental coverage. Through the program, a \$5 annual deductible covers diagnostic, preventive, basic and major services at 100%.

- **159 INDIVIDUALS** received needed dental care through the program last year.



SINGLECARE: REDUCING THE COST OF PRESCRIPTIONS

Inadequate health insurance forces our neighbors to make frightening decisions about which prescription medication they can afford and which they'll go without. SingleCare is a prescription discount card program promoted by United Way that helps reduce the cost of prescriptions.

- **\$500,880 WAS SAVED** in prescription costs by participants in south central Kansas last year.

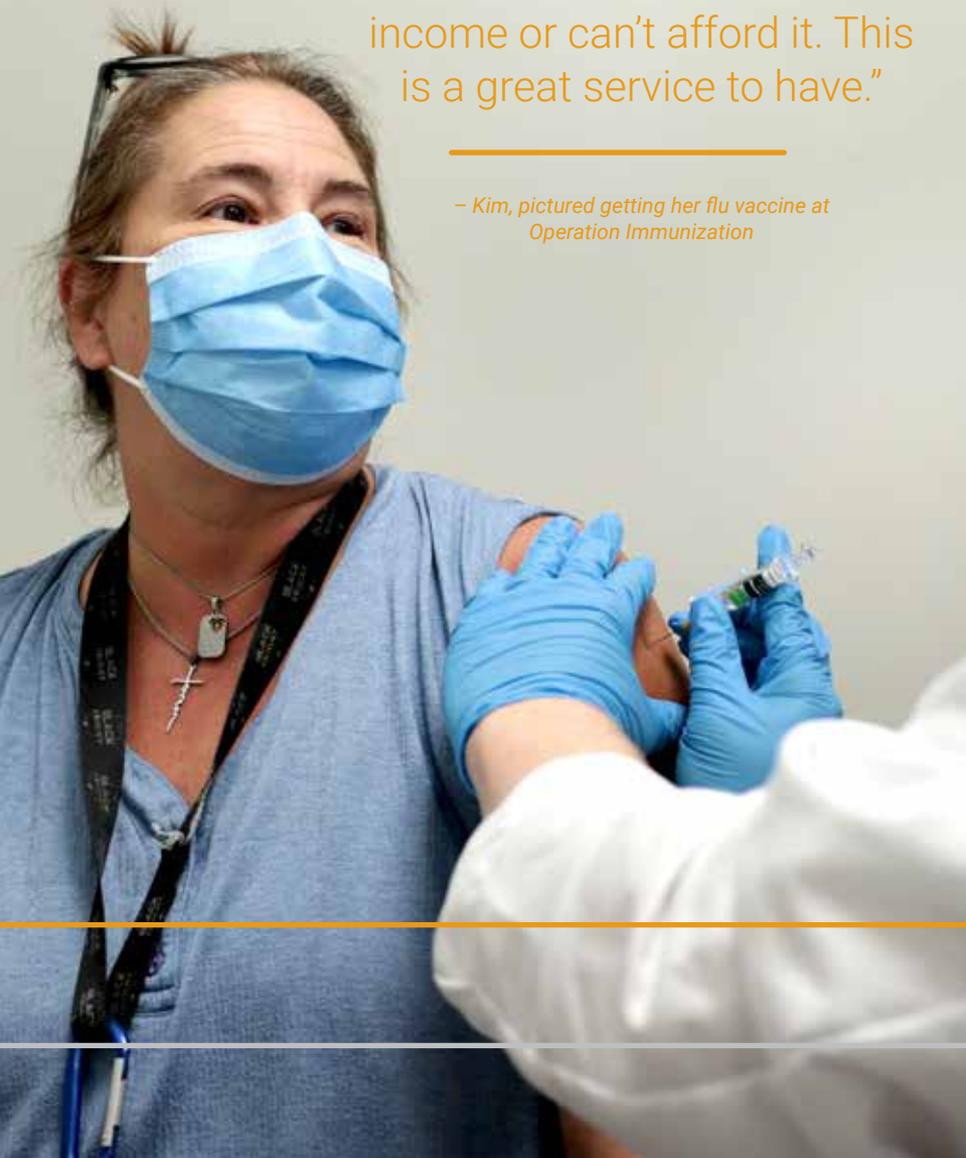


PROJECT ACCESS: PARTNERING FOR INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

