

Generations United



United Way of Southeastern Connecticut Annual Report to the Community celebrates how traditions of generosity are igniting innovation for a united, thriving community.

Mission

To inspire and coordinate the generosity and commitment that sustains a united, thriving community.



ision

United Way envisions a community united in its efforts to ensure that individuals and families achieve their full potential.



From the **President and CEO**

United Way of Southeastern Connecticut began in 1962 with a pledge to help meet the county's needs and a commitment to raise money to support nonprofit agencies. Although the community has changed over time, United Way's commitment to help has not.

Today United Way supports an essential network of local health and human service programs and initiatives that make meaningful, positive impact in our community. United

Way does this by continuing to mobilize people to act through philanthropy, volunteerism, and advocacy. Woven throughout this report you will read stories of individuals who have passed along, from generation to generation, their belief in taking action through meaningful engagement to create opportunities for a future where the best is yet to come.

The passing of Gemma Moran, the founder of our signature program the Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center, is another reminder of the deep-rooted history and legacy we have in the community. We must carry forward Gemma's legacy and commitment to find innovative ways to meet the ongoing challenges of making New London County more food secure.

It is through these strong foundations that the groundwork was laid to enable change and inspire the next innovative solutions. Student United Way, Young Leaders, and Women United are just a few examples of how we are bringing together new voices and building upon our existing structure in our ever-changing world to meet today's challenges. At the core of our work, we are focused on building existing partnerships, creating new ones, and reimagining how to address complex issues impacting our community.

We look forward to the future and working together, united as a community. If you haven't already, we hope you are inspired to join us in our work to help New London County thrive.

Dina J. Sears-Graves

Dina J. Sears-Graves
President and CEO

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Chapter 1: Anchored in Legacy



Through her work at United Way as the region's first Labor Liaison beginning in 1973,

Gemma Moran saw families in our community struggling to put food on their tables. Her determination to help led to the formation of the Food Center that bears her name more than 35 years ago.

Gemma passed in May 2023 leaving significant shoes to fill and a tremendous responsibility to carry forward her legacy and commitment to making New London County more food secure.

Real Estate Agent Jacqueline Hoyt helped prepare Gemma's house for sale and in doing so, learned much about her while sorting through letters, recipes, awards, pictures, and books. Hoyt notes, "I was amazed with her dedication and devotion to helping anyone who came across her path. She must have always been thinking, 'How can I help this person?'"

Whenever someone crosses the threshold of the Food Center, they can feel Gemma's warmth and hear her echoes of determination to ensure no one goes to bed, work, or school on an empty stomach. You quickly learn that everyone can do something to help.

Hoyt, at right, believes that Gemma's work will continue. "She's a shining example of what we all should be doing," says Hoyt. "If one person can create what she did, imagine what we all can do even if we all did a fraction of that."

In fact, Hoyt was so moved by Gemma's legacy that she joined the newly-formed Women United group, whose goal it is to raise funds that ensure Food Center operations continue well into the future.

In a perfect world there would not be food banks, but there continues to be a need, and as evidenced by the latest ALICE Report, it shows no signs of slowing. There is strength in our partnerships that help ensure access to food for those who need it, and we can't do this alone. We all have the capacity to be like Gemma and it will take all of us together to fill her shoes and make a lasting impact.



Stocking the Shelves

Since the start of the Food Center, donations have come from food drives and collections held throughout New London County that keep the shelves stocked, and it remains a vital part of our work.



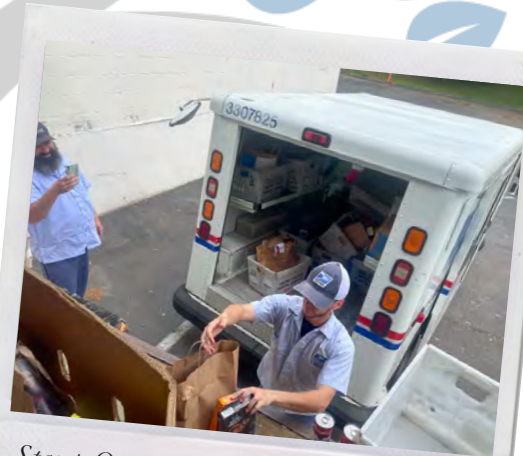
Eastern CT Savings Bank at U4U Competitive food drive



WCTY – held 2 drives in 2023!



U4U weigh-in day with Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce and so many more



Stamp Out Hunger letter carriers food drive



C&S Food Show



General Dynamics-Electric Boat and the EB Employees' Community Services Association food drive

Generations United

Tony Cronin has, in many different capacities, always been giving back to his community through home, family, and work. His daughter, Megan, has followed the same path in their commitment to United Way and the place they call "home."

"United Way makes it easy to do good."

– Megan Gilbert

Tony

I've always believed in the value of community giving and participation, most likely fueled from my childhood spent with community organizations.

I've learned over the many decades and through several careers that volunteerism, philanthropy at any level, and community involvement are crucial to my happiness and hopefully that of my family and friends. If there is any lasting legacy to be personally proud of it is that it can be very enriching to serve others - whether it's through your vocation or your avocation of service to your community as a volunteer.

Megan

I perceive my family's legacy to be one of service above self.

To this day, people I meet often make a point to tell me how kind or helpful my father was to them. Serving on the Board of United Way Southeastern Connecticut helps me learn about the community I call home. At its most base level, United Way makes it easy to do good.

