



United Way of Utah County

United Way celebrates 60 years of Living United 1963-2023



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Decades of Difference

United Way has been community-first for 60 years

The year 2023 marks 60 years since United Way was established in Utah County. It is an exciting time for us to celebrate this milestone and look back on the last six decades. We have seen so much change during that time, and we are thrilled to be part of such an amazing community.

When United Way of Utah County was founded in 1963, wonderful community leaders recognized that working together could help make the community better. It is inspiring to realize they were planning for the future, looking at needs down the road. They came together to create impact. That is still what United Way is about.

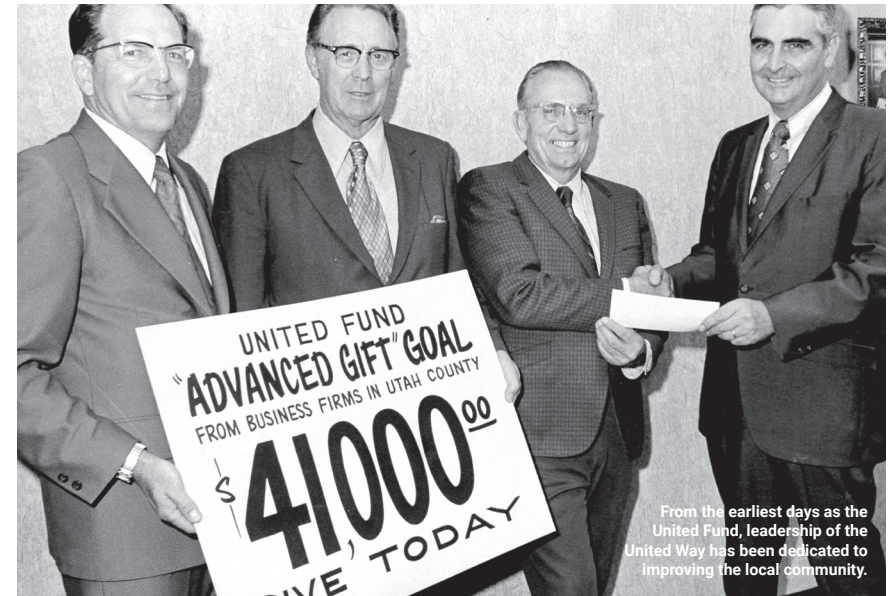
From the beginning, United Way of Utah County was a local organization — focusing on what is happening here in our community, conducting research, working with local partners and creating local solutions.

As I look back, the overwhelming feeling I have is gratitude. I'm grateful for everyone who paved the way for United Way to be where it is today, grateful for this community that constantly comes together to support and strengthen each other, and grateful for those who continue to look toward a brighter future.

For decades, we have focused on the most pressing local community concerns in areas including health, education and income. From transportation to literacy to youth resilience, United Way has been there every step of the way. And we look forward to being there in the future. Together we will continue to build a stronger community as we *live united*.



Bill Hulterstrom
President and CEO
of United Way of Utah County



From the earliest days as the United Fund, leadership of the United Way has been dedicated to improving the local community.

Bold Beginnings

Strong early leadership found creative solutions to local problems

The United Way of Utah County began in 1963 as the United Fund. At that time, there was a movement in the country to create organizations where people could give back and that were dedicated to community improvement.

The vision of two local community leaders, Wilson Sorensen from what would become Utah Valley University and Ben Lewis from Brigham Young University, helped establish United Way. They brought other leaders together to determine what needed to be done to address growth in Utah County.

These two universities were not only integral in the founding of United Way, but they continue to be amazing partners today. BYU was the first organization to offer its employees the opportunity to donate to United Way through the first workplace giving campaign and establishing BYU as United Way of Utah County's largest donor.

Later, Sorensen and Lewis were involved in the decision to change the name from United Fund to United Way, along with other United Funds around the county, recognizing that it would build a stronger brand and

create better relationships with national companies. They had foresight and ingenuity, planning for the community's future.

In the early days, United Way benefited from its strong board members. From the beginning, they took risks and got creative in order to provide needed services. United Way became instrumental in the establishment of other local nonprofit organizations that continue to serve vulnerable populations in our community, including the domestic violence shelter and crisis nursery.

Bill Hulterstrom, current CEO of United Way of Utah County, remembers opening the box for the first computer used in the United Way office. United Way began with little technology but eventually became the first United Way in the country to use an online volunteer database, continuing to maximize the benefits of technology to support giving and volunteerism.

Many things have changed from the early days, but United Way has always worked to understand the community's needs and to bring together people and organizations to create solutions.

And that will never change.



EveryDay Learners helps parents and children learn and grow together through relationships, skills and exploration.

Read Together, Grow Together!

Learning begins before children read and comes from time with parents

The ability to learn is established and expanded through everyday opportunities provided by parents and caregivers to develop learning skills. EveryDay Learners aims to support this journey. Here is the experience of Stephanie Anderson, senior director of EveryDay Learners and a mother.

"As an early education professional, I have always stressed to parents and other professionals the importance of reading to children. As a mother, I thoroughly enjoyed reading aloud to my children. One of my favorite parts of reading was the closeness I felt while reading one-on-one. We laughed, cried, and learned together during our daily ritual. As my children grew, I thought it appropriate that my reading aloud to them lessened as they improved their reading skills. By the time they were teenagers, reading aloud was for school assignments and religious instruction, but rarely for

bonding or enjoyment. Also missing was a closeness I had with one of my sons. Instead, fighting, blaming, and stress filled our relationship. He often mentioned how he could not wait to move out of our home and not be part of my life.

"It was a low point. It seemed that anything I did or said was wrong and dumb. It was at this time of my career I was attending a professional conference. I heard Jim Trelease speak, who is the expert of reading aloud. He stressed the educational importance of parents reading to children, provided research on how reading aloud changed children's educational outcomes, and helped the audience realize that reading is critical for children.

"During a question-and-answer session, someone asked Mr. Trelease when reading aloud in homes and schools should stop. His answer was, 'When the child leaves your home.'

"This answer astounded me. He said parents should always read at two grade levels above their child's reading level, supporting comprehension and other literacy skills. Then, almost in passing, he said that when parents read with their children, it is fun and builds a relationship.

"I thought of my children; some were still young, and reading with them was fun. However, my oldest read at a level near my own. It was with comical thoughts that I imagined sitting down and reading aloud to a teenager who could not stand being in the same room as me. As I traveled home, I wondered how to incorporate reading with my son. I knew he loved to read and was always reading a book. Instead of reading with him, I determined I would ask him what he was reading and then read the book myself. For the next few months, I tried this. While our relationship did not magically improve, we often had conversations without fighting. The following years had ups and downs, but there was the constant bonding over books, authors, and ideas the texts provided. He is now a father of five, and we enjoy a close relationship. Following Trelease's advice was instrumental in helping rebuild this relationship.

