

# 2021 Report to the Community



## Bringing our mission to life

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



# From the President and CEO

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in the role of President and CEO this past year. I am so proud of the work we have done together. Our accomplishments would not be possible without the support of our donors, business partners, nonprofit organizations, and volunteers.

As we are still feeling the impact of the pandemic, we must continue to support the community as we recover and rebuild. It's important that we focus on long-term planning that helps people come back stronger by thinking about strategies that will make individuals and communities more resilient and successful.



Here at United Way, we too are focusing on long-term planning. This year, we have completed a new strategic plan. Together, both board and staff had the opportunity to establish a roadmap to guide us as we reshape our organization to meet the needs of the community, focusing our work in four key impact areas: Basic Needs, Community Wellness, Promoting Independence, and Thriving Children. I am so excited for what the future holds and how we will continue to fulfill our mission and ensure a united and thriving community for all.

Our strategic plan focuses on ensuring our organization is effective and efficient and that we build community awareness and understanding of the work that we do.

- We will continue to coordinate the generosity of our community with a goal of diversifying our revenue so we can provide the resources needed to improve lives.
- We will maximize our community impact, to meet the greatest needs, leverage our position as a convener, collaborator and thought leader to unite the community in these efforts.
- We will enhance the work at the Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center to help eliminate food insecurity in New London County so more individuals can thrive.
- Throughout this process we are committed to model diversity, equity, and inclusion in all our work and embrace an inclusive work culture, one with open communication and strong team values.

***What you have seen and will continue to see is a visibly stronger United Way.***

As you read through this Annual Report, we hope that you will experience our work in a new way. We are bringing our mission to life so that you can celebrate with us all that has been accomplished this past year, which would not have been possible without community support. I look forward to this coming year, and I hope you will be inspired to join us in our journey.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dina J. Sears-Graves". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dina J. Sears-Graves  
President and CEO

**Take a virtual tour with Dina at:**

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

**United Way's Gales Ferry office**



# Bringing our mission to life: One community's story

The greater Norwich community embodies our mission, perhaps without realizing it. From sponsoring mobile food pantries and increasing their employee giving campaign, to supporting community initiatives that help those in need.

## Here is this community's story.

In January 2021, Norwich Mayor Peter Nystrom contacted United Way to inquire about sponsoring one of our mobile food pantry deployments in the city, in memory of Jason Vincent as a way to continue his legacy of helping others. Jason was the President of the Norwich Community Development Corporation, who passed away in December 2020.



It's one thing to give and volunteer yourself, but to **inspire** others to join you reaches another level of commitment. One sponsorship grew into four with over 20 individual donors joining the effort. Businesses like La Stella Pizzeria, stepped up to run their own fundraiser to help.

Mayor Nystrom recruited others to help the cause of fighting hunger and food insecurity while honoring one of their own. More than fifty volunteers **united** to lend a hand at those mobile pantries. Those mobile pantry deployments served the equivalent of 42,000 meals.

In addition, the City of Norwich supports the Annual United Way Employee Giving Campaign. This past year, employees increased their giving despite the challenges surrounding the pandemic. Newly-retired Norwich Director of Human Services Lee-Ann Gomes led the charge as the Campaign Coordinator for the City. She also served on United Way's Board of Directors and was the United Way Campaign Co-Chair from 2019-2021, along with Jeff Hamilton, President and General Manager of Mohegan Sun.

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**Jason's generosity of his talents and time is something people remember him by. The mobile pantry in his name is a way for us to continue his legacy.**  
**– Mayor Peter Nystrom**

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It's not enough for a community to survive; they should **thrive!** Norwich understands the importance of working together and creating partnerships. No one entity can meet all of the needs in the community, hence their involvement with New Capacities, a United Way initiative. Together, more than thirty organizations, businesses, nonprofits, schools, hospitals, and other partners work together to increase the number of financially stable households in Norwich.

New Capacities is aimed at the ALICE population, an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. This group represents a large number of households where individuals are employed, but still don't earn enough to meet the cost of living. The goal for this initiative is to increase the number of households living above the ALICE threshold to 66%.