In 1999, Dr. Paul Uhlig approached United Way of the Plains with an innovative idea to coordinate donated medical care for uninsured, low-income residents of Sedgwick County. United Way joined city and county entities, and community-based clinics to help fund and develop the program. In the first four months, local hospitals and 424 physicians contributed nearly \$800,000 worth of donated medical services. The program's success garnered national recognition with the prestigious Mary M. Gates Volunteer/Professional Achievement Award from United Way of America in 2000. Project Access continues to make a lasting impact for the health and well being of our neighbors.

“ I’ve gotten the flu shot for several years and it seems to have helped me avoid getting really sick. There’s more of us that can’t afford health insurance and don’t have the income or can’t afford it. This is a great service to have.”

— Kim, pictured getting her flu vaccine at Operation Immunization



OPERATION IMMUNIZATION: ELIMINATING BARRIERS TO BASIC HEALTH CARE

United Way annually partners with the KU School of Pharmacy – Wichita to host free flu vaccine clinics for those who are unemployed, uninsured or unable to pay. The program prevents a burden on the healthcare system, helps individuals avoid lost work time and curbs debt due to medical bills. By hosting clinics across the city, barriers to accessing needed healthcare are removed for our most vulnerable neighbors.

11,000+

PATIENTS HAVE RECEIVED A FREE FLU VACCINE THROUGH OPERATION IMMUNIZATION SINCE OUR PARTNERSHIP BEGAN IN 2009.

2000

2009

2022



EDUCATION

Education is the foundation to success in work and life. When children start school ready to learn, achieve on-grade reading and math levels, and graduate on time, they will thrive personally and contribute to their community throughout their life.

OUR PARTNERS

In 2022, United Way invested **\$1,481,634** in a cohort of **12 PROGRAMS** at **11 NONPROFITS** that are helping students enter school ready to learn, ensuring success throughout their educational journey and helping in their overall development. Together, they are meeting vital educational needs of children that will help build a stronger workforce and strengthen our community in years to come.

30,988

TIMES PARTNERS HELPED CHILDREN SUCCEED IN 2022.

SCHOOL READY CHILDREN

Developmental Assessments and Evaluations / Rainbows United

Early Childhood Connections / Child Start

Early Learning at Evergreen / Wichita Public Library Foundation - **NEW**

Targeted Case Management / Rainbows United

SUCCESS IN SCHOOL

Brotherhood and Sisterhood Programs / Rise Up for Youth

Core Program / The Pando Initiative

Future Heroes Success Mentors / Heroes Academy - **NEW**

Pathways to Graduation & Career Success / Jobs for America's Graduates - Kansas - **NEW**

OVERALL STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

After-School and Summer Program / Boys & Girls Clubs of South Central Kansas

Community Based Mentoring / Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters Serving Sedgwick County

Leadership Experience: Youth Development / Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland

Youth Employment Project / Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas

Left: A family poses with the new books they received from United Way at the Juneteenth community celebration. Books featured diverse characters to help children see themselves in the stories they read and know they are valued in the world.



COACHING FOR LITERACY: TEAMING UP TO HELP CHILDREN LEARN TO READ

Coaching for Literacy teamed up with Wichita State University men's basketball team to raise more than \$30,000 for United Way's childhood literacy programs. The partnership funded summer literacy kits for 3,050 kindergarten through third grade students at 14 elementary schools in Shocker neighborhood. Each kit included two new books featuring diverse characters and reading guides for parents to encourage their child in their quest to strengthen their reading skills.



Left: Shocker basketball player Isaiah Poor Bear-Chandler reads with students at Washington Elementary School as part of Coaching for Literacy.



DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY: INSPIRING LOCAL CHILDREN TO LOVE READING

United Way partners with the Imagination Library to mail a new, free book every month to children ages 0-5 years old, regardless of their income. The program helps children, like Kailani (pictured right), develop a love of reading and advanced literacy skills before she enters school. United Way funds the initiative in select ZIP codes with the greatest need in Sedgwick, Butler and Cowley counties.

- **11,427 CHILDREN** participated in the Imagination Library in 2022.



READ TO SUCCEED: MOBILIZING VOLUNTEERS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

In 2015, Read to Succeed began as a grassroots effort of Women United to help third grade students achieve grade level reading benchmarks. The program pairs volunteer reading coaches with students to meet weekly, listen to the students read and help them improve their reading skills. Women United partnered with Wichita Public Schools to pilot the program in one school with 22 volunteers. Because of the success in that initial year, Read to Succeed has grown to serve second and third grade students at 24 elementary schools. Students who participate grow in their confidence and love of reading, build meaningful relationships with their coaches and improve their reading scores.

- **1,700+ STUDENTS** have participated in Read to Succeed since 2015.

Left: David Gear with The Active Age coaches a student at Gardiner Elementary School.

2015 ——— 2022



FINANCIAL STABILITY

Without a steady income or sufficient savings, people are easily caught off guard by unexpected expenses, develop lingering credit concerns, fall prey to predatory lenders and even face homelessness. We're helping our neighbors become financially stable so even in challenging times, they have the education and support to efficiently allocate resources and sustain themselves.

OUR PARTNERS

In 2022, United Way invested **\$622,106** in a cohort of **10 PROGRAMS** at **10 NONPROFITS** that are helping our neighbors build economic stability, access vocational training and education, and build pathways out of poverty.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Financial Education and Credit Building Program / International Rescue Committee - Kansas - **NEW**

Money Matters / Consumer Credit Counseling Service

Youth Financial Literacy / Kansas Council for Economic Education

PATHWAYS TO HOMEOWNERSHIP

Pathways to Homeownership / Wichita Habitat for Humanity - **NEW**

38,667

TIMES PARTNERS HELPED OUR NEIGHBORS GAIN FINANCIAL STABILITY IN 2022.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Camp Destination Innovation / Destination Innovation - **NEW**

Seeds for Success / Catholic Charities

GED & High School Diploma Preparation / Kansas School for Effective Learning (KANSEL)

LegacyWorks / Legacy Ministries - **NEW**

Workforce Skills & Support for Disadvantaged Women / The Women's Network

Youth Transitioning to Employment / Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas

Left: Amanda Estrada and her family attended the Weather Ready Neighborhood Cookout & Resource Fair, hosted by United Way of the Plains and Bank On ICT coalition partners. The fair provided resources and tools to help navigate increased utility costs associated with severe winter weather.



FREE TAX FILING ASSISTANCE:

RECORD BREAKING \$8.4 MILLION IN REFUNDS

45% of households in south central Kansas make less than \$50,000 a year. United Way's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program helps them file their taxes for free and keep more of their hard-earned money.

In 2022, the average, simple tax return cost \$220 to process by a paid service. United Way's free tax service helps clients avoid costly decisions, like paying rent or feeding their family, to have their taxes filed. Over 100 IRS-certified volunteers filed 5,444 tax returns for low-to-moderate income households and helped them find tax credits. The returns totaled a record breaking \$8.4 million. These refunds are often used by clients to cover the basics, including medical bills, car repairs, housing costs and more, and in turn, boost and stabilize the local economy.

Above: Amy Althoff, an IRS-certified volunteer, assists a client at one of the free tax sites hosted by United Way.

75,000+

TAX RETURNS HAVE BEEN FILED THROUGH
VITA SINCE THE PROGRAM BEGAN IN 2003.



BANK ON ICT:

NEW COALITION HELPS INDIVIDUALS AVOID PREDATORY LENDING SERVICES

United Way launched the Bank On ICT coalition, the first of its kind in Kansas, to help connect our unbanked and underbanked neighbors to safe and affordable banking services.

