



United  
Way



United Way of Mesa County

# OUR MISSION

We believe the caring power of community can provide everyone the opportunity to reach their full potential.

United Way  
of Mesa County



# WHO WE ARE

Founded in 1959 right here in Grand Junction, Colorado, United Way of Mesa County (UWMC) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that raises money from the community to fund local programs that address community concerns along with offering direct service programming that serve thousands of Mesa County residents each year. UWMC is one of more than 1,300 community-based United Way organizations. Each is independent, separately incorporated, and governed by local volunteers.

United Way of Mesa County fights for the **Health, Education** and **Self-Reliance** of every person in our community. Our work is focused on these building blocks for a good life:

# 100%

of dollars raised in  
our community stay  
in our community



## HEALTH

Connect individuals and families to regular, quality, physical and mental health services.



## EDUCATION

Support kids and parents throughout childhood development and beyond.



## SELF-RELIANCE

People have the support they need to remain living independently and access to basic needs.

# HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION

## Community Impact Fund

The United Way of Mesa County Community Impact Fund is a competitive two-year grant awarded to Mesa County nonprofits that provide services related to health, education, and self-reliance. Funds are raised by United Way staff and volunteers through workplace giving campaigns, individual donor cultivation, special events, grants, foundations, and from nation-wide fundraising efforts overseen by United Way Worldwide.

After our annual fundraising campaign, we begin our Community Investment Process, or "Deciding Where the Money Goes"-- we feel the people who donate the money should be involved in giving it away! Between 60-80 volunteers, people like you, serve on our community allocation panels each grant cycle. These panels review grant applications from agencies and make on-site visits to help determine which programs are most effective and efficient at delivering the services our community needs.



# HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION

By donating to our Community Impact Fund you are donating to something bigger. You are providing *vital* funding to help ensure everyone in Mesa County has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

The Community Impact Fund is the best way to help the most people, helping fund 43 local health and human service programs run by 33 agencies right here in Mesa County.

## Our 2022/2023 Community Investment Agencies



United Way  
of Mesa County



# HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION

Our Community Impact Fund helps support these 43 vital health and human service programs, right here in our community.

Services offered by these programs help **50,000** of your friends and neighbors every year.

## Our 2022/2023 Partner Agency Programs

### A LITTLE HELP

- Volunteer services to help older adults

### CHILD AND MIGRANT SERVICES

- Community services for migrant workers and their families

### COLORADO DISCOVER ABILITY

- Adaptive recreation for those with disabilities

### COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

- Emergency food program

### COUNSELING AND EDUCATION CENTER

- Resiliency for caregivers program
- Low-income counseling

### COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES OF MESA COUNTY (CASA)

- Volunteer advocates for child victims in foster care

### THE CYCLE EFFECT

- Girls Mountain Bike Program to build self-esteem

### DOORS 2 SUCCESS

- Emergency housing assistance

### DYSLEXIA FOUNDATION OF WESTERN COLORADO

- Dyslexia screenings for K-2 in local schools

### EUREKA MCCONNELL SCIENCE MUSEUM

- AmiGOs! Mobile Preschool & caregiver support

### FAMILY HEALTH WEST FOUNDATION

- Pediatric rehab

### FOSTER ALUMNI MENTORS

- Mentoring for youth leaving the foster care system

### GOOD SAMARITAN CLINIC OF WESTERN COLORADO

- Improved access to health care for the uninsured

### GRAND VALLEY CATHOLIC OUTREACH

- Day center for those experiencing homelessness
- Housing assistance
- Soup kitchen

### HARMONY ACRES EQUESTRIAN CENTER

- Equine-assisted therapy

### HILLTOP COMMUNITY RESOURCES, INC.

- Family Resource Center
- Latimer House -shelter for women escaping domestic violence
- Senior Daybreak - respite for caregivers of the elderly

### HOMeward BOUND OF THE GRAND VALLEY

- Emergency shelter for those experiencing homelessness

### KARIS, INC.

- Transitional housing for youth
- The House - shelter for homeless teens

### KIDS AID

- The Backpack Program - weekend food program for students

### MARILLAC CLINIC

- Dental care for low-income residents

### MESA COUNTY LIBRARIES FOUNDATION

- The Learning Center - free literacy instruction for adults

### MESA COUNTY PARTNERS

- One-to-One Mentoring - mentorship for at-risk youth
- Restitution/Community Service Work Program - Supervised useful public service for youth
- Western Colorado Youth Conservation Corps - job and life skills training

### MESA COUNTY RSVP

- Retired Senior Volunteer Program
- SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program) Medicare Assistance