Norwich has long served as one of the distribution sites for the Tommy Toy Fund. What began as a young girl writing a letter to *The Bulletin* fearing her parents couldn't afford Christmas gifts for her younger brother, has grown into an event that helped 3,551 children last year. This year Reliance Health opened their doors to host the distribution in Norwich.

The giving season doesn't stop at the holidays for Norwich. The Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center receives a welcome boost as the annual U4U competitive food drive fills the shelves of the warehouse. The Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce **coordinates the generosity** of this communitywide effort. Last year, the equivalent of 10,392 meals was donated.

All of these cumulative efforts led United Way to present Norwich with our Engagement Award for Community Collaboration. "Although no award would be needed," Gomes said, "Norwich was thrilled to receive the Engagement Award for Community Collaboration as a recognition of our ability to work collaboratively and make a real difference in the lives of our residents. **Thank you United Way.**"

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**It is impossible for any human service agency to serve all the needs of our community. We must work with like-minded, strategic partners. United Way is perhaps the best example of that. Together, we ensured that our families had the resources necessary to see them through the pandemic.**  
**– Lee-Ann Gomes**

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**View all of our Community Engagement Award winners**



# United Way envisions



**A community united in its  
efforts to ensure that  
individuals and families achieve  
their full potential.**

# Your donation goes to work in four key impact areas

**PROMOTING  
INDEPENDENCE**  
\$1,333,562



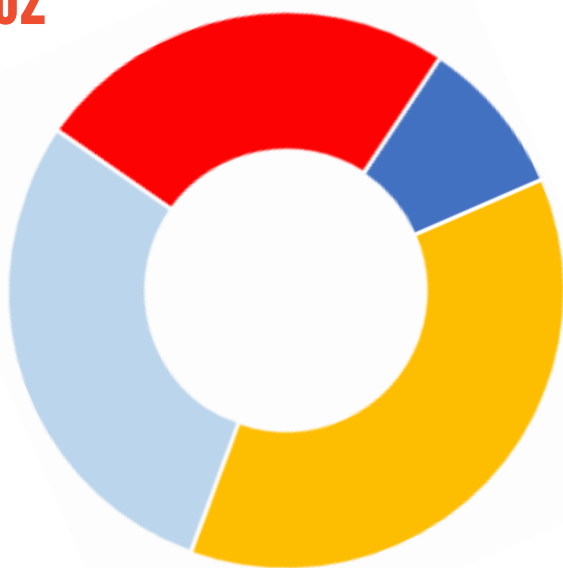
**THRIVING CHILDREN**  
\$493,914



**BASIC NEEDS**  
\$1,572,861



**COMMUNITY  
WELLNESS**  
\$2,005,648





# Bringing our mission to life: Basic Needs



Tim retired from Pfizer, after working there for 35 years, and he was certainly familiar with United Way thanks to the longstanding partnership between the two organizations. With extra time on his hands, his wife suggested he volunteer. "You always listen to your wife, right?" Tim jokes.

In November 2019, he passed through the doors of the Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center, and now continues to volunteer weekly at the warehouse and mobile pantries. "I had no idea. To see the people lined up in their cars, for a half an hour, 45 minutes, to get a frozen turkey and bag of food. I was ignorant to it, I just didn't know," Tim confesses.



Tim was born in Staten Island but grew up Philadelphia. He earned his degree from Penn State in Microbiology. He equates his work at Pfizer, making life-saving medicines, to his volunteer work at the Food Center, as each help to improve the world.

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**What I've found is you meet the most extraordinary people from every walk of life. The other volunteers – college students, high school students, retirees like myself – we all have one thing in common and that's we want to make the world a better place.**  
– Tim Subashi

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"Another thing is I can't imagine our children going to bed hungry or waking up without something to eat," he marvels. "To think there are people impacted locally, right here."

Tim's positive nature and friendliness are contagious. He encourages others to get involved through giving and volunteering. This past year he inspired a friend to lend a hand alongside him at the Food Center, and his church made a generous donation. He believes that everyone can find something they can do to make an impact locally.

"My inspiration is to help others," Tim says. "I hope that other people see this and make the same choice that I did. It's just wonderfully rewarding."