126,000 individuals in Sedgwick County rely on cash checking and payday lender services to access their money, costing them more than \$40,000 over the course of their life in excessive penalties and fees. Bank On ICT partners with financial institutions to offer certified accounts that work with individuals who have been denied services in the past. A bank account is just the first step to gaining financial stability. Over 30 organizations, including nonprofits, financial institutions and government entities, have joined the coalition to be partners for success, serving as a team of local experts who are invested in a client's longterm financial success.

- **632 INDIVIDUALS** were referred to safe, affordable banking services through Bank On ICT in its first year.



BASIC NEEDS

We're helping our most vulnerable neighbors and those in crisis recover by meeting their basic needs – food, rent and utility assistance, safety and shelter. Having a social safety net in our community helps those in need survive today and propels them to live their best lives possible tomorrow.

OUR PARTNERS

In 2022, United Way invested **\$2,380,258** in a cohort of **25 PROGRAMS** at **17 NONPROFITS** that are helping our neighbors access basic needs, such as food, shelter, safety and utilities.

53,383

TIMES PARTNERS HELPED OUR NEIGHBORS COVER THEIR BASIC NEEDS IN 2022.

EMERGENCY SHELTERS

BRIDGES Transitional Living Program / Wichita Children's Home
Children's Home / Sunlight Children's Services
CrossRoads Homeless Emergency Shelter / Wichita Children's Home
Homeless Resource Center / United Methodist Open Door
Homeless Services Emergency Lodge / The Salvation Army
The Inn powered by HumanKind / HumanKind Ministries – **NEW**
Residential Emergency Shelter / Wichita Children's Home
St. Anthony Family Shelter / Catholic Charities

FOOD INSECURITY

Addressing Food Waste and Food Insecurity Through Community Awareness and Engagement / ICT Food Rescue – **NEW**
Reduce Food Insecurity / The Salvation Army
Community Food Ministry / United Methodist Open Door
Meals on Wheels / Senior Services of Wichita
Our Daily Bread Food Pantry / Catholic Charities

RENT/UTILITY ASSISTANCE

Utility Assistance / The Salvation Army
Emergency Services / Family Promise of Greater Wichita – **NEW**
Homeless Prevention / Center of Hope
Providing Assistance to Increase Stability for Families in Need / Dear Neighbor Ministries – **NEW**

SAFETY

Child Advocacy Center / Sunlight Children's Services
Court Appointed Special Advocates / CASA of Sedgwick County
Harbor House / Catholic Charities
Kinship Navigator / Kansas Children's Service League
Safety for Domestic Violence Survivors / The Women's Network
Stability and Resources for Domestic Violence Victims / StepStone
Supportive Services for Sexual Assault Victims / Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center
Volunteers Helping Abused and Neglected Children Have Safe, Permanent Homes / Tri-County CASA

Left: When she found herself living out of her truck, Shower Up Wichita met her basic need for a shower. Shower Up Wichita is a mobile shower and hygiene program that restores dignity, self-esteem and humanity to those experiencing homelessness. They were a grant recipient from United Way of the Plains' Impact on the Plains initiative in 2022.



VETERANS RIDE FREE:

49,633 RIDES GIVEN TO VETS FOR FREE

Veterans Ride Free, a transportation program that provides free rides to veterans on any Wichita Transit bus or Q-line for free, was extended for two more years in 2022. The program is funded by the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center and United Way's Flags of Freedom program. It's aimed at removing transportation barriers to help veterans access medical appointments, employment, shopping, social visits and other daily needs.



“One of our veterans is a married father of two minor children, one of whom has special needs. He used Veterans Ride Free to attend school and graduate with his HVAC certification. He now uses the service to get to and from work, go to the grocery store, pick up medication for their child and take both children to appointments. By eliminating transportation as a barrier, he and his family are gaining financial stability and have reduced their risk of becoming homeless.”

– Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center Case Manager



FIGHTING FOOD INSECURITY:

LEVERAGING COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS TO ENSURE ALL ARE FED

Imagine making the tough decision – pay rent or buy groceries for your family. For 13% of our neighbors, this is reality as they are food insecure.