"Reading is essential in the educational realm, but just as important is that reading aloud to children can strengthen the child's self-esteem, build resiliency, and provide a bond with the parent and child relationship. Remember, as Jim Trelease said, reading can be fun."

Utah's Report Card

Utah has the highest birth rate and the youngest population in the nation; 15% of children under age 1 are born into intergenerational poverty in Utah.

Nationally

- 83% of low-income students read below the proficiency level by the end of their third grade year.
- 55% of middle- and high-income students read below the proficiency level by the end of their third grade year.

Utah

- 42% of students exiting kindergarten were reading below the proficiency level in 2021, 5% higher than in 2019



- A lack of reading proficiency in the third grade is linked to higher rates of school dropouts and is a marker for that child's educational development.

EveryDay Learners is the umbrella over the following programs:

- Help Me Grow Utah
- Welcome Baby
- South Franklin Community Center

Read more about these programs in the following pages.

Home Library List

A simple way to start your child's language and literacy development is through reading with them daily. Here are amazing books to check out at the library or add to your home collection:

"Animal Action ABC" by Karen Pandell

"Moo, Baa, La La La" by Sandra Boynton

"Chrysanthemum" by Kevin Henkes

"If You Give A Mouse A Cookie" by Laura Numeroff

"I Like Myself!" by Karen Beaumont

"Harold and the Purple Crayon" by Crockett Johnson

"The Worrysaurus" by Rachel Bright

"One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish" by Dr. Seuss

Welcome, Baby!

Program helps parents be the best they can be

Welcome Baby's mission includes focusing on the strengths of new parents and empowering them with knowledge, skills and resources to help them feel more secure, confident and to become the best parents possible.

History Lesson

In 1992, the Utah County Health Department had nurses assigned to visit new first-time parents. In 1999, the need for this program grew and a partnership between the Health Department and United Way of Utah County was created. For 24 years, the Welcome Baby curriculum and materials have been available to any parent.

One Program, Four Strategies

United Way of Utah County's Welcome Baby Program facilitates 4 strategies:

HOME VISITS

Home and virtual visits help parents or caregivers manage demands of parenting by building confidence in their skills and helping them understand their child's development from birth to 1 year. During these visits they discuss infant and maternal health such as early child development and school readiness. They also address parents' questions and concerns, encourage problem-solving, facilitate goal setting, and connect families to community resources.

PLAYGROUPS

This program helps parents and children interact, physically or virtually. Playgroups build confidence and parental readiness while also preparing kids for school. Likewise, they provide children with a stimulating environment, strengthened social skills, and increased learning through activities.



Local parents can gain important confidence and skills in parenting through four United Way strategies.

READY TO LEARN WORKSHOPS

The 16 parenting workshops present key steps in a child's development, demonstrate how to combine media with reading, and provide hands-on activities to enhance children's learning and to help parents raise healthy children. Each month, participants receive fun activities to do with their children and a complimentary children's book.

BEDTIME STORIES

This program offers families of incarcerated individuals the next best thing to in-person bedtime stories — audio recordings of inmates reading stories and singing songs for their children. Children hear the voices of their loved ones, while inmates get a chance to focus on, and connect with, their children.

Help Me Grow Utah started with a pair of friends wanting to promote healthy child development and now serves thousands of families throughout all of Utah.



Help Me Grow Utah

Program promotes optimal growth and development for children

Nicole was pregnant with her first child and felt excited at the idea of being a new parent. With her husband's college graduation day quickly approaching, things were looking up for the happy parents-to-be. However, when graduation day came, so did some bad news: The job he had lined up fell through. Six months pregnant, Nicole steadily worked a part-time job to provide income while her husband looked for new employment, but the increasing costs of health insurance were weighing over the couple. As they looked for resources that could help them, they were told about Help Me Grow Utah.

It was 13 years ago that Barbara Leavitt recognized this need in the local community. She called her friend Robin Lindsay and began where so many good ideas do: By going to lunch.

It was there at Kneaders they decided to pilot a child developmental screening model that Barb had found online, beginning in Utah County. It was called Help Me Grow because it promoted the optimal growth and development of all young children and viewed parents as the experts.

Together, Barb and Robin worked to bring

what we now know as Help Me Grow Utah to life. What started as two people with a passion has turned into a state-wide program with 19 employees serving 29 counties (that's all of Utah) and, most importantly, currently assisting 1,712 families.

It's often said that kids don't come with a manual. While that is true, and each child is unique, it was important to Barbara that "people feel they have a place where they can land, get help, get triage if they need it, or stay with the ongoing screening. [We will] support them as a parent as they are promoting their child's development."

This has been Help Me Grow Utah's goal from the beginning: Helping parents be heard and empowering them as they work to help their children.

Nicole gave birth to a healthy baby girl and signed up for Help Me Grow Utah. She was connected with a parent support specialist to take an emotional wellness screening for postpartum mothers and keep tabs on her baby's development.

To learn more or enroll, visit
helpmegrowutah.org

IN 2022 WELCOME BABY...

Gave out
1,167
books through
Ready to Learn

Volunteers
donated
623
hours of time

Sent 386
referrals to
community
organizations to
support families

Did
600
home visits

Had
913
participants at
playgroups



In 2017, a panel of community expert volunteers, including child psychiatrist Dr. Matt Swenson and licensed clinical social worker Catherine Johnson, came together with staff at United Way, including program director Michaelann Gardner and impact director Barbara Leavitt, to lead the EveryDay Strong initiative.

How Do You Connect?

EveryDay Strong unites families in the of face anxiety, depression

In 2017, a panel of local community expert volunteers came together intending to help parents around the state understand they are not alone in helping children cope with anxiety and depression. The answer, though, seemed to be simple and clear.

Research from the Center for the Developing Child at Harvard University showed that the most common factor in a child's ability to develop resilience is a caring, supportive relationship with at least one adult. This could be a parent, grandparents, teachers, friends, and neighbors.

With this information in hand, local child psychiatrist Dr. Matt Swenson rushed to the United Way offices, took out a piece of paper and drew out a triangle.

"We're going to teach people about how to meet each other's needs and how to help kids feel safe, connected and confident," he said. "Sometimes we go to amazing lengths to keep (our children) physically safe. And

yet, we are talking about psychological and emotional safety, which is very different."

Michaelann Gardner, the senior director of EveryDay Strong remembered the impact this had on those in the room.

"We all just resonated with (Dr. Swenson) immediately," she says. "Later that year, we launched a full initiative. Every time we took it to a new community or a new audience, they had the same reaction that we had!"

With this knowledge in mind, Michaelann, Dr. Swenson, and social worker Catherine Johnson created the EveryDay Strong initiative.

EveryDay Strong is built on a foundation of three key elements: Safety, connection, and confidence. When children and teens have these three things, relationships improve, and the children thrive. This foundation, which is a modified version of psychologist Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs, is research-based and has proven to be effective

for individuals and families.