### PEER 180 RCO

- Peer support program for those in recovery from substance use disorders

### PRO BONO PROJECT

- Pro bono legal assistance

### PROJECT 1.27

- Mental health services for kinship, foster and adoptive families

### RIVERSIDE EDUCATIONAL CENTER

- Tutoring and enrichment for students

### SECOND WIND FUND

- Life-saving therapy for youth at risk of suicide

### ST. MARY'S MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

- Senior Companion Program - volunteer companionship and support program
- Meals on Wheels Mesa County - food access for seniors

### STRIVE

- Support services for those caring for a family member with a developmental disability

### WESTERN COLORADO HEALTH NETWORK

- Harm reduction education for at-risk youth

### CENTER FOR CHILDREN

- Child advocacy workers for children who have been abused
- Community sexual assault prevention and education classes

### 211

- Resource call center connecting those in need with agency services

# HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION



## Donor Designated Funds

United Way also manages donor-designated funds. While undesignated donations go toward the Community Impact Fund, nearly a quarter of donations to United Way of Mesa County are donor designated to specific agencies or programs.

## Community Grant Management

United Way of Mesa County helps administer multiple federal and local grants, including the Emergency Food and Shelter Program grant funded by FEMA, which allocated close to \$300,000 to Mesa County emergency food and housing organizations in 2022.

IN MESA COUNTY  
LIVE UNITED

# HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION



The Mesa County Imagination Library, run by United Way of Mesa County in partnership with the Dollywood Foundation, is a powerful early childhood literacy program that mails free, high-quality books to children from birth to age five, no matter their family's income. Books are mailed monthly to every registered child across Mesa County, and the selection is determined by an expert panel in early childhood literacy for content that is informative, age-appropriate, and inspiring.

# HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION



# UNITED FOR CHILD CARE



Mesa County has been described as a “childcare desert” due to a lack of affordable childcare options. The United Way of Mesa County Childcare Fund works closely with local childcare facilities, government officials, and experts on childcare to find solutions. The economic, social, and educational issues tied to childcare are complex and it is easy to feel helpless. By donating to this fund, not only may your gift be eligible for Colorado tax incentives, it also guarantees that your contribution is doing the most good by addressing current pressing needs.



# HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION



# VOLUNTEER UNITED

Volunteer United is an innovative online community volunteer portal hosted and managed by United Way of Mesa County that features up-to-date volunteer opportunities from dozens of nonprofits across Mesa County. The portal is hosted right on the United Way of Mesa County website, providing those looking to give back a simple and accessible one-stop shop for meaningful volunteer positions in their local area.

# HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION

# UNITED TO SOLVE HOMELESSNESS

United Way of Mesa County is teaming up with local agencies to offer community-based education courses and outreach programs to help raise awareness, inspire solutions, and help solve the issue of homelessness in our community. The courses will be designed to help those currently experiencing homelessness and connecting that population to resources to help secure permanent housing and basic needs, to help current homeowners who could quickly lose their homes understand options available to them, and to teach the general public, business community, local government and nonprofits the impacts of homelessness in our community and how to advocate for change.

# WHAT A DOLLAR CAN DO

# YOUR GIFT CREATES IMPACT

\$ **1**  
per pay period

Can provide an emergency 3-day meal supply for a hungry family in Mesa County.

\$ **5**  
per pay period

Can provide four children a new book each month for a year, helping ensure they enter kindergarten ready to learn.

\$ **10**  
per pay period

Can prevent a low-income family in Mesa County from losing their home due to eviction and assist them in becoming financially self-reliant.

\$ **20**  
per pay period

Can provide nine counseling sessions to a child victim of sexual assault in Mesa County, reducing trauma, promoting dignity, justice and healing.

**JOIN US**

**LIVE UNITED**

## **DONATE**

Simply put, choosing to give to United Way of Mesa County is the easiest way to ensure your dollar goes the furthest. Your gift to our Community Impact Fund will support **community programs** that address the largest **community concerns**, determined by **community members** just like you.

## **VOLUNTEER**

Can't donate? At United Way of Mesa County there's room for everyone, and you can lend a hand in a multitude of areas. Want to help us plan events? Or serve on an allocation panel? Do you enjoy filing and office work? We have opportunities for you!

## **ADVOCATE**

Can't volunteer? Be a voice for change in our community and help spread the word about United Way of Mesa County and our mission.

United Way  
of Mesa County



# REACH US

United Way  
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# LIVE UNITED<sup>®</sup>

*IN MESA COUNTY*

Together we are stronger,  
join us to improve lives.

United Way  
of Mesa County