**Total amount invested and leveraged: \$1,572,861**

**Number of individuals impacted through our collective work in Basic Needs: 319,290**

**Total number of Partners working with us to provide basic needs to individuals and families: 194**

Last year, the Food Center provided the equivalent of 3.1 million meals, an increase of 21% pre-COVID 19.





Watch an impact story  
from one of our Partner  
Programs in Basic Needs

# OUR GOAL

Individuals have their  
basic needs met

Over the two years  
of COVID recovery,  
United Way has  
leveraged more than \$1.5 million  
in grants supporting homelessness  
outcomes throughout the county  
by recognizing needs, convening  
partners, and uniting others around  
a common goal.

## Get connected. Get help.

Nadia has been at 2-1-1 for over seven years. "When I first started, 2-1-1 was not the central intake line for the homeless population," she says. But in 2016, the State of Connecticut decided it should be, and the call volume increased substantially.

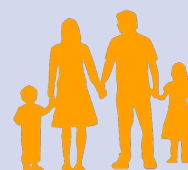
Trained Call Specialists assess a callers' mental health, job status, and other circumstances to determine their greatest needs at that moment.

Nadia shared a story about a woman who called and said she often stays in a hallway or under a bridge. "It's very important to me to not just be robotic and do the bare minimum, but be really tuned in," Nadia said. "When she was pouring her heart out to me I was extremely empathetic and she felt that. These are human beings and they deserve our support."

Nadia is also trained to handle calls from those who have lost all hope, perhaps even feeling suicidal due to their homelessness. She's had callers tell her they see no point in living. She helps them create a safety plan, arranges for a homeless outreach worker to check on them, and discusses their mental state.

"This is not a judgement line," Nadia states. "Your information is safe, we're here to support and get you help. There are so many assistance programs but people just don't know unless they call us."

If you or someone you know needs help, dial 2-1-1  
or go to [www.211ct.org](http://www.211ct.org).



The first call for help for families and individuals experiencing homelessness or are struggling with losing their housing is to United Way 2-1-1 where a Housing Specialist serves as intake for housing and shelter diversion



2-1-1



They are then referred to southeastern Connecticut's Coordinated Access Network to explore all possible alternatives to shelter. United Way administers the program, and services are provided by five area organizations who work on the premise that shelter should be used as a last resort.



Last year, 850 individuals were diverted from shelter as a result of funds leveraged by United Way.

# Bringing our mission to life:

## Community Wellness



United Way is the backbone agency for the Eastern Connecticut Health Collaborative (EHC) by convening partners, aligning the work around a common agenda, and keeping the group on track to create positive system changes. Numerous community partners (opposite page) are part of the effort. The thirteen-town collaborative, including both Tribal Nations, joined together to collectively improve access and address the dangerous, upward trend in obesity and adverse childhood experiences. Both exist, in even greater disparities, amongst minority and low-income households due to barriers to access resources.

To help reduce health disparities during the pandemic, EHC worked with Hartford Healthcare/Backus Hospital to ensure everyone who needed a vaccine could get one through outreach, education, and direct connection to vaccine resources.

Additionally, the Trusted Messenger Program reached out to professionals who work directly with individuals deliberating about the vaccine to provide culturally relevant, factual information. Backus continues to partner on Community Wellness by setting up health clinics at United Way mobile pantries.

With a commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, United Way has pledged to hold ourselves and our partners accountable. As a result, we convened the EHC members in 2021 to update their goals, which now emphasize a more intentional focus on equitable outcomes for all.



In total, over the two years of COVID recovery, United Way has leveraged \$935,476 in grants supporting equitable health outcomes throughout the county by recognizing needs, convening partners, and uniting others around a common goal.

**Total amount invested and leveraged: \$2,005,648**

**Number of healthcare needs provided through our work in Community Wellness: 37,571**

**Total number of Partners working with us to improve Community Wellness: 94**

Watch an impact story from  
one of our Partner Programs in  
Community Wellness

ECHC is part of a Health Enhancement Community through the Connecticut Office of Health Strategy. United Way is a core partner of STRETCH: Strategies to Repair Equity and Transform Community Health.