One parent has said about EveryDay Strong:

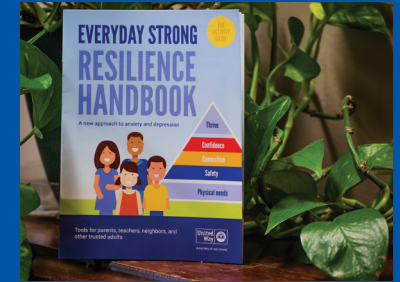
"The 'EveryDay Strong' resilience training program is just that. It is a training that gives real tools that parents and adults can use 'everyday' to be a strong support to today's youth. I was drawn in by the phrase 'a new approach to anxiety and depression.' At that time, I was frustrated with how to help my son who was behind in school due to anxiety and depression. He refused to get help with a therapist, and I felt helpless. I needed 'a new approach.' I learned I didn't need to be an expert to help him, or any of my other children, when they are not at their best. After the training, I began to think differently. Instead of questioning 'why can't they figure it out?' I started asking, 'is his/her physical needs being met?' and 'does she/he feel safe?' The approach to solving was different. It was obtainable and I could do something about the situation. It has made a difference. I found if I could stay strong emotionally during a child's struggle, then she/he could lean on me. We could together determine why she/he was acting out. We could find ways to solve in the moment. I am so grateful to the 'EveryDay Strong' teachings as they have strengthened me and my children through difficult times. I believe this message is crucial as anxiety and depression continues to rise in our youth. We can each make a difference in our children's lives and in our communities if we can change the questions we ask and find the true cause of the problem. We can help our children to be strong everyday."

United Way believes in creating strong and resilient kids and teens, and EveryDay Strong has been doing exactly that.

"I would love it if parents would ask themselves every day, 'What can I do to help the children in my life feel safe, connected, and confident? When we meet their needs, we're building resilient kids," Dr. Swenson says.

Michaelann adds, "It's the relationships we have with each other where the change and the magic in the resilience really happens."

EveryDay Strong has reached more than 10,000 families and continues to grow throughout the state and the country, with five states now implementing this initiative. And this is just the beginning.



STRONGER TOGETHER

In addition to resilience presentations held for parent groups, schools, and corporate events, EveryDay Strong has helpful handbooks packed full of tips and ideas for parents, teachers and caring adults to use with youth. They are available in Spanish and in English.

Visit everydaystrong.org for info, including a podcast and YouTube channel where EveryDay Strong team members interview local experts to share opinions and advice on parenting children with mental health struggles and to form connections. Experts include licensed social workers, therapists, counselors, and parents.

In 2019, the Alpine School District gathered 8,000 teachers, parents and counselors at the UCCU Center to learn more about the EveryDay Strong program.

One school instructor said, "This presentation has changed my perspective on the direction of the counseling program in our district. We are adjusting to meet the needs of all students with safety, connection and confidence."

One parent said, "As a parent, this has helped me to be more mindful of my relationships with my kids and ensure that they have these needs met."

Program director Michaelann Gardner says, "EveryDay Strong was created to supplement the lack of therapists in the community. Even if you can afford [therapy], there are just not enough providers."

United Way 2-1-1

Every year, 2-1-1 connects thousands to resources like food, utility and health care

Let's go behind the scenes of a 2-1-1 phone call.

Anne's husband is injured and unable to work. As renters with four kids, their savings accounts are running low. She confides in a friend that they need help but don't know where to turn. Her friend recommends she call 2-1-1.

After dialing 2-1-1 and entering in her zip code as directed, a specialist picks up.

UW: "Hi, thanks for calling United Way 2-1-1. How can I help you?"

ANNE: "Hi, my friend suggested I call. I'm not really sure how you can help, but my husband isn't able to work and I'm home with the kids. We need help with our bills."

UW: "Of course, we'd be happy to help! I'm sorry, that's a hard situation. What's your name?"

ANNE: "Thanks, I'm Anne."

UW: "OK, thanks Anne. Is this your first time calling 2-1-1?"

ANNE: "Yeah."

UW: "So, what I can do is look up some resources to meet your needs in your area. I see here you're in Pleasant Grove."

ANNE: "Yeah, that's right."

UW: "And what kind of bills or expenses do you need help with?"

ANNE: "Anything really ... rent, heat, water, help with food."

UW: "Give me just a moment while I pull up those resources."

ANNE: "Alright, thanks."

~cue Classical music~

UW: "Anne, thanks for holding."

ANNE: "No problem."

UW: "So, there are a couple places that can help you — if you'd like I can send you their contact information in a text message."

ANNE: "That would be great."

UW: "The first one is the Mountainland HEAT program. They can help with your utility bills. You can apply online or call and make an appointment. Would you like their information?"

ANNE: "That would be great."

UW: "OK! Another one is Tabitha's Way in American Fork. They can help with food and other personal supplies. You can drop in or give them a call."

ANNE: "OK, thank you. Is there anywhere that helps with rent?"

UW: "Yes, Community Action Services in Provo can help with rent. It's best to go to their office in person for help, and I'll include all this information in the text message."

ANNE: "OK, thank you so much."

UW: "You're welcome. Is there any other kind of resource I can connect you with?"

ANNE: "No, this should be good, thank you."

UW: "Of course. I'm sending that text message now."

ANNE: "I just got it, thanks."

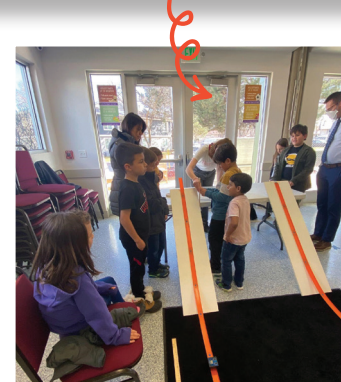
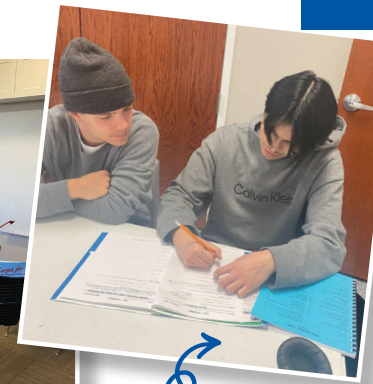
UW: "You're welcome! Do you have any questions about any of those resources?"

ANNE: "No, I'll reach out to them. Thanks again."

UW: "You're welcome. Take care."

South Franklin Community Center

The South Franklin Community Center creates a vibrant community in which families have resources, opportunities and a feeling of community in South Provo's Boulders neighborhood.



At South Franklin, they teach classes like the music program, reading club and martial arts. They also have community groups such as Women's Mental Health and Community Cafe. For more info visit southfranklincc.org.

