

October 2023

IMPACT

MATTERS



United Way of the
Dutchess-Orange Region



Do you hear that?

It's the sound of the impact you are having on your community.

At our September Community Breakfast we launched United Way's annual fundraising season, a time where we unite as one to foster a community that embodies compassion, empathy and collaboration. United Way stands as a pillar of support for our community in times of need stretching out a helping hand, lifting those who are down and going through hardship, providing assistance that rekindles hope and fosters resilience.

During the Breakfast, this year's Campaign Chair, Chris Gilbert from Central Hudson, highlighted that the true success of their company's campaign stems from their profound connection to our community and the opportunities given to him and others to collaborate, volunteer and be engaged in our area.

As campaigns get underway some tips are:

- Make your campaign a team effort
- Have patience and persistence, because meaningful change takes time
- Education is key – it is important that colleagues understand the important mission of United Way and also realize the impact of every contribution no matter how small

To learn more about our work check out the workplace campaign section of our website, www.uwdor.org. There you will find stories and insights into the vital programs United Way is advocating for this year. Programs that provide a safe space for youth to receive mentorship and support, help with emergency financial assistance for families in crisis and provide access to food for our neighbors in need.

We all have the ability to provide meaningful impact to more than 200,000 lives in the year ahead. Let us open our hearts and minds to the compelling stories of our neighbors. Stories of transformation, of new beginnings, and of hope rekindled through the helping hands of United Way. We appreciate your support and your willingness to make a difference. We can all Live United.



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WHAT WOULD ONE DAY LOOK LIKE WITHOUT UNITED WAY?

Last year, **214,688** people in our community used services provided by United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region. Without your generous support, every day, **588 of our neighbors would not have access to critical support.**

United Way will always fight for the health, education and financial stability of everyone in our community.



\$11,286,791

was invested and leveraged in Dutchess & Orange Counties

122,108

individuals benefited from emergency food/shelter services

SUPPORTING BASIC NEEDS



22,277

individuals helped through the Hudson Valley Region 211 confidential emergency helpline



6,480

individuals benefited from SingleCare prescription savings cards



5,644

individuals benefited from free tax services through Hudson Valley CA\$H



2,232

individuals benefited from emergency car rides from Lyft

28,790

individuals benefited from community partnership grants

20,403

individuals benefited from Day of Sharing and Crisis Intervention

3,494

volunteers worked together to make our community stronger

3,260

individuals benefited from United Way community support programs



Emily

Emily is a second-grader who was struggling with schoolwork and getting into conflicts with her classmates that often ended with her being suspended. Aware of her mother's struggles with addiction and homelessness, Emily's emotions ranged from sadness to anger; she felt her mother abandoned her. A United Way-funded after-school program became her lifeline. Trauma-informed staff devised a plan, helping Emily open up gradually. She was able to catch up on all her assignments and began participating in leadership projects and community service. Since starting the program, Emily has not had a single in or out of school suspension. Emily's grandmother credited the program with enhancing her self-esteem and confidence.

Our Programs & Initiatives

HEALTH • CRISIS INTERVENTION • FINANCIAL STABILITY

PRESCRIPTION DISCOUNT CARDS

No one should have to choose between food and medicine. But they do. Every day, people in our community cut their pills in half, skip doses or can't fill prescriptions because of the high cost. United Way recognizes how vitally important good health is in our community. Improving and promoting the health of individuals is one of our focus areas. We are pleased to be working with our local community partners to introduce and promote the SingleCare prescription drug discount program. These discount cards are offered **FREE** of charge and no enrollment is needed.

NUTRITION OUTREACH AND EDUCATION PROGRAM (NOEP)

Many working families face challenges in providing food for their households. Our dedicated NOEP coordinators collaborate with community members to ease the burden of food insecurity, frequently by aiding families in enrolling for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits. Individuals may qualify if they receive unemployment benefits, rent relief, child tax credits, P-EBT or other COVID-19 relief funds.

CRISIS SUPPORT SERVICES

Crises hit everyone. Every day, United Way receives calls from our community members who need help accessing food, preventing eviction, securing transportation to work, filling prescriptions and other basic needs. United Way's Crisis Response can continue to prevent one small crisis from becoming a financial catastrophe by working closely with community partners to respond to emergency needs.

TRANSPORTATION ACCESS PROGRAM

Our area is seeing a growing transportation gap. United Way's Transportation Access Program offers free Lyft rides to residents without access to a vehicle or public transportation. These rides can be used for non-emergency medical appointments, job interviews, workforce development training, court appearances and other health and human services related appointments.