STRETCH engages intermediary organizations, such as local health providers, the faith community, and others to support governmental state public health agencies to achieve health equity and create resilient communities.

# OUR GOAL

Individuals improve their health and have access to healthcare



Learn more  
about ECHC

## Partners in a thriving community



Thames Valley Council  
for Community Action, Inc.  
Partnering for Prosperous Communities Since 1965



Mashantucket Pequot  
Tribal Nation



Mohegan  
Tribe

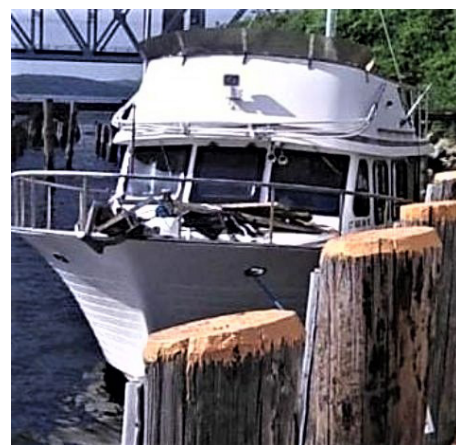


# Bringing our mission to life: Promoting Independence



Anthony fell upon hard times and was facing an imminent risk of homelessness and reached out to United Way 2-1-1, our region's central intake system for housing and shelter diversion. Referred to New London Homeless Hospitality Center (NLHHC), Anthony connected with a specialist who assessed his situation and helped him avoid checking into an emergency shelter.

Anthony owned a boat that was suitable for living, however, he didn't have the funds for a boat slip. NLHHC applied to United Way's New London County Fund to End Homelessness (NLCFEH) for support to pay for the boat slip rent.



The NLCFEH focuses on rapidly rehousing individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness as well as keeping those who are at risk of homelessness in their current housing without ever having to enter shelter.

As a testament to the flexible funding that NLCFEH provides, they approved payments to a local marina for Anthony to house himself and his boat. This stability gave Anthony the chance to focus on working to become independent and maintain his home on the boat.

Each element of assistance provided by New London Homeless Hospitality Center was made possible due to funds that United Way was able to leverage. Their Diversion Specialist is funded through a grant that United Way administers. The slip lease for Anthony's boat was funded by NLCFEH, a state grant that United Way has managed for the last ten years. Additional rental assistance under UniteCT was initially made possible through a state grant that United Way advocated for and made possible.

**Total amount invested and leveraged: \$1,333,562**

**Number of service encounters our Partner Programs have provided such as career education, employment preparation, and job development: 3,872**

**Total number of Partners working with us to Promote Independence: 110**





# OUR GOAL

Individuals achieve financial stability

Watch an impact story from one of our Partner Programs in Promoting Independence

## New Capacities

Learn more about New Capacities

New Capacities partners are working towards increasing the number of financially stable households in Norwich to 66%. The initiative identifies gaps and addresses needs that affect a diverse population and this year added more focus on equitable outcomes for all, which aligns with United Way's commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

With long-time partners Norwich Free Academy and Norwich Public Schools, we assembled robust committees representing a variety of industries such as healthcare, manufacturing, finance, and construction trades to help in this work.

There are many organizations in Norwich filled with passionate individuals working to make the lives of our community members better. New Capacities brings all of those stakeholders together – each voice is heard and thoughtful.  
– Linda Farinha,  
Norwich Free Academy

## New Capacities' Goals



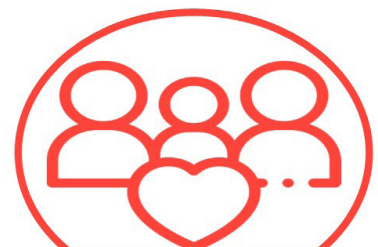
### BUILDING

community-school partnerships through the integration of career exposure, exploration, basic employability skills, and mentorship



### SUPPORTING

courses that will prepare students for jobs in high growth sectors; creating opportunities for internships and place-based learning



### ACCESS

and awareness to opportunities and services for equitable job recruitment, retention, and mobility; promoting social and economic opportunities for Norwich residents