Want to volunteer or intern at SFCC? Sign up at southfranklincc.org

South Franklin Community Center
770 South 700 West, Provo
801-691-5347

Call 2-1-1 anytime, anywhere to get connected with resources near you.

Filing in Style

VITA brings millions back to community members

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA) is a free tax preparation service for low- to moderate-income individuals. Volunteers are trained and certified by the IRS to help individuals and families file taxes. Each year, the VITA program brings back millions in tax refund dollars to local families to use to pay off debts, housing, utilities, childcare costs, etc.

VITA volunteers are passionate about the people they serve. They come from a variety of backgrounds with no prior tax experience needed. They receive training and support throughout the tax season. Here's what they had to say:

"I think VITA is important not just because we can help people save money and not just because the refunds generated through the VITA program bring dollars back into our communities, but because as members of the community interacting with other members of the community, we are building a coalition of people helping people. It is a feeling that we are all in this together."

— PAMELA P (VOLUNTEER FOR 10+ YEARS)

"I got involved with VITA eight years ago because the service that is provided matches my skill set and because it allows me to work directly with the people being served. I could see that it would provide a tangible benefit to those whom we assist."

— LAMAR B (VOLUNTEER FOR 8 YEARS)



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is available for low- to moderate-income families and pairs people with trained tax preparers to help with filing taxes.

"I wanted to find a way to make a difference in my community while serving and helping people that really made a difference in their lives. VITA allows these people in low-income circumstances to keep the money that would have been spent to prepare their tax returns."

— TERRY M (VOLUNTEER FOR 8 YEARS)



Students who complete the 10-week Digital Literacy course not only develop proficiency in online resources, but are gifted a new computer provided by a generous donor.

Getting Connected

Digital Literacy classes provide opportunities in the 21st century

Technology is critical to living in 2023, and United Way's Digital Inclusion Program was created to help individuals learn and be proficient in all things digital.

Digital Inclusion started in 2016 with computer labs that were open for up to two hours a week. The program has now developed into a 10-week course taught in five locations of Utah County: South Franklin in Provo, Provo City Library, Springville, Pleasant Grove and American Fork.

At South Franklin families needed this program to do essential tasks like completing government documents for citizenship, filling out school records or scheduling doctor's appointments.

VISTA employee Emily Elwood enjoys connecting with the students as they talk about their families.

"They're eager to learn and I am better able to see how much of a need there is," Emily says.

On the first day, prospective students

take an assessment to assist volunteers in meeting their needs. From plugging in cords to making a Gmail account, the students become proficient in utilizing the computer and a variety of Google apps.

At the end of training, students, teachers and families celebrate the completion of the course and receive a free computer provided by generous donors.

"I can finally text my 22-year-old now from my home country," one student wrote.

Another added, "I can finally help my children with their homework."

Thanks to Digital Inclusion, people can not only improve their lives, but also reconnect with loved ones with a tap on a screen.

Digital Inclusion unites the community through technology and helps community members become self-sufficient and financially stable. This program improves lives by providing critical skills for jobs, school, and other areas that require digital literacy.

UNITED WAY OF UTAH COUNTY
OUR HISTORY



1963
United Way of Utah County began as the United Fund.



1964
BYU partnered with the United Fund to allow employees to donate through the workplace, eventually becoming United Way of Utah County's largest donor.

Central Utah Vocational Schools, which would eventually become Utah Valley University, became a partner.



1960s

1972
Jack Holmes became CEO of United Way of Utah County.



1975
Utah Valley Paratransit was formed to meet the community's various transportation needs.



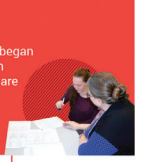
1973
The United Fund became United Way of Utah County.



1970s

FOCUS: TRANSPORTATION

1980
United Way began working with VITA to prepare taxes for low-income families.



1981
The United Way Volunteer Center was formed and would become one of the most productive and recognized centers in the country.

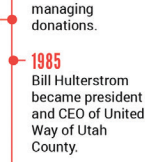


1982
The United Way Information and Referral Line began, which is now called United Way 211.



1983
United Way Sub for Santa was started to provide Christmas assistance to low-income families, the elderly, and those with disabilities.

1984
United Way helped establish Utah County's first and only domestic violence shelter, the Center for Women and Children in Crisis, now The Refuge Utah, bringing domestic violence resources to the forefront in the community.



1985
Bill Hulterstrom became president and CEO of United Way of Utah County.

1984
United Way formed the Homeless Coordinating Council, which would eventually become the Mountainland Continuum of Care, to address the causes of homelessness in Utah County.

FOCUS: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1993
United Way Day of Caring began as a way to involve local businesses in volunteerism.



1994
United Way helped Family Support and Treatment Center, which would become Family Haven, expand by acquiring a new building through an anonymous donor.



1995
United Way acquired the United Way Services building to house Community Action Services and Food Bank.

1996
United Way of Utah County became the first United Way to provide volunteer opportunities online.

1997
United Way Welcome Baby started and began providing volunteer home visitors to first-time parents.



1990s

FOCUS: HEALTHCARE

2000
Bedtime Stories began at United Way as a way to connect families and promote literacy by helping incarcerated women record stories to be sent home to their children.



2004
United Way helped start the Volunteer Care Clinic in partnership with the The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Intermountain Healthcare to provide basic healthcare needs to those without health insurance.



2007
United Way began its AmeriCorps Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) program to further create sustainability of new programs.



2000s

FOCUS: LITERACY

2010
United Way formed Help Me Grow to focus on prevention services and provide information, resources and support for parents.



2011
Grandfamilies was started to provide support to families providing kinship care.

2012
EveryDay Learners was launched to focus on literacy and early childhood education and increase the number of books in schools, neighborhoods, and homes.



2013
South Franklin Community Center opened its doors to provide resources and community services to many in need.



2016
The United Way Digital Inclusion program began in partnership with Google Fiber to provide low-income families with access to free internet, computers, and computer skills training.



FOCUS: YOUTH RESILIENCY

MAKING A DIFFERENCE





Since 1993, Day of Caring events have blessed the local community by completing needed projects and changing volunteers forever.

Sharing Care

Day of Caring has been a Utah County staple for 30 years

The year is 1993. The original “Jurassic Park” movie is No. 1 at the box office. Plaid shirts and mom jeans with big belts are in style. And we were counting Beanie Babies.

Across town, the United Way of Utah County is holding its first Day of Caring event, hosted at BYU. A small group of enthusiastic volunteers gather and then go out into the community to provide service.

What began in 1993 as one group, one project and one dream — to improve the lives of Utah County families through education, emotional health, and financial stability — has now become a group of 1,100.