To other young adults exploring community engagement, use the network and tools around you to find meaningful opportunities that resonate with you personally, take your time, and don't discount the little things. Chances are good that someone close to you is learning from you, or proud of you, or looking for ideas themselves, and your efforts will only multiply over time.

Generations United

Don Miller and his daughter, Stephanie work at General Dynamic-Electric Boat, in the same cubicle as a matter of fact. They shared their thoughts on their long, shared tradition of volunteering and giving back.

Don: Although much of the volunteering has been through United Way, I tend to find purposes that I believe in and become active.

Stephanie: What he said, lol.

Don: It's kind of the "lead by example" scenario.

Stephanie: I second the "lead by example." My parents imparted how not everyone has the means and sometimes just has bad luck. It doesn't hurt to help if you are able to.

Don: I tend to get others involved when they see what I'm doing and see first-hand of what's happening and its impact.

Stephanie: I have watched younger kids come volunteer at events and get excited when I explain what we are doing. By teaching them how it's not just a boring Saturday doing stuff, you can be helping someone you don't know actually needs it.

Don: If you're interested in volunteering, become a shadow to someone who knows what's going on.

Stephanie: It is a lot easier to ask questions of someone you trust on how to do things.

Don: It's really gratifying to be at large events and when I say I'm from Electric Boat and they give us the instant accolades, it feels like I have a responsibility to show the best I can of what we do. After all, we are representing a few thousand people that are not at the events.

Stephanie: It is a nice feeling that a company that looks out for me is willing to look out for my friends or strangers who are not a part of EB but also need help. EB isn't just a "big corp."



Legacy Work: Impact Highlights

**THRIVING
CHILDREN
& YOUTH**



5,944

children and youth received services or assistance to help them thrive and success

22,286

people are served each month through Food Center members and our Mobile Pantry



BASIC NEEDS

2,549

points of service that provided basic needs including shelter and emergency assistance

**COMMUNITY
WELLNESS**



65,300

healthcare services provided through United Way-funded Partner Programs

**PROMOTING
INDEPENDENCE**



16,124

points of service that help families achieve financial stability or independence

25

partners working with United Way on New Capacities to increase the number of financially stable homes in Norwich



22

partners working with United Way on the Eastern CT Health Collaborative to improve access to healthcare for all and improve people's health



2

cohorts of Student United Way where high school Juniors and Seniors learn about how to become philanthropists and more about their local community

Legacy Work: Impact Areas and Partner Programs

GEMMA E. MORAN UNITED WAY/LABOR FOOD CENTER

Food Bank for 72 Partner Agencies
Mobile Food Pantry
Community Resource Coordination

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PARTNER PROGRAMS

Covenant Shelter, Emergency Shelter
Jewish Federation, Crisis Intervention

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES or PARTNERSHIPS

Project Warm-Up
United Way 2-1-1

STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS

Point-In-Time Count
Thames River Community Services
Windham No Freeze
New London Homeless Hospitality Center
Reliance Health
St. Vincent de Paul Place
Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP)



Jewish Federation of Eastern CT Crisis Intervention



BASIC NEEDS

GOAL: Individuals have their basic needs met.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PARTNER PROGRAMS

Alliance for Living, The Living Center
Child and Family Agency, Parent & Child Counseling
Child and Family Agency, School Based Health Care Centers
Jewish Federation of Eastern CT, Senior Isolation Relief
Madonna Place, Great Beginnings
Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center, Human Services
Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center, Senior Activities
Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center, Senior Transportation
Safe Futures, Counseling & Advocacy
Safe Futures, Genesis House Emergency Shelter
SCADD, Detoxification & Evaluation
SCADD, Halfway Houses
SCADD, Outpatient Services
TVCCA, RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)
UCFS Healthcare, Adult Day Centers
UCFS Healthcare, Dental Health Care
UCFS Healthcare, Outpatient Behavioral Health Care
UCFS Healthcare, Primary Medical Care
Visiting Nurse Association, Home Health Care

COLLECTIVE IMPACT WORK

Eastern Connecticut Health Collaborative

STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS

Office of Minority Health - Reducing Health Disparities
Madonna Place, Great Beginnings
Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, Tribal Health Services
CDC Health Disparities Grant
Access Agency
Generations Family Health Center
Health Education Center
Madonna Place, Great Beginnings
TVCCA
Family Bridge
TVCCA
Quality Perspectives
Hartford HealthCare - Backus Hospital
UCFS Healthcare
Generations Family Health Center
Health Education Center

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES or PARTNERSHIPS

ECHC Mobile Health Hub
ECHC Coordinated Outreach
SingleCare Prescription Drug Discount Cards



COMMUNITY WELLNESS

GOAL: Individuals improve their health and have access to healthcare.



Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center Senior Transportation

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PARTNER PROGRAMS

Catholic Charities, Case Management
Connecticut Legal Services, Legal Services
Madonna Place, Fatherhood Initiative
Martin House, Housing with Support Services
Safe Futures, Phoenix House Transitional Shelter
Thames River Community Services, Family Housing with Support Services
The Arc Eastern Connecticut, Community Life & Advocacy
UCP of Eastern CT, Inclusion Advocacy Program

COLLECTIVE IMPACT WORK

New Capacities: Norwich

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES or PARTNERSHIPS

Union Counseling Program (UCAN)
Eastern Coordinated Access Network
Independent Development Accounts
TVCCA
Liberty Bank
Habitat for Humanity

STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS

Homeless Response System - Client Assistance
Always Home
Covenant Shelter
New London Homeless Hospitality Center
Norwich Human Services
TVCCA
Homeless Response System - HUB Operational Funds
Access Agency
Always Home
New London Homeless Hospitality Center
Thames River Community Services
TVCCA
Windham No Freeze
Homeless Response System - CDBG Shelter
Diversion Project
Access Agency
Always Home
New London Homeless Hospitality Center
Noank Comm. Support Services
Thames River Community Services



PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE

GOAL: Individuals achieve their financial stability.