# Bringing our mission to life:

## Thriving Children



As part of United Way's commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, a grant opportunity was created to work with programs that drive positive change and improve outcomes for racial and ethnic minority children and youth. United Way's Thriving Children Equity Grant awarded funds to three organizations. S.T.E.P.S. was one of the grantees to support the expansion of its College/Career Enrichment Program for middle and high school girls in New London and Groton. The program includes six components:

- Monthly online career interviews with women in careers that the students have chosen;
- College campus tours;
- An online panel with former S.T.E.P.S. students attending college to answer questions and describe their journeys;
- Open forum Zooms with the students to discuss any issues of concern;
- STEM/STEAM modules to help ensure students can navigate and engage in a 21st century global society; and
- Community service projects to foster a sense of teamwork and giving back.



Two young women started S.T.E.P.S. in seventh grade and participated for six years. As a testament to the success of the program, Shaneva (top) is now going to college in Williamsport, PA, majoring in neuroscience and minoring in psychology. Emme is attending Three Rivers Community College in Norwich and studying graphic design.

"S.T.E.P.S. workshops gave me confidence and a platform to practice it in a safe and supportive environment," Shaneva said. While Emme noted, "S.T.E.P.S. was the stepping stone needed to put me on the right path."

**S.T.E.P.S. continues to work for a world where every young woman has the opportunity and support to reach full equity.**

**Total amount invested and leveraged: \$493,914**

**Number of service encounters our Partner Programs have provided: 8,202**

**Total number of Partners working with us to help children thrive: 51**

Watch an impact story from  
one of our Partner Programs  
in Thriving Children

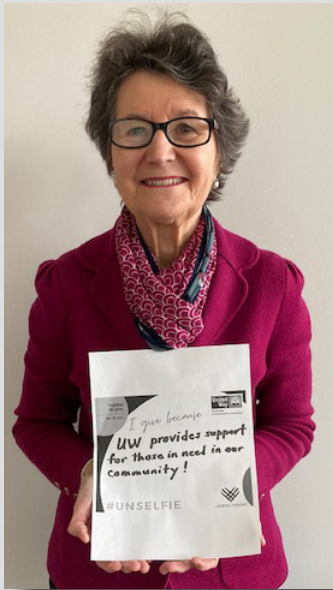
# OUR GOAL

Children enter school ready  
to learn and are successful  
in primary school



#GI<sup>♥</sup>INGTUESDAY

On Giving Tuesday in 2021, United Way focused fundraising efforts to benefit our Thriving Children impact area. Through direct mail, social media, and online giving, nearly \$40,000 was donated! Thank you to our generous community for stepping up to help children thrive. We also rallied volunteers to take an #UNselfie showing why they support United Way.



Mary Ellen has always been a supporter of United Way, and she was a Board Member for more than a decade. Thriving Children is the reason why she contributed to Giving Tuesday and to show support for United Way. Mary Ellen was always aware of Giving Tuesday and supports United Way because "they take stewardship seriously. The United Way also always makes sure that the money donated is used efficiently and effectively."



Brendan donated to United Way through his workplace since the 1980s. Now retired, he feels it's more important than ever to give. He likes United Way because it's a local nonprofit that benefits his community. Kids motivate Brendan to donate because they are in need of basic things. "If I can help these kids achieve that by donating, then I've done my job." Brendan is expecting a grandchild, and he noted that has put a lot into perspective for him. This is the first time Brendan says that he had heard of and given towards Giving Tuesday.



# Bringing our mission to life: the full circle

Jim is a longtime volunteer at United Way. His journey began in 2009 when he became an Allocations Volunteer. He recalls sitting in on United Way Campaign presentations in his early years of working at General Dynamics-Electric Boat. As a member of MDA-UAW Local 571, representatives from the Union made a strong case for why it's important to give to United Way.

"They talked about the programs United Way supports," Jim notes. "I wanted to see what was being done with donors' dollars."

A colleague invited him to become an Allocations Volunteer.

Jim remembers being immediately impressed, seeing how

conscientious and thorough this group was and how the money supports a network of

nonprofits that benefit the community. As a result he increased his donation to become a Spinnaker level giver.