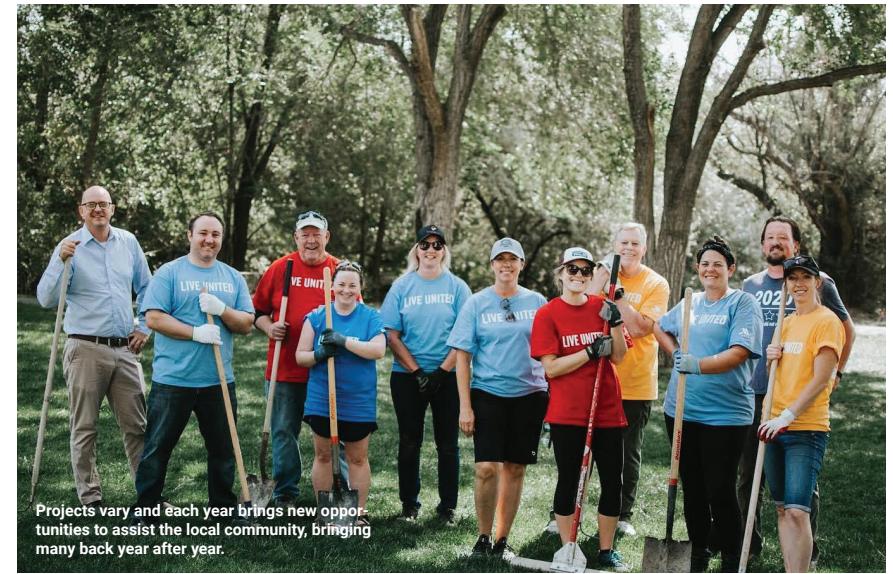
The last days of the summer sun peeks over the mountains, showing the first signs of autumn, painting a picture of the space between two seasons. Volunteers from every corner of the county gather to eat breakfast and pick out a United Way T-shirt before heading out to take a wish list and turn it into a reality.

Today is Day of Caring. Today, thousands of volunteers take time to serve at a school

or non-profit organization with hearts ready to give, and supplies in hand.

A group of volunteers rally before heading out — ready to paint playground games like a U.S. map, hopscotch, number lines, shape circles, and a fan favorite, the ABC Caterpillar — all with the goal of bringing smiles to children’s faces. They share their own playground memories, and challenge their co-worker to a round of hopscotch. Careful hands draw the outline of a new game, and others spend the morning adding fresh paint to the outline, bringing to life the guarantee of laughter and social connection.

As the day brings the promise of lunch, children at recess point out the names of the states they recognize. The youngest voices point to the letters on the caterpillar that are in their name, some start to sing the ABC song. The principal brings the volunteers water and granola bars thanking them for the joy their services bring to students, helping them interact with peers in a fun and engaging way.



Projects vary and each year brings new opportunities to assist the local community, bringing many back year after year.

As the volunteers walk away from the playground, they can hear the sound of the children yelling, “Thank you for our new playground games!”

The volunteer smiles knowing they made a difference in these young kids’ lives.

All over the county there are volunteers finishing projects, networking with new friends, and cheerfully saying, “I can’t wait for Day of Caring next year.”

Some will go home and look on the United Way Volunteer Board for more opportunities to serve. Some will choose to give their money to a United Way program that speaks to them personally. Some will stay connected to the school or organization they served. And, others will go home and hug their families as they share the story of how they had the opportunity to serve their neighbors, and how every time we serve another person we create a positive impact.

As a volunteers arrive home, they grab the popcorn from the microwave as their family rushes to the good seats on the sectional, and someone presses play on the newly released “Jurassic Park: World Dominion,” where original cast meets new cast in an epic tale of curiosity, loyalty, and love.

A lot of things have changed since the first Day of Caring, but we still embrace all of the hands needed to lift up and hold together the community. We are still finding ways to love and connect with each other.

Painting playground games is a popular Day of Caring project and brings instant satisfaction from children at recess.



One small group has turned into thousands of volunteers, one project has turned into 85 projects. The United Way’s dream to improve the lives of all families in ways that not only help them to succeed but to thrive is going strong.

You can join the dream.

Visit unitedwayuc.org to get involved.

SUB FOR SANTA

Be a Holiday Helper

Every October as people search for Halloween costumes, the Sub for Santa team at United Way begins prepping for Christmas.

During this time, families in need of a little extra help for the holidays submit applications for the program. Volunteers throughout the county help with open houses, giving trees, gift sorting and delivery nights. Favorite gifts include books, with each child receiving three to five books to add to their home library.

As families complete the application process, they are also connected to other resources throughout the community including tax assistance and parental classes.

They can receive help beyond the



sparkly season, especially through the Sub for Santa Plus+ program. Most importantly, this season of giving truly shows how much our community is willing to give, neighbor to neighbor, family to family, friend to friend. And that is the true meaning of a united community.

PARATRANSIT/UTAH VALLEY RIDES

Get Where You Need to Go

For most in Utah Valley, a five-minute drive to the grocery store takes no forethought. But for some seniors and people with disabilities, finding a ride to the store adds to their everyday stress. They not only struggle to find rides to the grocery store, but also to doctor appointments, pharmacies and medical equipment facilities.

In 1970, United Way saw the need for transportation and created Paratransit. In addition, these services now include Utah Valley Rides and a partnership with UTA.

"Finding a disability transport that supports wheelchairs is hard. Our services help support those who need easier and supported



transportation," says Gary Tippetts, executive director of Paratransit.

Utah Valley Rides are available five days a week with routes that have expanded further north and south. In the near future, Gary hopes to see more vehicles, more volunteers, and more cities to serve.

Give Back and Connect With Other Donors

Join other community-minded individuals as you serve and give back to the community. United Way of Utah County has four donor networks you can join.

Alexis de Tocqueville Society

The Alexis de Tocqueville Society is a group of passionate philanthropic leaders named after a philosopher who wrote about America's strength in philanthropy and volunteerism to help the common good.

Your donation of \$10,000 or more per year includes these benefits:

- Invitations to events featuring distinguished speakers at unique venues.
- Exclusive and customizable volunteer opportunities for you and your family.
- Dedicated staff to help execute your philanthropic goals.
- Opportunity to connect with other like-minded business and community leaders who have a passion for driving social impact.
- 100% of donation(s) goes to the program or charity of your choice; no admin costs with your donation.

Contact Taylor McPheeters, manager of individual philanthropy, at 801-691-5356 or taylor@unitedwayuc.org to learn more.

Women United

Women throughout Utah County join together to volunteer and give back through Women United. The group focuses on supporting programs that empower parents and the community to build children's confidence, connections, and literacy skills.

There is an annual membership fee, and more information can be found by emailing info@unitedwayuc.org.



Emerging Leaders Society

Emerging Leaders Society is a diverse group of philanthropists and volunteers ages 20-40 seeking to connect, volunteer and give back to their community. With an annual donation to any United Way program of \$200 or more, you can join the next generation of leaders in creating lasting impact, building relationships, engaging in service, and investing in our local community.