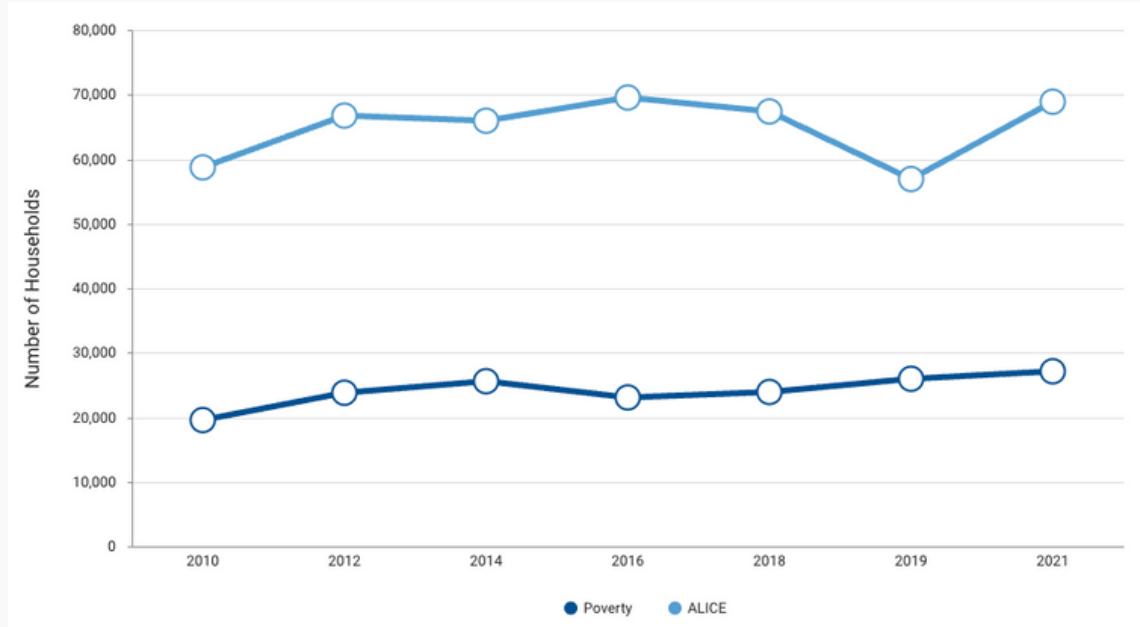
HUDSON VALLEY CA\$H

Hudson Valley CA\$H is a coalition of community partners representing libraries, human service agencies, local government, businesses, faith-based organizations and volunteers. Together with the IRS and AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, we are dedicated to promoting financial stability for individuals in Putnam, Orange and Dutchess Counties. The primary mission of the CA\$H Coalition is to provide free, reliable tax preparation assistance to low-to-moderate income residents so they can receive all the credits they are entitled to and keep every penny of their tax refund. Many depend on their refund to keep up with their rent, make a necessary car repair or pay down their credit card. For many of our neighbors, their tax refund might be the biggest check they receive all year.

Get to know your community.

Almost 100,000 households in our community need help.

We all know people who are ALICE: Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed — earning more than the Federal Poverty Level, but not enough to afford the basics where they live. ALICE workers were celebrated as essential heroes during the COVID-19 pandemic, yet they do not earn enough to support their own families.



Need help? Call 211.
There's always an answer.
Get connected. Get help.

We can connect you with information and access to:

- Food Pantries
- Emergency Housing
- Childcare
- Senior Services
- Veterans Services
- Mental Health Support
- Government Services
- Job Assistance
- Substance Abuse Support
- and much more

Our services are free and confidential. We will work to get you to the right service, quickly and with kindness and professionalism.

CALL 211
VISIT 211HudsonValley.org
TEXT your zip code to 898211



You can help.

Check out different ways you can give back to our community and partner with United Way.

For more information: www.uwdor.org

Volunteerism

Our partner organizations are always looking for help. Projects may include gardening and donation organization or distribution. There are always opportunities available to you. www.uwdor.org/volunteer

Grant Review

Be a part of the funding process by becoming a United Way Grant Reviewer. Throughout the spring, join almost 200 community stakeholders, to help make funding decisions. Email mclark@uwdor.org

Supply Drives

Supplies are needed for our community throughout the year. Consider putting together a drive at your workplace or school. Drive ideas include: Diapers, School Supplies, Hygiene and Holiday Gifts. Email rlull@uwdor.org

Are You...

- Living or working in Dutchess or Orange County?
- A young professional (early 20s to mid-40s)?
- Ready to make an impact in your community?

Emerging
Leaders United

United Way of the
Dutchess-Orange Region



www.uwdor.org/emergingleaders



Emerging Leaders United

A network of passionate, young professionals creating lasting impact in our community.

ELU members are committed, compassionate and generous individuals who are dedicated to making a positive impact throughout our community. Members connect to their community and each other through volunteerism, networking and fundraising events, professional development and education opportunities. Ready to meet and collaborate with other community-minded individuals. Contact Kristie Hagen, Donor Development Manager, at khagen@uwdor.org.



CASH Volunteers Needed

Linda Eddy

(845) 475-7500

www.uwdor.org/hv-cash

As a volunteer, you join over 220 of your neighbors who are making a tangible impact. Positions needed:

Client Facilitator | Tax Counselor | Technology Coordinator | Communications and Marketing Representative | Appointment Confirmation Specialist



"Getting free from a violent situation was hard. Once we were free, balancing work and striving for stability was also difficult, but being a mother fueled my determination. United Way's introduction to SNAP at my daughter's school felt like a second chance at building a better life. Groceries became less of a struggle, allowing me to redirect my energy towards creating a better life for my daughter. United Way's assistance reminded me that progress is possible with a community by your side."

united in purpose