**"There's so much need out there. You review the programs and see how donations are being effectively and wisely used. All these programs work together, and I see how United Way is a big part of that so everything is aligned."**

**– Jim Newman**

Jim continues to pay it forward by encouraging others to be part of Allocations. He is also involved in other aspects of United Way's work. He is a trained UCAN Union Counselor with United Way to assist coworkers in need. He volunteers on United Way Days of Caring, including at Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center's Coogan Farm Giving Garden which has provided more than ten tons of fresh produce to the Food Center.

General Dynamics-Electric Boat and the EB Employees' Community Services Association are the cornerstone of the United Way Campaign. They run food drives, hold an annual collection at Stop & Shop stores, and help clear out remaining food and household products at food shows at the casinos that would otherwise be discarded.

Jim has planted his roots in southeastern Connecticut because he loves the area. "People are so kind and they help each other out. United Way is the same way."

**Recently Jim was elected onto United Way's Board of Directors to help make decisions and be part of discussions that guide the organization. Now that is coming full circle!**

**View the 2021 Allocations**









# Thank you to our partners in a united, thriving community



## BASIC NEEDS

### PARTNER PROGRAMS

- Covenant Shelter, Emergency Shelter
- Jewish Federation, Crisis Intervention
- New London Homeless Hospitality Center, Housing

### GEMMA E. MORAN UNITED WAY/ LABOR FOOD CENTER

- 93 Partner Agencies
- Mobile Food Pantry
- Community Resource Coordination

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES or PARTNERSHIPS

- Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP)
- Project Warm-Up
- United Way 2-1-1

### LEVERAGED GRANTS

#### CDBG Small Cities - Town of Stonington (Diversion)

- Access Agency
- Always Home
- New London Homeless Hospitality Center
- Noank Community Support Services
- Thames River Communité Service

#### Point-In-Time Count

- Thames River Community Service
- Windham No Freeze
- New London Homeless Hospitality Center
- Reliance Health
- St. Vincent de Paul Place

#### CDBG - City of Norwich (Food Purchase)

- St. Vincent de Paul Place
- Community Outreach Center



## COMMUNITY WELLNESS

### PARTNER PROGRAMS

- Alliance for Living, The Living Center
- Child and Family Agency of Southeastern CT, Parent & Child Counseling
- Child and Family Agency of Southeastern CT, 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, Adult Day Centers
- UCFS, Dental Health Care
- UCFS, Outpatient Behavioral Health Care
- UCFS, Primary Medical Care
- Visiting Nurse Association of Southeastern CT, Home Health Care

### COLLECTIVE IMPACT WORK

- Eastern Connecticut Health Collaborative

### LEVERAGED GRANTS

#### Office of Minority Health - Reducing Health Disparities

- Madonna Place, Great Beginnings
- Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, Tribal Health Services



### **CDC Health Disparities**

- Access Agency
- Generations Family Health Center
- Health Education Center
- Madonna Place, Great Beginnings
- TVCCA

### **Data Across Sectors For Health**

- Eastern Connecticut Health Collaborative

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES or PARTNERSHIPS**

- Eastern CT Coordinated Access Network
- Hartford HealthCare Mobile Clinic Health Screening
- SingleCare Prescription Drug Discount Cards
- Trusted Messenger COVID Vaccination Initiative



## **THRIVING CHILDREN**

### **Partner Programs**

- Child and Family Agency of Southeastern CT, Early Childhood Services
- Madonna Place, Family Support Center
- Riverfront Children's Center, Children's Center
- The Drop-In Learning Center, Out of School Care
- The Drop-In Learning Center, Teen Life Skills
- TVCCA, Little Learners
- Higher Edge, College Access Program
- The Light House, Friends Program
- Safe Futures, Prevention Education

### **Equitable Outcomes for Thriving Children Grant**

- LEARN: The Friendship School
- New London Youth Affairs
- S.T.E.P.S. Inc.