Learn more at unitedwayuc.org/emerging-leaders

Leadership Giving

Donors who give \$1,000 or more each year become Leadership Givers. Your leadership-level gift includes:

- Invitation to annual Leadership Giving event and other special events
- Networking with UW Leaders and other leadership donors

Donate now at unitedwayuc.org

Front Line Fighters

AmeriCorps VISTA warriors work to end poverty in America

WHAT IS AmeriCorps VISTA

Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) is an anti-poverty program designed to provide needed resources to nonprofit organizations and public agencies to increase capacity to lift communities out of poverty.

AmeriCorps VISTA provides opportunities for individuals to dedicate a year of full-time service to create or expand programs designed to empower individuals and communities in overcoming poverty. VISTA members bring their passion to organizations that help alleviate poverty. An AmeriCorps VISTA member serves as a catalyst for change, living and working alongside community members to advance local solutions. It is an excellent opportunity for recent graduates or graduate students looking to make an impact, gain valuable experience and earn a modest income.

WHAT MEMBERS DO

- Create sustainable systems to expand services
- Implement marketing strategies through social media and in-person outreach efforts
- Establish volunteer infrastructure, which includes developing a database, trainings, and recruitment methods
- Develop and maintain partnerships to bring new economic opportunities

BENEFITS

- Living Allowance: Bi-weekly living allowance to cover basic living expenses.
- Relocation Allowance: If you move 50+ miles from your home to a new community, you receive relocation travel assistance and a settling-in allowance.
- End of Service Award: Choose between the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award (\$6,895) to pay for education expenses or a cash stipend (\$1,800).

- Healthcare Benefit: Choose between reimbursement for healthcare or a health care plan.
- Professional Development: Receive in-person and virtual professional development opportunities.
- Non-Competitive Eligibility: Qualify for NCE, a unique hiring path that makes it easier for federal agencies to hire you.
- Child Care: You may be eligible to receive a child care benefit if you have children under the age of 13.

Whether you are interested in becoming an AmeriCorps VISTA member yourself, know someone who'd be a great fit, or just want more information, contact United Way's AmeriCorps VISTA Coordinator Jessica Olson (jessicao@unitedwayuc.org).

"I was a VISTA with United Way's literacy initiative, EveryDay Learners. As a VISTA, I worked with volunteers and businesses to tutor at schools and provide books to low-income households. Being a VISTA was a great chance for me to try working in the nonprofit industry after I finished college and as I transitioned into working full time. I met incredible volunteers across the country who were volunteering in their own communities. I would encourage anyone interested in working in the non-profit field after graduating to dip their toes in as a VISTA.

"I am now senior director of corporate engagement and love working with incredible businesses and donors who are doing amazing things in our community. My vision is to continue to deepen our relationships with caring individuals and corporate partners as we meet the growing and changing needs of our community."

Janie Brigman

Senior Director of Corporate Engagement

"Every day, I get to work with so many compassionate school counselors, teachers, principals, and parents who care so much about their kids. I love, love working with all these incredible people to build something incredible together.

"I was the EveryDay Learners VISTA! I really wanted to make a difference for kids in poverty and I knew that education and language development were a really important part of that. I thought I would just try out the "nonprofit thing" for a summer as an EveryDay Learners VISTA and go on to get a PhD in communication disorders. But here I am, 10 years later! I stayed because I always had new opportunities to learn something and to grow. I want to see EveryDay Strong continue to spread across the state."

Michaelann Gardner

Senior Impact Director (EveryDay Strong)

"I became a VISTA because I thought it was a great way to get some real world work experience and see how I liked working in a non-profit environment. I loved the team and I loved the mission of United Way, which is why I stayed. It is great working somewhere where you can feel like you are contributing to the community. One of our biggest strengths at United Way is bringing people together to be able to create a bigger impact."

Shannon McCarty
COO

"Being a VISTA was my first 'job' out of college. At the time, I was feeling very lost. Becoming a VISTA not only helped me adjust from school into a job, but also gave me guidance on what I wanted to do. I gained so much confidence in myself, valuable experience, and connections. Just do it!

"Social media can sometimes feel overwhelming and negative. Being a social media manager for a non-profit means you're contributing to the good parts of social media. I love knowing that all of our posts are helping people find services that can be life changing. It's fun and rewarding!"

Meghan Nelson
Social Media Manager



"Being a VISTA for United Way was awesome because I got to work with amazing people who supported me in my growth and encouraged my ideas that I implemented to bring success to a program. It's a great opportunity to gain experience to get better jobs.

"United Way is passionate about addressing struggles in the community. Particularly I like that United Way partners with others in the community because it's a collaborative effort. I feel lucky to be at an organization of caring and capable people. I look forward to 2-1-1 continuing to expand, as we help connect people to resources, especially for those in rural areas."

Emily Henry
2-1-1 Manager

Partner Agencies

United Way of Utah County could not build the community without partner agencies. Each of these agencies plays a key role in furthering the United Way mission to provide everyday support in areas of health, education and income. These partnerships show how much more can be done when we don't work alone. Together, we build a stronger community.

Alpine House

The Alpine House is a home established to (1) assist the returning mental health patient from inpatient status to life in the community, and (2) to provide a temporary home for individuals already in the community with emotional problems of such a nature that the atmosphere of the home would be beneficial. It is a place where these individuals may live for a few weeks to a few months, while working on various phases of their rehabilitation, then move on, when ready, into regular community life.

Family Haven

Family Haven seeks to build a community of healthy, happy individuals and families through education and the prevention and treatment of child abuse, trauma and other personal and family concerns. This is done through four main programs of parenting classes, therapy, prevention education, and a 24/7 day care.

Volunteer Care Clinic

Free, acute care medical clinic for low-income, uninsured Utah County residents.

The Refuge Utah

Since 1984, The Refuge Utah (formerly known as The Center for Women and Children in Crisis) has provided a safe, caring, and therapeutic environment to assist in the recovery of survivors of domestic violence, rape, sexual assault, and stalking. Our goal is to facilitate healing and to advocate for victims with the intent to decrease the incidence of such violence in the community.

In 2020 alone, we secured over 12,411 emergency and transitional housing nights, answered 2,445 hotline calls, and provided 3,308 advocacy hours.

We also completed the rebrand of our agency to promote inclusivity and align with our vision of helping all survivors affected by domestic violence and sexual assault.

Kids on the Move

Kids On The Move provides services throughout Utah to support families with young children with special needs. Kids On The Move has an umbrella of independent operating pillar programs. Programs include Autism Center, Child Care, Early Head Start, Early Intervention, and Respite Care.

RAH

RAH Services is committed to MAKING LIFE BETTER for individuals with intellectual disabilities, as well as for the families who care for them. RAH originally started in the 1970s when a group of parents of children with disabilities started a school because their children weren't allowed in public schools in Utah County. For 50 years RAH has helped individuals rise to new heights and achievements.