Thames River Community Service

EWIB Funding for Medical Interpreter Pipeline at Norwich Free Academy/Health Education Center
Norwich Free Academy
Eastern Workforce Investment Board (EWIB)
Health Education Center
Three Rivers Community College

THRIVING CHILDREN & YOUTH



GOALS: Children enter school ready to learn and are successful in primary school.

Youth gain the knowledge, skills, and credentials to be prepared for the workforce and obtain family-sustaining employment.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PARTNER PROGRAMS

Child and Family Agency, Early Childhood Services
Madonna Place, Family Support Center
Riverfront Children's Center, Children's Center
The Drop-In Learning Center, Out of School Care
TVCCA, Little Learners
Higher Edge, College Access Program
The Light House, Afterschool Program
Safe Futures, Prevention Education
The Drop-In Learning Center, Teen Life Skills
New London Homeless Hospitality Center, Youth Shelter Diversion

Equitable Outcomes for Thriving Children

S.T.E.P.S., Inc.

Your Voice Counts

New London Youth Affairs
UConn Extension: 4H

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES or PARTNERSHIPS

Tommy Toy Fund
New Capacities: SOAR Afterschool Program
Job Developer program at Norwich Free Academy



Riverfront Children's Center



Chapter 2: Milestones Igniting Change and Innovation

Generations United

Just about anyone familiar with United Way of Southeastern Connecticut knows Maggie Marley. She has worked at the organization for more than twenty years in various positions. Currently, she is the AFL-CIO Community Engagement Labor Liaison.

"I've been blessed to have many people throughout my life who set good examples of the value of working hard and helping others," Maggie says. "Since coming to work at United Way I've truly had the good fortune to see it every day – through my coworkers, partner agency staff, and our volunteers."

"I am very proud to say that my son, Thomas," she continues, "has also been an example to me and others and has been a part of Young Leaders United since it started. I am finding that our next generations are more involved in and caring about our community than I was at their age."

"Some of my first memories at United Way date back to when I was a young boy and occasionally would go to work with my mother after a half-day at school," Thomas recalls. "I always enjoyed the warm atmosphere and her friendly coworkers."

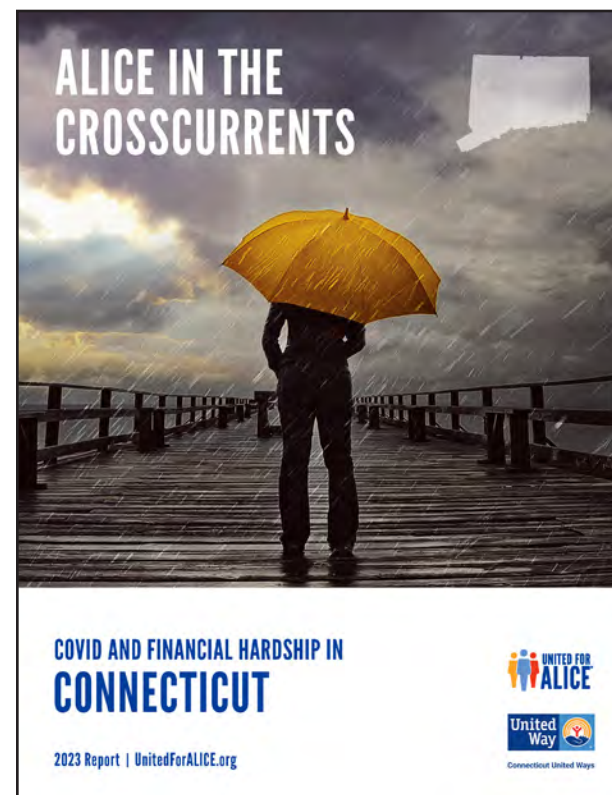
"I always looked up to my Mom and the employees and volunteers for all their hard work and dedication," he says. "As I got older I began to volunteer and then donate after starting my first job. I've been involved with the Young Leaders United since its inception and currently serve as Co-chair."



"I hope that one day my children will follow a similar path. United Way truly does lend a helping hand to all those who need it in Southeastern Connecticut and I am proud to be a part of it."

**– Thomas Marley
(pictured with his mother, Maggie)**

New ALICE Report Released: Focused on what's happening today, igniting our plans for tomorrow



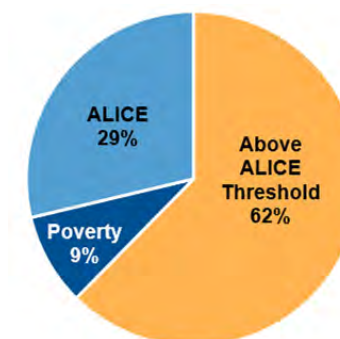
The updated ALICE Report shows the story. The pandemic exposed and exacerbated disparities and vulnerabilities that have long existed in our society, with substantial differences in rates of hardship by race/ ethnicity, age, and household composition.

ALICE stands for **A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mployed. ALICE is working yet doesn't earn enough to pay the cost of living. Additionally, ALICE makes "too much" to qualify for assistance programs.