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES or PARTNERSHIPS**

- Tommy Toy Fund



## **PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE**

### **PARTNER PROGRAMS**

- Catholic Charities, Intensive 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, Disability Support

### **LEVERAGED GRANTS**

#### **New London County Fund to End Homelessness**

- Always Home
- Covenant Shelter
- New London Homeless Hospitality Center
- Norwich Human Services
- TVCCA

#### **Coordinated Access Network Operations Fund**

- Access Agency
- Always Home
- Covenant Shelter
- New London Homeless Hospitality Center
- Norwich Human Services
- St. Vincent de Paul Place
- Thames River Community Service
- TVCCA
- Windham No Freeze

#### **Coordinated Access Network Shared Housing**

- Access Agency
- New London Homeless Hospitality Center
- TVCCA

#### **Mental Health for Homeless Prevention**

- New London Homeless Hospitality Center

#### **Coordinated Access Network Housing Search**

- New London Homeless Hospitality Center
- Windham No Freeze

### **COLLECTIVE IMPACT WORK**

- New Capacities: Norwich

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES or PARTNERSHIPS**

- Independent Development Accounts
  - Habitat for Humanity
  - Liberty Bank
  - TVCCA

# Bringing our mission to life:

## Community engagement



There are many ways to get engaged in our community, and United Way can help make that happen for you, your family, organizations, employees. Engagement, sponsorship, and volunteer opportunities abound.

For example, Chelsea Groton Bank sponsored a United Way Mobile Food Pantry at the bank's Groton headquarters.

"We've been a proud community partner of United Way for many years," said Lori Dufficy, EVP, Chief Experience

and Engagement Officer at Chelsea Groton Bank. "United Way's mobile food pantry is a critical resource to so many members of our community. We're thrilled to be able to sponsor, host, and provide team member volunteers."

More than 1,100 individuals facing hunger received 250 pre-packed Thanksgiving-themed boxes of non-perishables and fresh produce, whole chickens, soap, and hand sanitizer. The Chelsea Groton team was able to help distribute the equivalent of 5,884 meals.

"Seeing the line of cars waiting for food made me realize how much of a need there really is in our community," said Krissa Beene, Marketing and Events Coordinator at Chelsea Groton, who volunteered to direct traffic at the mobile pantry. "It really opened my eyes to how many of our neighbors need some extra help. I'm thankful I was able to help provide some relief."



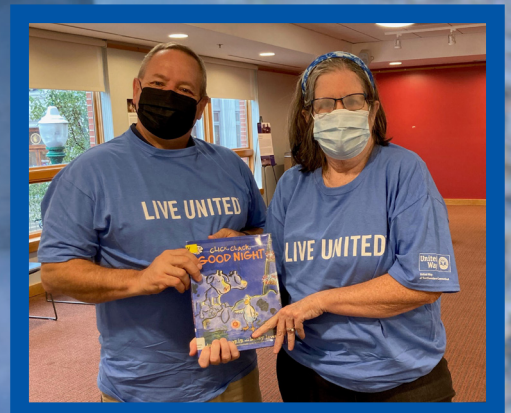
**Thank you to all of our mobile  
pantry sponsors of 2021:**

**Charter Oak Federal Credit Union  
Chelsea Groton Bank  
Family and Friends In Memory of Jason Vincent  
Groton Utilities  
MDA-UAW Local 571**

**Learn more about volunteer  
and engagement opportunities**



In 2021, 819 volunteers  
provided a total of 10,044  
hours towards our work.  
Thank you!



# Statement of Financial Position

## ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,380,029
Investments	6,219,894
Pledges receivable	2,209,284
Land, building and equipment	1,912,337
Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust	182,831
Beneficial Interest in assets held by Community Foundation	209,553
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$12,113,928</b>

## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

### Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	\$792,238
Donor directed allocations payable	93,718
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>885,956</b>

### TOTAL NET ASSET

11,227,972

### TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

\$12,113,928

[View our complete financials](#)

## Condensed Combined Statement of Activities

### PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE

#### Public Support:

Annual United Way Campaign results	\$4,305,510
Amounts designated by donors for specific organizations	(178,492)
Allowance for uncollectibles	(132,301)
<b>NET FROM ANNUAL CAMPAIGN</b>	<b>3,994,717</b>

#### Other Public Support:

Contributions received for special fund raising & food donations	3,332,567
Grants	513,014
<b>TOTAL OTHER PUBLIC SUPPORT</b>	<b>3,845,581</b>