United Way is finding and supporting creative solutions. When the Salvation Army launched a mobile food pantry last year that would bring healthy foods each week to Wichita area community centers in food deserts, we were proud to join other community entities with financial support (*pictured above*).

We also partnered with United Methodist Open Door Community Food Ministry, Bank of America and Cargill to offer Ride United: Last Mile Delivery. Case managers identified clients that faced barriers to accessing grocery stores due to mobility issues, availability of nearby grocery stores and transportation. The program leveraged DoorDash drivers to deliver food boxes to a client's front door for free.

- **285 DELIVERIES OF FRESH, NUTRITIOUS FOOD** were made, saving participants over \$7,500 in groceries and transportation.



IMPACT ICT CONTINUUM OF CARE: ENDING HOMELESSNESS: ONE PERSON AT A TIME

Over 330 individuals and organizations have joined the Impact ICT Continuum of Care with a shared vision to make homelessness rare, brief and nonrecurring for all our neighbors in Sedgwick County. Led by United Way of the Plains, the coalition brings together nonprofits, government entities, community stakeholders and persons with lived experiences to work toward achieving functional zero – when the number of people experiencing homelessness never exceeds our community's capacity to move people into permanent housing. Their work includes:

Case Conferencing – Homeless service providers use a common database to compile a list of individuals, by name, who are experiencing homelessness and their specific needs. A team of service providers meet frequently to review the list and match clients with resources to quickly move them into housing.

Securing Funds – Impact ICT, led by United Way, was awarded a \$2.7 million grant from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 2022.

Conducting a Point in Time Count – The count, organized by United Way, is an annual effort to estimate the number of individuals in Wichita and Sedgwick County who are homeless. The 2022 count revealed 690 individuals were impacted. Information collected helps Impact ICT make local funding decisions, study trends, reach underserved populations and increase awareness.

Impact ICT's work is making a difference. In 2022...

- Individuals experiencing homelessness were served **107,100 TIMES** by a coalition partner.
- **3,082 INDIVIDUALS** were helped through emergency shelter, transitional housing, street outreach and housing services.
- **1,168 INDIVIDUALS** were housed or kept in housing.

Left: Jaraya Reynolds, United Way Continuum of Care Housing Navigator, talks with a client at United Methodist Open Door Homeless Resource Center. Improved collaborations have resulted in more efficient housing referrals.

“ I am currently living out of my car. I have a full time job. It’s just too hard for me to save up enough money for the deposit and first month’s rent. I spend most of my paycheck on hotels so I’m not always sleeping in the car...

A single mother of five found herself homeless and living in her car or hotel while her children stayed with a relative. Through the collaborative efforts of Impact ICT partners, she was placed in rapid re-housing.

I promise I will make sure to stay going forward in the right direction and never look back. I will never go backwards. My children are so happy and proud of me. They can come visit me now. I will never forget this moment. You guys are a blessing and I’m so appreciative.”

– “N,” formerly homeless



IN APPRECIATION

Generous organizations and individuals are the driving force behind the work United Way does to help everyone achieve their potential. With their support, we are transforming lives and changing community conditions.

Above: INTRUST Bank staff assemble fleece blankets as part of their internal workplace fundraising campaign. Blankets were given to area homeless shelters.

TOP CORPORATE CAMPAIGNS

United Way of the Plains is proud to partner with many organizations committed to building a stronger community for all. Our top 15 corporate supporters, listed here, donated \$5,772,280 in our 2022 campaign through corporate and employee giving, matching gifts and special events. We are grateful for their support.



Above, left to right: Spirit AeroSystems Senior Vice President Kevin Matthes, United Way of the Plains President and CEO Pete Najera, Good Neighbor Fund Chair Matthew Joyce, and Spirit AeroSystems Sr. Manager of Global Community Relations and Corporate Social Responsibility Molly Edwards.



Above: United Way of the Plains hosted ELEVATE, a group of up-and-coming leaders at Textron to discuss the future of community impact and philanthropy in the workplace.



TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY

In 1831, Alexis Charles-Henri de Tocqueville traveled extensively throughout the United States, recording his observations of life in the young nation. Of note were his thoughtful reflections that Americans hold in common a unique willingness to work for the public welfare and lend faithful support to their neighbors in times of need. It was this spirit that inspired the United Way Tocqueville Society. Members illustrate their commitment to their neighbors through annual leadership gifts of \$10,000 or more. In our 100th year, these members contributed \$1,018,688 to help advance the common good.

LA SOCIÉTÉ NATIONALE

Gifts of \$100,000 – \$249,999

Helen and Russ Meyer

ORDER DE FRATERNITÉ

Gifts of \$75,000 – \$99,999

Barbara and David Rolph

ORDER D'ÉGALITÉ

Gifts of \$50,000 – \$74,999

Ilene Bomhoff

Stuart and Barbara Ray

ORDER DE LIBERTÉ

Gifts of \$25,000 – \$49,999

Rachel and Paul Allen

Adam Berry

Marla and Charlie Chandler

DeVore Foundation

Julie and Tom Gentile

Hannah and Rich Kerschen

Laura and Philip Knight

Liz and Charles Koch

Jodi and Craig Noah

Traci and Bill Pickert

The Darrel and Dee Rolph Family
Fund

Kriya and Terry Shortt

Debbie and Jay Smith

MEMBRES DE LA SOCIÉTÉ

Gifts of \$10,000 – \$24,999

Susie and Craig Anderson	Cindy and Chuck McSwain
Kim and Greg Anderson	Kathy and John Mosley
Sue and Fred Berry	Janet and Dave Murfin
Susayn Brandes	Jan and Pete Najera
Susie and Bill Braun	Susan and Nick Onofrio
Yolanda and Gene Camarena	Carla and Dan Powers
Ken Clay	Kathy and Dave Robertson
Marilyn Sue Cressler	Ronda and David Rosenberg
Jill Docking (Mrs. Thomas Docking)	Andrea and Jim Scarpelli
Ginger Farney and Shawn Gieger	Kate and Dan Scheer
April and Michael Gerber	Jaki and Roger Scholfield
Nancy and Donald J. Glenn	Cole Spedale
Cozy and Chris Goebel	Kelly and Shawn Sullivan
Patricia and Dawson Grimsley	Natalie and Sean Tarbell
Jenifer and Francis Hitschmann	Betty and Ted A. Vlamis
Michele C. and Anthony B. Isaac	Marla and Steve Webb
Kris and Brian Johnson	Roberta and Alan Whetzel
Monica and Tony Kruse	Ellen and Todd Winter
Shawna and Shawn Lancelot	I. Wayne Woolsey
Sondra M. Langel	Lana and David Wyckoff
Judy and Doug Ledbetter	Three Anonymous
Julia and Matt List	

United Way of the Plains makes every effort to accurately acknowledge our donors. If an error in recognition has occurred, please contact our philanthropy team at (316) 267-1321 ext. 4123.



LABOR UNION PARTNERS:

A LEGACY OF CARING

The AFL-CIO and United Way partnership was born after World War II as an innovative way to rebuild our nation through efficient fundraising. Today, this legacy of caring continues as union members give their time, talents and financial support through United Way to improve the lives of our neighbors.

American Postal Workers Union: Local #735

Communication Workers of America: Local #6402

Fraternal Order of Police: Lodge #5

Graphic Communications Conference / International Brotherhood of Teamsters

International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees: Local #190

International Association of Fire Fighters: Local #135

International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers: District Lodge #70, District #70 Retirees, Local Lodges – #639, #774, #839, #1989, #2799

International Brotherhood of Boilermakers

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers: Local #271, #304, #661, #1523

International Brotherhood of Teamsters Union: Local #795

International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers: Local #15 MO/KS

International Union of Elevator Constructors: Local #12

International Union of Operating Engineers: Local #101, #119

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades

Kansas Association of Public Employees – American Federation of Teachers-Kansas

Kansas Organization of State Employees

Laborers International Union of North America: Local #1290

National Association of Letter Carriers: Branch #201

Office and Professional Employees International Union: Local #277

Service Employees International Union: Local #513

Sheet Metal Workers: Local Union #29

Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace/IFPTE: Local #2001

United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters: Local Union #441