Read more at www.uwsect.org/alicepandemicimpact.



ALICE in New London County



Below ALICE threshold = 37%

60% of the top 20 jobs in CT are still paid **less than \$20/hour** (\$40k/yr) in 2021

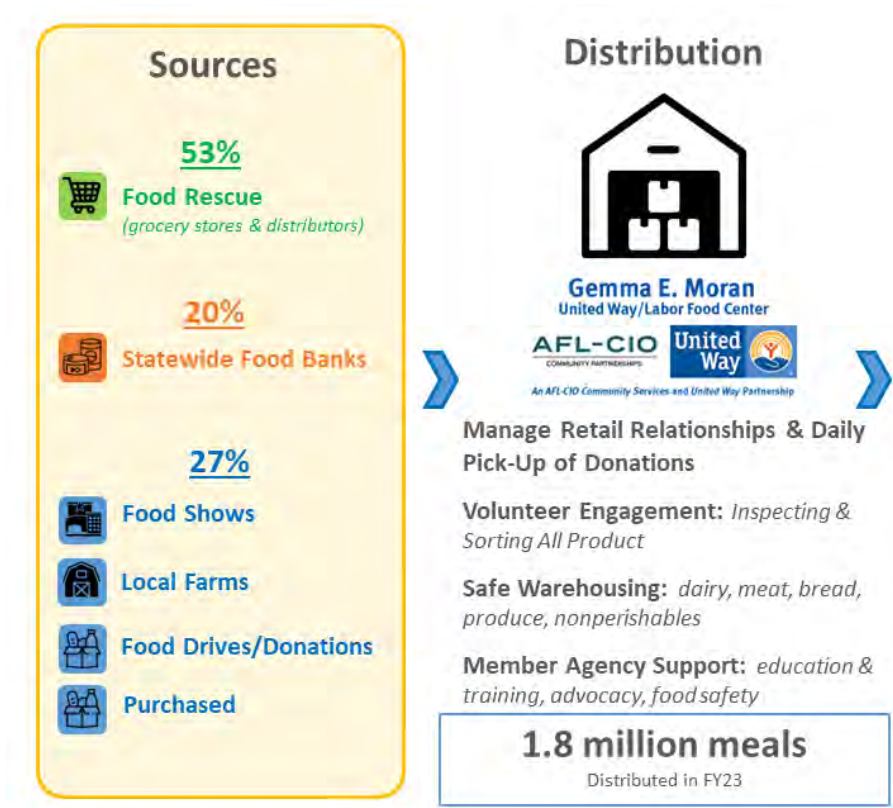
How much are people earning in Connecticut?



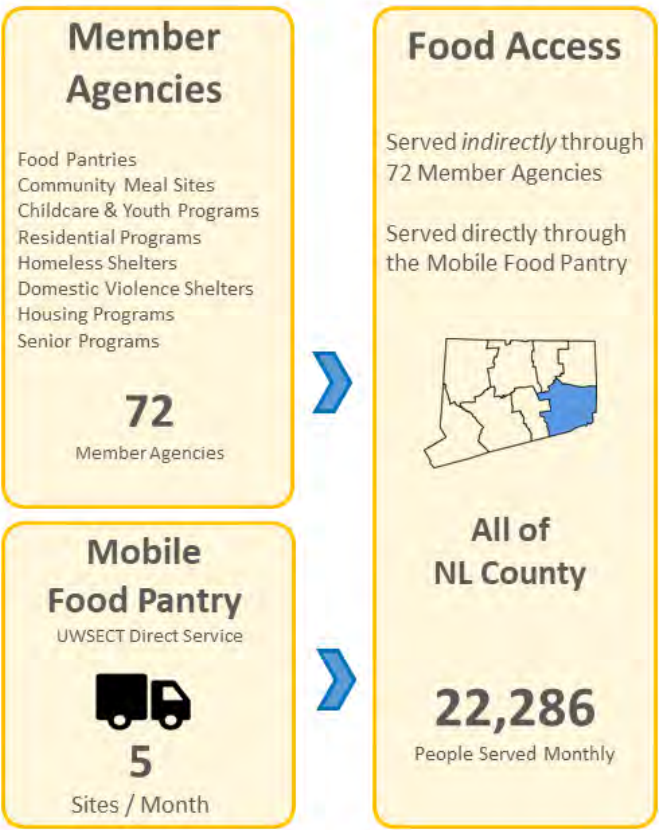
Household Survival Budget = necessities only

Increasing Food Access

The Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center operation



We’re constantly evolving to better meet the need



Increased need means finding new food sources

Midwest Food Bank was our largest donor to the Food Center in 2023 at 690,089 pounds. That’s 27% of all product donated.

United Way visits Midwest in Manchester throughout the month to pick up large donations and bring them to the Food Center to distribute to members. We receive a wide variety of products including frozen meat, dry goods, baby food, drinks, and even pet food.

At right: Don, a Food Center volunteer, Denise Millette of United Way, Jan Young, Executive Director of Midwest Food Bank, and John Pesaturo, Operations Manager.



Increased need means building on partnerships: food rescue

US Foods donated 250,831 pounds of food in 2023, or 10% of all food.

“US Foods is committed to fighting hunger across our community and helping ensure that food gets to the people who need it most,” said Dean DiGregorio, Area President Southern New England, US Foods. “As a company, food is at the heart of everything we do, and we are proud to contribute to the life changing work of United Way of Southeastern Connecticut.”



