



# COLLECTIVE IMPACT *and* SPECIAL PROGRAMS

United Way goes beyond just funding programs. We also address specific issues through coordinated efforts and partnerships.

## WHAT IS COLLECTIVE IMPACT?

Some community-level problems are beyond the scope of any one organization or service sector. To tackle these issues, United Way of the Plains uses a unique problem-solving approach called **collective impact**. Through collective impact, United Way brings together partners from multiple sectors to create a common agenda to solve a specific issue. United Way acts as a backbone organization to support the work of these partners by coordinating a shared measurement system, mutually reinforcing activities and ongoing communication.

## HOMEWARD BOUND

United Way is the lead agency and coalition coordinator for Impact ICT - Continuum of Care. The coalition is comprised of 170+ people representing nonprofits, the faith community, local/state/federal governments, businesses and other community advocates. Together, they address local homelessness planning, services, funding applications and more with a goal to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

United Way also partners with various organizations to support special programs. They include:

- **Affordable Dental Care** - Partners with Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation to provide dental coverage for those with low-income.
- **Be there! School Attendance Initiative** - Partners with USD 259 - Wichita Public Schools and The Pando Initiative to ensure students are in school, all day, every day.
- **Community Projects** - Collaborations with Greater Wichita Partnership, Project Wichita and other organizations.
- **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library** - Partners with Kansas Health Foundation and other community organizations to mail a free book monthly to preschool children to foster a love of reading.
- **Early Childhood Block Grant** - United Way coordinates this grant that funds seven programs focused on early childhood development.
- **Free Income Tax Preparation Program** - Partners with the Building Economic Stability Together (BEST) Coalition of South Central Kansas, City of Wichita and IRS. Primarily supported by a federal grant.
- **Helping Homeless with Pets** - We're removing housing barriers for individuals experiencing homelessness who also own pets. A private endowment covers the costs of boarding, vet care, food, training and more.
- **Operation Immunization** - Partners with KU School of Pharmacy and local clinics to distribute free flu shots.
- **Women United® Read to Succeed Initiative** - Partners with USD 259 - Wichita Public Schools to provide reading coaches for third grade students. Supported by corporate sponsors.

LIVE UNITED



United Way of the Plains