Community Action

Community Action is more than just a food bank – it's a fresh start. Individuals who go to Community Action do more than receive food; they can also take classes on financial literacy, participate in the first-time homebuyers course, and even start their own business in the commercial kitchen. Community Action creates an environment for financial stability that all are welcome to.

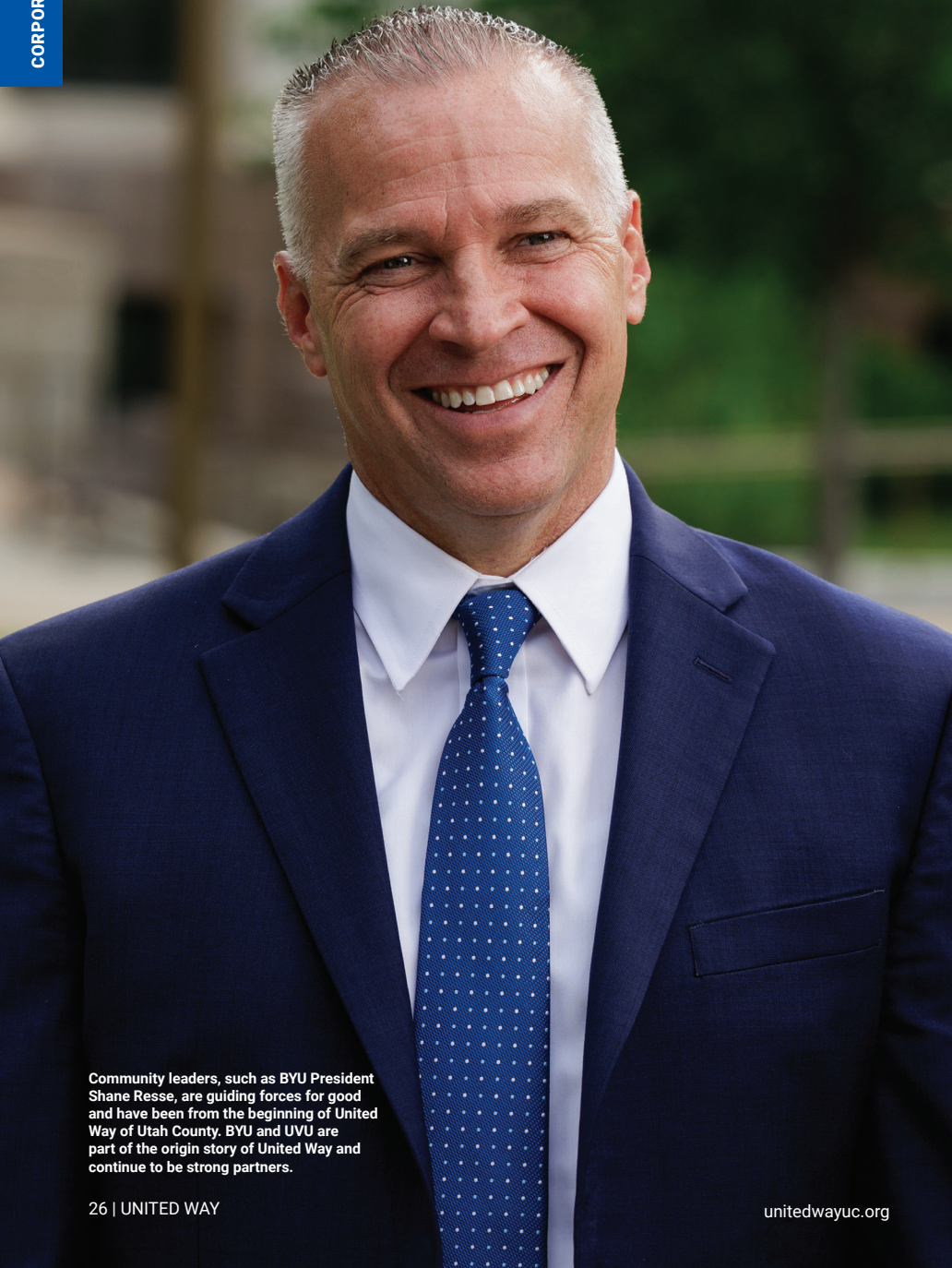
Project Read

Project Read envisions a literate Utah where everyone has access to learning opportunities that enable them to reach their full potential.

Other Partner Agencies

- *Big Brothers, Big Sisters*
- *Easter Seals*
- *Ella Rises*
- *Teens Act*
- *Kids Who Count*
- *Kids Cause*
- *Now I Can Foundation*
- *Bridle Up Hope*
- *Fuller Center for Housing*
- *Hope 4 Utah*
- *Centro Hispano*
- *Community Health Connect*
- *Habitat for Humanity*
- *Just for Kids*
- *Mountainlands Family Health Center*
- *Timpanogos Legal Center*
- *Self-Help Homes*
- *Tabitha's Way*

Learn more about these partners at
unitedwayuc.org/ourwork/partner-agencies



Community leaders, such as BYU President Shane Reese, are guiding forces for good and have been from the beginning of United Way of Utah County. BYU and UVU are part of the origin story of United Way and continue to be strong partners.

Happy 60th Birthday!

Community partners are stepping up to celebrate United Way of Utah County's landmark anniversary with activities, events, projects and publications throughout the year.

Title Sponsor

BYU Shane Reese, President, Brigham Young University

"BYU's relationship with United Way of Utah County goes back to 1963. At that time, Ben E. Lewis, executive vice president of BYU, helped start the local United Way to address needs in our community. For 60 years, our employees and students have raised funds, volunteered, and shared their expertise through United Way programs. Our community needs the United Way's support more than ever. We appreciate the selfless service that has been given over the years and look forward to serving together in the years ahead."

BYU

Premier Sponsors

Google Fiber Silvia Castro, Government and Community Affairs

"Google Fiber and United Way of Utah County have collaborated in closing Provo's digital divide since the original purchase of iProvo network back in 2013. Since then, Google Fiber has invested in many community impact projects with the United Way, bolstering their capacity, resources and for digital equity programming. Google Fiber is proud to support the United Way. As strong advocates for digital equity work in Utah, Google Fiber sees the impact of their programs and looks forward to a continued partnership."



Utah Valley University Linda Makin, former Vice President of Planning, Budget and Finance

"For 60 years, Utah Valley University and United Way of Utah County have worked together to help all members of our community have access to educational opportunities. UVU employees and students have shared their time and talents at United Way programs like the South Franklin Community Center's afterschool and summer learning programs. The future of Utah County is bright as we continue to LIVE UNITED!"

UVU

Utah Valley Magazine Jeanette Bennett, owner and founding editor

"At Utah Valley Magazine, we tell stories of this amazing community. Even though we have many highlights in Utah County, we also have challenges. Nobody is doing more to address needs of this community than United Way of Utah County, and we are proud to tell their story."