At right, the US Foods leadership team visiting the Food Center.

Generations United

Tom Jacobs helped to start the food pantry at Montville Union Baptist Church years ago. It was one of the first member agencies of the Food Center. Now his daughter, Mary, has taken charge of the pantry operations, still under the watchful eye of her father who sits in on the sorting and distributions.

What happens when the food leaves the warehouse? As the need swells, Montville Union Baptist Church has continually evolved and expanded to help even more families who are food insecure. Join one of our member agencies as they help bring food from the warehouse to their pantry.



Montville Union Baptist Church picks up a large quantity of product on Fridays. It takes them three trucks and many hands to gather it all.



The agency also shops every Tuesday. Each member agency is given a thirty-minute time slot to shop the warehouse and freezer and take what they need. Then it is weighed out by United Way staff. The agency brings it all back to their food pantry for volunteers to sort.



The food pantry distributes food to the community on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. They have evolved their distribution using a number system and drive-thru method. Recently, they've gone from serving about sixty families to well over 200. Everyone is welcome.



New Food Center Members

New Food Center members were admitted in 2023 to increase food access for underrepresented and populations with high food insecurity rates.

Food insecurity disproportionately affects different groups such as people of color and single-mother households.

The following organizations were accepted as members to help increase food access for all:

- Easter Seals Veterans Rally Point
- Groton Middle School
- Groton Recreation Wellness Hub/Ledge Light Health District
- Hartford Healthcare at Backus Hospital
- Mitchell College
- Thames River Community Service
- UCP of Eastern CT



Hartford Healthcare at Backus Hospital



Thames River Community Service



The Mariner Market at Mitchell College

Increasing Access to Healthcare

Part of the charge towards access for all

Coordinated Outreach



“The essence of Coordinated Outreach is vital as it fosters teamwork among partners in tackling community needs head on. It’s all about pooling resources, offering educational opportunities, and synchronizing outreach efforts for maximum impact.”

Terry L. Dunn, Jr., MPH
Director of Outreach and Community Health Workers
TVCCA

Above, Community Health Workers gather to learn more about the Eastern Coordinated Access Network, which is a collaborative of agencies that assist community members with navigating the housing system, and how they can support their clients with more resources.

Each quarterly Coordinated Outreach meeting covers a different topic featuring experts in that field, and there is always plenty of time for the Community Health Workers to share ideas and resources.

Self care for these workers is tremendously important due to the nature of their job. Burnout and frustration can mount. Coordinated Outreach provides a place to meet, network, and share and occasionally includes activities for *them*, such as yoga.



Mobile Health Hubs



Dawn (above, standing) spends much of her time now at Mobile Health Hubs. She describes the top reasons why people come to the Hubs seeking help. They include open wounds, hypertension, blood pressure, high cholesterol, and mental health. Monkey pox has even entered the picture for those living in difficult conditions.

“It’s about access, figuring out what those barriers are to care,” Dawn says. “And we ask people questions because it’s about food insecurity and transportation and being able to go to the doctor’s and get medication.”

Dawn Filippa
RN, MSN, MHA, RRT, EMT-P
Hartford Healthcare Neighborhood Health

“The Eastern Connecticut Health Collaborative (EHC) has been pivotal in ensuring that we are able to provide meaningful wraparound services to our patients and community members.

By sharing our Neighborhood Health locations with our EHC team, we know that we will have multiple partners at our Mobile Health Hubs who can provide immediate access to services, providing much needed resources to our underserved communities in the moment without having to wait for an appointment at another time or location.”

Michele Brezniak, BSN, RN
Community Health RN-East Region
Partner with Mobile Health Hubs

Between
May-November 2023
United Way and our
partners provided
12,328
healthcare services
through the
Mobile Health Hub

Services at the Hubs include:



food



*housing
assistance*



*help filling
insurance forms*



*health
screenings*



*referrals for child care,
senior services,
transportation, and more*

Chapter 3: Moving Forward With the Best Yet to Come

Generations United

Kim Deschamps has volunteered with United Way for many years, helps with the United Way Campaign at her workplace, and served as a Loaned Employee. She has shared the joys of giving with family members.



FAMILY TRADITION

My son's been volunteering for United Way Day of Caring events since he was in kindergarten. He got brought along like any kid with a single Mom does, but really enjoyed finding empty boxes and bringing them to people to pack. The different volunteer opportunities were the highlight of his week many times.

My husband said after seeing what I was doing, how easy it was for him to help so many people with just a little effort. His first Day of Caring was at one of the camps where we were preparing the platforms and putting up the tents.

Jaelyn, my now stepdaughter, wasn't even two at the camp when she carried around a hammer. Now she's in high school, and she gets downright upset if I don't bring her to volunteer at a food show. Last year she coordinated a food drive with her class at Stonington Middle School.

UNITED WAY IN THE COMMUNITY

I discovered programs like United Way's Project Warm-Up that keeps working families from falling through the cracks in tough times, put in place by workers like me and our alliance with United Way of Southeastern Connecticut. I learned there were still neighbors struggling because they didn't know the programs existed. I found out many of my coworkers didn't donate because they didn't know how much of their donation would help.

All of this was only made possible by General Dynamics-Electric Boat's commitment to our community and giving back, both financially and with employee support, and with teaming with our Unions.

I believe everyone has rough patches, and we should all help each other, even if you never met that person. I have fun with friends new and old every time I volunteer, and it brings my family and community closer together.