#### Other Revenue:

Interest & Investment income, administration fees and other revenue	1,822,181
<b>TOTAL OTHER REVENUE</b>	<b>1,822,181</b>
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND OTHER REVENUE</b>	<b>\$9,662,479</b>

### DISTRIBUTIONS, ALLOCATIONS, AND EXPENSES

#### Program Services:

Allocations to agencies	2,040,077
Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center *	4,069,266
Other program services	898,000
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES</b>	<b>7,007,343</b>

#### Support Services:

Management and general	610,487
Fundraising	672,759
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES</b>	<b>1,283,246</b>

### TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS, ALLOCATIONS AND EXPENSES

\$8,290,589

Change in net assets	1,371,890
Net assets, beginning of year	9,856,082
<b>NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$11,227,972</b>

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, 2021. To request a complete copy of our audited financial statements, contact United Way's Finance Department at (860) 464-7281 or online at [www.uwsect.org/financial-reports](http://www.uwsect.org/financial-reports).

\* The estimated value of food donated is derived from Feeding America's price per pound.



# Board of Directors

## OFFICERS

### *Board Chair*

**William Louis**, MDA-UAW Local 571

### *Immediate Past Chair*

**Rodney Butler**

Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation/Foxwoods Resort Casino

### *Vice Chair*

**Marie-Claire Peakman**, Pfizer Ventures

### *Secretary*

**Nikki Gullickson**, Community Volunteer

### *Treasurer*

**Joan Wessell**, Senior Resources Agency on Aging

## DIRECTORS

**Wayne Burgess**, Director Emeritus

**Chick Corrado**, General Dynamics Applied Physical Sciences

**Nancy Cowser**, Southeastern CT Enterprise Region

**Marian Galbraith**, Community Volunteer

**Megan Gilbert**, Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut

**Lee-Ann Gomes**, Norwich Human Services

**Jeff Hamilton**, Mohegan Sun

**James Hodson**, Community Volunteer

**Stephanie Johnson**, Southeastern CT AFL-CIO

**Anthony Mastroianni**, Hartford Healthcare/Backus Hospital

**Nadine McBride**, *The Day*

**Christine Meola**, Yale New Haven Health/L+M Hospital

**Mayor Michael Passero**, City of New London

**Megan Roberts**, General Dynamics-Electric Boat

**Ken Rowland**, MDA-UAW Local 571

**Susan Sedensky**, Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center

**Ray Stanley**, Community Volunteer

**Matthew Teicholz**, Pratt & Whitney

**Karen Walters**, Pfizer Inc

## Our Statement on Equity

### UNITED WAY OF SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT REJECTS RACISM AND ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION

United Way of Southeastern Connecticut recognizes structural racism, ethnic discrimination and other forms of oppression have contributed to racial disparities that have existed in the past and persist in the present.

We unequivocally denounce racism and ethnic discrimination in all forms, and we remain committed to building a future of greater opportunity and true equity for all people living in New London County. We act by tackling the structural barriers to equity from past and present systemic racism that have impeded the health, safety, and wellbeing of traditionally marginalized people.

We commit to taking positive action to fight structural racism and ethnic discrimination by: eliminating structural barriers; holding ourselves and our community partners accountable; elevating community voice; engaging in further training to address our biases; and, practicing the change we seek to realize with a vision of a more equitable future for all.

United Way of Southeastern Connecticut will continue to work with residents across all communities to co-create solutions that ensure everyone has the resources, supports, opportunities and networks they need to thrive.

Specifically, UWSECT commits to the following actions:

- Elevate community voices by increasing the representation of all groups throughout all UWSECT activities and processes. This includes a commitment to recruit both board and staff that are representative of the community.
- Hold ourselves and UWSECT accountable by ensuring equitable outreach and representation throughout New London County.
- Ensure investments are with partners that meet the same standards and demonstrate they are performing to that standard through data collection.

**You are invited  
to help bring  
our mission  
to life**



United Way of Southeastern Connecticut  
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[www.uwsect.org](http://www.uwsect.org)