UtahValley MAGAZINE

Major Sponsors

Duncan Aviation Chad Doering, Executive Vice President/COO of Duncan Aviation

"United Way of Utah County has dramatically impacted our community with EveryDay Learners, EveryDay Strong, and EveryDay Support. The EveryDay Learners program impacts our county youth through developing relationships through the literacy program, developing skills through everyday activities, and confident thinking and discovery through exploration. EveryDay Strong provides the needed resources to support emotional health. EveryDay Strong provides parents and caring adults with the education and skills to help youth cope with anxiety and depression. Finally, the EveryDay Support program supports families and individuals struggling with financial security."



Provo Marriott John Garfield, Manager of Provo Marriott

"Utah Way of Utah County and their group of agencies truly work hard to make our community a better place. The Provo Marriott Hotel is honored to be involved in the Day of Caring each year and servicing the women and men who work so hard during the day."



Mountainland Technical College

President Clay Christensen, Mountainland Technical College

"United Way focuses on the community as a whole and not just a specific sector. MTECH is committed to help those in need, and service to others is the best mechanism to focus on those goals. MTECH is aligned with the values and efforts of United Way! The employees are eager to donate time and services on behalf of others, and mechanisms like payroll deduction, service opportunities, and administrative support helps strengthen our community."



UCCU Bret VanAusdal, CEO of UCCU and United Way Board Chair

"United Way has effectively brought resources together to help foster programs that have lasting benefits to the communities they serve. They are committed to improving the lives of those who could benefit the most; from young to old, and across all demographics, United Way stands ready to help. UCCU got involved with United Way as a natural extension of their desire to support the communities they serve. Employees gain a real sense of selflessness as they contribute their time and resources to United Way who in turn provides those resources to those most in need. Being a part of a good cause has rewards beyond measure."



Verisk Aaron Brunko, President of Property Estimating Solutions at Verisk

"We are honored to continue Verisk's long partnership with United Way. Our employees enjoy the opportunity to come together to help our community."



Supporting Sponsors

Revere Health Scott Barlow, CEO of Revere Health and former board chair for United Way

"United Way of Utah County provides empirical measurements to determine where and how to best coordinate services to make a difference. Revere has been particularly interested in the efforts to educate adults in all walks of life and careers to help strengthen the resilience of youth through their EveryDay Strong program. The program provides actual skills that everyone can learn and use in their daily lives to help provide the strength of character and emotions for youth to be successful regardless of what struggles they have. It truly lifts and helps those who get involved."



Squire Jonyce Bullock, CEO

"Squire employees value the opportunity to come together to help our community through our partnership with United Way. United Way is an important part of Utah County."



CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

United Way of Utah County can be your corporate engagement and philanthropy advisor throughout the year. There are many ways your company can partner with us to support education, emotional health, and financial stability in our community.

Employee Giving

- Invite employees to donate part of their paycheck to the community. 100% of donations will be directed to United Way programs.
- A United Way staff member will work closely with you to set up an employee giving campaign, provide information about how donations are used, and give ideas to encourage employees to give back.

Sponsorship

- Support United Way programs and events like EveryDay Strong, Day of Caring, Welcome Baby, South Franklin Community Center and more.
- Corporate donations of \$1,000 and more will receive public recognition.

Volunteer

- Partner with United Way to hold employee volunteer projects. Explore seasonal opportunities, a one-day event, or a recurring service opportunity.
- Save the date for United Way's Day of Caring every September, which is our largest event of the year. Project sign-ups begin in July.

Other Opportunities

- Share a product, service, or skill that your company or employees are willing to donate to help our community.
- Partner with United Way on a public event or fundraising campaign with your customers or vendors.

Contact janieb@unitedwayuc.org or (801) 691-5343 to create your community engagement plan.



COMMUNITY SERVICE IDEAS

Scan the QR code or visit volunteer.unitedwayuc.org to find a volunteer opportunity



INDIVIDUAL



DONATE BLOOD

Donate blood to the Red Cross or host a blood drive.



TAKE A HIKE

Go on a hike or walk and clear the trail for future hikers.



WRITE NOTES

Write letters or thank you notes. Send them to friends, family, first responders, etc.



GROW A GARDEN

Grow your own garden and share the fruits of your labors with others.



KITS

Put together kits for United Way's Help Me Grow.

GROUP ACTIVITIES



NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP

Gather as neighbors to do a service for your area. Work together to weed flower beds, clear gutters, or mow lawns for all in the neighborhood.



SEWING PARTY

Get a group together to mend clothing. Invite people who would like to learn how to sew.



BUSINESS DAY

Help people who are on the job hunt. Collect professional clothing to give to others, have a resume workshop, and teach others about LinkedIn.



WINDOW WASHING

Coordinate a window washing project for the elderly in your neighborhood.



READ-A-THON

Host a book exchange with neighborhood children and read them out loud.

GET INVOLVED



VOLUNTEER

Find your next volunteer opportunity at volunteer.unitedwayuc.org



DONATE

Give us a call at 801-374-2588 to learn about donation needs or donate online at unitedwayuc.org



CORPORATE

To get your business involved contact info@unitedwayuc.org

What's Next?

The future is bright for United Way of Utah County

For 60 years, United Way has been bringing people together to focus on the evolving needs of our community. When United Way began, Utah County was in a period of tremendous growth. The community leaders were looking to the future and creating plans. Those leaders were innovative and industrious. They were willing to prepare for whatever was coming next.

We find ourselves again in another season of growth in Utah County. The needs in our community continue to expand and change. At 60 years, there is still more to do.

Over the years we have focused on transportation needs, domestic violence issues, and healthcare issues. We have three current focus areas:

- We foster early childhood literacy in every day living.
- We encourage resiliency in children and parents.
- We improve basic circumstances for families and increase self-reliance.

We are grateful for community leaders of the past who had foresight and laid a strong foundation. We invite everyone to help create a better community for our kids long into the future. It will take creativity and hard work. It will take collaboration and more resources. It will take coming together and putting aside differences. It will take all of us.

We believe the secret of the past 60 years has been working together with partners from all parts of our community. We would love to have your help to strengthen our community for the future. You can help by supporting resilient families and youth, helping children succeed in education, or creating more connectedness in your neigh-



borhood. You can also volunteer with one of our United Way programs or any of the other great organizations in our community. Or you can donate to support the work happening in Utah County.

Visit unitedwayuc.org to donate and volunteer today. Or visit us on social media.

✉ info@unitedwayuc.org

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EVERYDAY LEARNERS

Fostering early childhood literacy in everyday living.

EVERYDAY STRONG

Encouraging resiliency in children and parents.

EVERYDAY SUPPORT

Improving basic circumstances for families and increasing self-reliance.



CELEBRATING
UNITED WAY OF
UTAH COUNTY'S

60 *Year*

COMMITMENT
TO EDUCATION

UVU's partnership with United Way
of Utah County continues to
transform the lives of our students.

Here's to another 60 years!

UVU **A PLACE
FOR YOU**