GET INVOLVED

I have two suggestions for anyone looking to get involved in charitable work for the first time. First, bring a buddy. It makes it less scary since you've got back-up and a friendly face. Second, feel free to explore something new, and give yourself permission ahead of time to decide one program or type of volunteering might not be a good fit, but that others might. That's how you'll find something you can be passionate about. The fastest way to help is with a few dollars, and I've never seen a dollar stretch further than the miracles our local programs manage to pull off. They just need a little help from us.

Building Pipelines for the Future

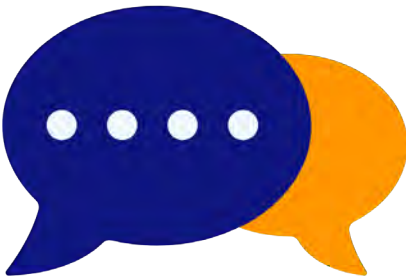
New Capacities is creating pipelines that can provide family-sustaining employment. We work hand-in-hand with our partners at Norwich Free Academy to help students prepare for post-graduation.

Youth Manufacturing Pipeline



"This program fosters creativity, critical thinking, and hands-on technical experience, empowering students to explore their passions while preparing them for fulfilling careers in manufacturing. The mentors and resources provided at NFA are exceptional, creating a supportive environment where students can explore manufacturing career paths.

As a manufacturing partner and employer, Westminster Tool is a direct beneficiary of these programs through recruitment and offering jobs for the next generation of manufacturers." – Hannah Belmont, Westminster Tool



The Medical Interpreter & CNA Program

Hola, estoy aquí para ayudarte a entender a tu médico.
Alo, mwen la pou ede w konprann doktè w la.
Olá, estou aqui para ajudá-lo a entender seu médico.
Hi, I'm here to help you understand your doctor.

"This opportunity to do our Medical Interpreting Program at Norwich Free Academy is amazing since they have such a large multi-lingual population. We are able to send students into the workforce with multiple certificates and hands-on experience working with the community. Not only will this program help the students pad their resumes and open the door for greater career opportunities, but it also helps the larger Norwich community by creating greater equity in healthcare when it comes to language barriers." – Alyssa McClain, The Health Education Center

I enrolled to the CNA/MI pipeline because of my interest on pursuing a medical profession. Being an interpreter for my family is something that I have done many times in the past so this was such a great opportunity to expand that skill.

I see it as being one of the keys to my future in medicine. I hope to help as many people as I can with the skills that I have learned and I hope both of these jobs being able to help me to pay my expenses during college.
– Alfredo Ramos Cornejo, student at NFA

First-ever Gala Event

United for Gemma Benefit Gala

Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, Presenting Sponsor

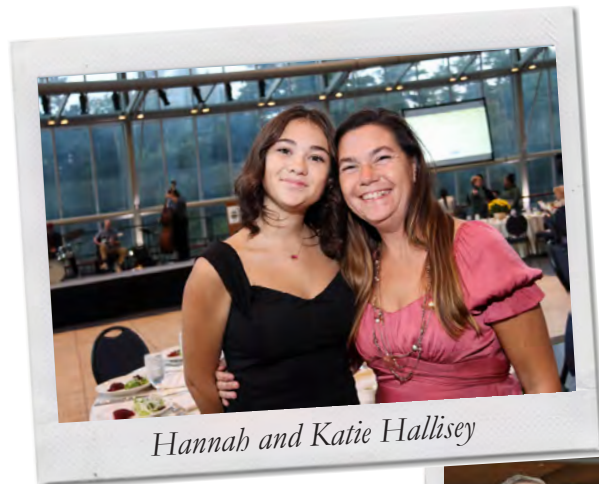
General Dynamics-Electric Boat, Gold Sponsorship

UAW Local 571 - Marine Draftsmen's Association, Gold Sponsor

Charter Oak Federal Credit Union, Silver Sponsor

Faulkner & Graves, P.C., Silver Sponsor

Holdridge Home & Garden, Centerpiece Sponsor



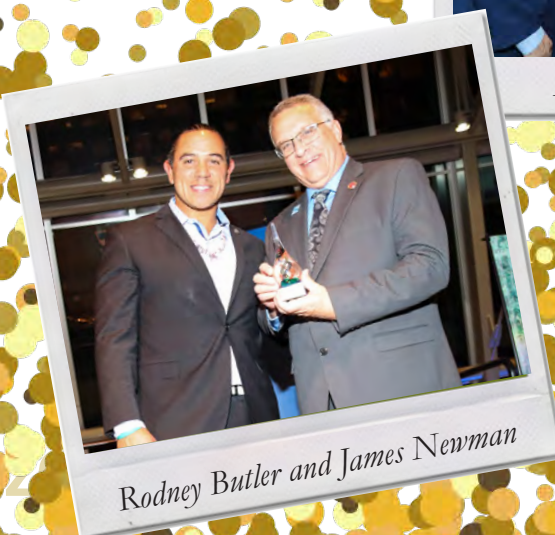
Hannah and Katie Hallisey



A generous donation from Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation/ Foxwoods Resort Casino



Norwich Public Utilities



Rodney Butler and James Newman



MDA-UAW 571

The Launch of Women United



Women United will inspire, educate and encourage women to affect positive change in our community, with a focus on food security in New London County through philanthropy, volunteering, and leadership.



Pamela Days-Luketich and Michele Scott

Women United launched at the United for Gemma Gala as a way to continue her legacy. The group focuses on The Gemma Legacy Fund with the goal of raising \$100,000 in their first year.