United Association Local 669 Road Sprinkler Fitters

United Food & Commercial Workers District Union: Local #2

United Steel Workers of America: Local #13417

United Teachers of Wichita #725

Wichita/Hutchinson Labor Federation of Central Kansas, AFL-CIO

1922

1942

HONORING OUR COUNTRY'S HEROES: FLAGS OF FREEDOM

Flags of Freedom is a grand, two-week display of 600 American flags to honor, celebrate and remember veterans and current service members on Memorial Day. The program is a partnership between United Way and IAM & AW District Lodge #70. The community is invited to participate by purchasing dedications in honor of an active service member or in memory of a veteran in their life. Funds support United Way programs that assist veterans, including Veterans Ride Free (see page 32). More than \$12,000 was raised in 2022.



**FOR 80+ YEARS, UNITED WAY AND ORGANIZED
LABOR HAVE BEEN PARTNERING FOR GOOD.**

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



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Vice President
Textron Aviation



VICE CHAIR
Craig Anderson
President
Equity Bank



TREASURER / FINANCE CHAIR
Adam Dunn
VP & CFO
Martin K. Eby
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Former President
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Wichita



AT LARGE APPOINTEE
Diane Iseman
Communications & PR Manager
INTRUST Bank



AT LARGE APPOINTEE
Ebony Clemons-Ajibolade
Sr. Economic Development Manager
Everg

DIRECTORS

Paul Allen

Chief Executive
Allen, Gibbs & Houlik, L.C.

Cornell Beard

District President and Directing Business Representative
IAM & AW District Lodge #70

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Business Manager, Financial Secretary-Treasurer
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Senior Vice President, Quality and Engineering
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Community Advocate

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Justine Milmine

Women United
Steering Committee Chair

Cecilia Thibault

Young Leaders United
Steering Committee Chair

Amy Schafer

Always United
Steering Committee Chair

FINANCIAL REPORTS

These financial statements are unaudited and in abbreviated format. To view our audited financial statements and related footnotes, please contact us at (316) 267-1321.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 2022.

ASSETS

Cash and investments	\$13,744,214
Receivables, net of allowance for uncollectible pledges	6,672,113
Prepaid expenses, inventory, and other	660,514
Charitable remainder trust	449,177
Property and equipment, net of depreciation	958,025
TOTAL ASSETS	\$22,484,043

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and other accrued liabilities	\$544,675
Payable to agencies	3,550,386
Held as fiscal agent for others	328,379
Deferred grant revenue	894,208
Total Liabilities and Deferred Revenue	\$5,317,648

NET ASSETS

Without donor restrictions	\$6,962,392
With donor restrictions	10,204,003
Total Net Assets	\$17,166,395
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$22,484,043



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 2022.

	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL
REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT			
Campaign contributions	\$1,296,098	\$7,559,067	\$8,855,165
Donor-designated gifts to agencies and programs	(101,170)	(666,705)	(767,875)
Provision for uncollectible pledges	39,559	(245,670)	(206,111)
Net campaign dollars raised	\$1,234,487	\$6,646,692	\$7,881,179
Other contributions	260,942	100,398	361,340
Disaster Relief Contributions	169,259	857,397	1,026,656
Investment earnings, interest and unrealized gains/(losses)	(2,037,870)	(242,038)	(2,279,908)
In-kind contributions	2,593,173		2,593,173
Endowment contributions	6,214		6,214
Change in value of beneficial interest in CRT	(43,796)		(43,796)
Grant income	1,767,750		1,767,750
Other revenue	17,233		17,233
Net assets released from restrictions	7,748,955	(7,748,955)	-
TOTAL REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT	\$11,716,347	\$(386,506)	\$11,329,841
EXPENSES			
Program services:			
Agency programs, initiative funding, and other awards	\$6,112,956		\$6,112,956
Grant expenditures and direct program services	6,247,087		6,247,087
Total program expenses	12,360,043		12,360,043
Fundraising	936,329		936,329
Supporting Services	1,452,089		1,452,089
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$14,748,461	-	14,748,461
CURRENT YEAR CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(3,032,114)	(386,506)	(3,418,620)
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	9,994,506	10,590,509	20,585,015
NET ASSET, END OF YEAR	\$6,962,392	\$10,204,003	\$17,166,395