The Fund will create sustainable support for the ongoing operation of the Food Center program to best position it to provide food security for all in New London County.

To learn more about membership levels and benefits, use the QR code above.



Women United Kick-off at the Food Center

Above left, Women United Co-chairs Pamela Days-Luketich, Vice President, Community Development/Community Outreach Officer, Liberty Bank, and Michele Scott, Tribal Councilor at Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation.

Above, Women United members Nikki Gullickson, Connie Simos, and Lauren Goodrich at the Women United Kick-off at the Food Center warehouse.

A New Approach to Days of Caring



Days of Caring Presenting Sponsor

For a new take on Day of Caring, United Way accepted applications from partner programs to serve as host sites for large-scale volunteer projects. Wondr Nation stepped up to sponsor the selected quarterly projects, saving the nonprofit agencies from having to purchase supplies and materials to accomplish much-needed work.

“At WONDR NATION, our passion for social impact is at the heart of everything we do. That’s why we’re honored to stand alongside United Way for their Day of Caring program, a powerful initiative that uplifts our local community. Recognizing the profound impact of collective action, we’re dedicated to supporting meaningful change that enriches the lives of those around us. Together, we’re not just making a difference; we’re shaping a brighter future.” - **Anika Howard, CEO & President of WONDR NATION**



“I am thrilled to have had the opportunity to volunteer at United Way’s Days of Caring events. Being able to actively participate in initiatives that directly impact our community has been truly rewarding, and I’ve seen first-hand the positive change we can create when we come together. I look forward to continuing to contribute to United Way’s mission and inspiring others to join us on this journey.” - **Jordyn Mihok, Marketing Coordinator of WONDR NATION**



Our Days of Caring host sites – thank you to:
St. Vincent de Paul Place
FRESH New London
The Craig Floyd Giving Garden at Coogan Farm
SCADD at Lebanon Pines

Generations United

Bhumika volunteers at United Way's Mobile Pantry, and believes in getting the next generation engaged, too. That's one reason why she suggested that her daughter, Dhriti, join Student United Way to learn more about philanthropy in the community and get a leg up on giving back.

Bhumika (right, in photo) volunteers at United Way's Mobile Pantry. "I enjoy being a part of it knowing how many meals get served at the food pantry and I believe to satisfy hunger should be one's top priorities," she says.

"Involving family leaves an important learning point and shows the kids the importance of giving time, food, clothing, and much more," Bhumika adds.

Bhumika's daughter, Dhriti, also volunteers at the Mobile Pantry and participated in Student United Way. "My Mom showed me the joy of helping others since a young age. At the food pantry we hand out food to so many people with respect and dignity." As a Student United alumni, Dhriti volunteered at several locations including the Tommy Toy Fund, the Mobile Pantry, and the Food Center in addition to learning about becoming a philanthropist, even at a younger age.

"When the family's involved," Bhumika says, "We can teach our young generation and young kids to help as much as possible, feel the pain of others, listen to them, give others dignity in receiving the help they are receiving and find solutions to the problems."



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Statement of Financial Position

We are committed to complete accountability and transparency and welcome the opportunity to share information. We encourage you to view our four-star rating on Charity Navigator, Gold Seal of Approval on Candid (formerly GuideStar), and complete, audited financial statements at uwsect.org/financial-reports.

ASSETS	FY23
Cash and cash equivalents	\$482,044
Investments	\$5,983,826
Pledges receivable	\$1,853,686
Land, building and equipment	\$1,901,195
Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust	\$152,007
Beneficial Interest in assets held by Community Foundation	\$175,864
TOTAL ASSETS	\$10,548,622
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
<i>Liabilities:</i>	
Accounts Payable	\$120,041
Donor directed allocations payable	\$100,710
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<i>\$220,751</i>
<i>Total Net Assets</i>	<i>\$10,327,871</i>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$10,548,622

Condensed Combined Statement of Activities

PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE

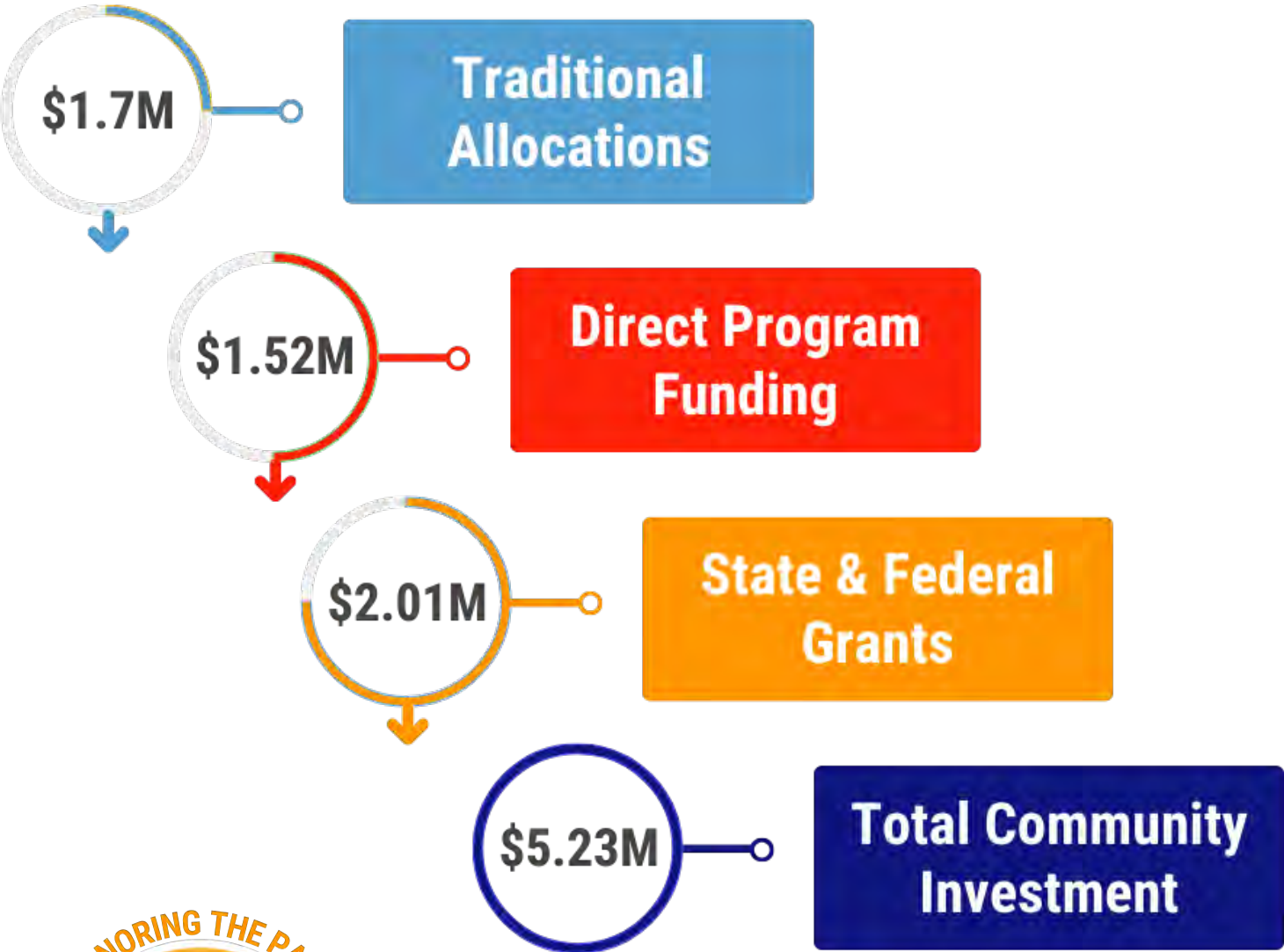
<i>Public Support:</i>	
Annual United Way Campaign results	\$4,132,303
Amounts designated by donors for specific organizations	(\$150,986)
Allowance for uncollectibles	(\$108,718)
<i>Net Annual Campaign</i>	<i>\$3,872,599</i>
<i>Other Public Support:</i>	
Contributions received for special fund raising & food donations	\$4,564,169
Grants	\$1,238,246
<i>Total Other Public Support</i>	<i>\$5,802,415</i>
<i>Other Revenue:</i>	
Interest & Investment income, administration fees and other revenue	\$764,823
<i>Total Other Revenue</i>	<i>\$764,823</i>
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND OTHER REVENUE	\$10,439,837

DISTRIBUTIONS, ALLOCATIONS, AND EXPENSES

<i>Program Services:</i>	
Allocations to agencies	\$1,769,010
Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center *	\$5,591,728
Other program services	\$1,752,476
<i>Total Program Services</i>	<i>\$9,113,214</i>
<i>Support Services:</i>	
Management and general	\$524,438
Fundraising	\$740,877
<i>Total Support Services</i>	<i>\$1,265,315</i>
TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS, ALLOCATIONS AND EXPENSES	\$10,378,529
Change in Net Assets	\$61,308
Net Assets, Beginning of year	\$10,266,562
Net Assets, Ending of year	\$10,327,870

United Way's Finance Committee and Board of Directors regularly review financial policies and procedures. The Board and staff work to assure that administrative and fund- raising costs remain low and that maximum funds are provided to meet health and human service needs. United Way of Southeastern Connecticut is recognized by the IRS as a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) to which donations qualify as tax deductible for income tax purposes. The information was derived from United Way's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023. * The estimated value of food donated is derived from Feeding America's price per pound.

United Way Investments in the Community



2023 *by the numbers*



2,392
children received gifts through the Tommy Toy Fund



18
Community Engagement Awards presented to outstanding volunteers, employees, partners, and businesses at the Community Celebration event



1.8M
equivalent number of meals distributed through the Gemma E. Moan United Way/Labor Food Center

7 new Food Center member agencies added

1 first-ever Gala event held in honor of the Food Center's 35th anniversary and the legacy of Gemma Moran



\$110K raised for The Gemma Legacy Fund to support ongoing operations of the Food Center

\$2.01M in State and Federal grants secured for the nonprofit community in Southeastern Connecticut

\$3.8M raised through the annual United Way workforce campaign

26,015
service requests made from New London County to 2-1-1 for free information and referral last year



8 fundraisers held by Young Leaders United to raise \$7,500

798 volunteers
donated their time

For a total of 6,252 hours



Community Celebration at Mohegan Sun



Donor Reception at Stonington Vineyards



Cornhole Tournament



Tommy Toy Fund



Tommy Toy Fund



Stonington High School Volunteers



United Way
of Southeastern Connecticut

United Way of Southeastern Connecticut
283 Stoddards Wharf Road • Gales Ferry, CT 06335

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The EB Black Engagement Council at the Food Center