THE PEOPLE'S UNITED WAY WORKING FOR YOU

For 100 years, United Way has helped the people of south central Kansas live their best lives possible. In 2022, we continued building on our tradition of innovation and impact to advance the common good for our neighbors.

Left: Associate Director of Philanthropy Jessie Gorges-Sawhill, HMIS - Database Entry Clerk Karmen Lewis, and Continuum of Care Housing Navigator Jaraya Reynolds sort donations at Giving the Basics as part of a United Way staff volunteer opportunity.



United Way was recognized by the Wichita Business Journal as a 2022 **DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AWARD** honoree for our work to promote equity through Promise on the Plains.



Wichita Business Journal named United Way a 2022 **INNOVATION AWARD** recipient for our implementation of Impact on the Plains, a “Shark Tank”-style social innovation competition for nonprofits.



Darren Minks, United Way of the Plains CFO, was named an **EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR** by the Wichita Business Journal.



Mark Stump, United Way of the Plains Director of Community Services, received the 2022 **LEON H. MANNELL OUTSTANDING EMERGENCY SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL AWARD** from the Kansas Emergency Management Association.

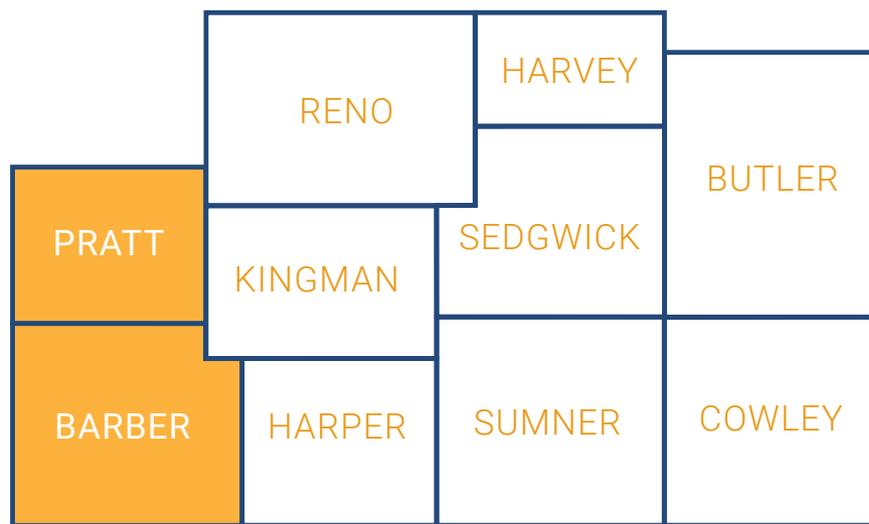


Kindra Goertzen, United Way of the Plains Creative Manager, was named a **40 UNDER 40** honoree by the Wichita Business Journal. She was also recognized as the **MARKETER OF THE YEAR** by the American Marketing Association of Wichita.



WE TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN

For 100 years, United Way of the Plains has been here to help our parents and grandparents thrive. Through the years, we have adapted, evolved and innovated to meet their most pressing needs. In 2023, we enter our next century of service to grow a legacy of impact that ensures the success of our children and grandchildren. This includes expanding our footprint of service to include Pratt and Barber counties. Helping nearly one third of the state's population is only made possible because of you - our leaders, donors and volunteers. **Ad astra per aspra.**





United Way of the Plains

OFFICE

245 N. Water St. • Wichita, KS 67202 • (316) 267-1321

FIND HELP OR VOLUNTEER

Dial 2-1-1 • Text your ZIP code to 898-211 • 211Kansas.org

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Release date July 14, 2023.