



United Way of Mesa County

# FACT SHEET 2020-21

*At United Way of Mesa County, we believe the caring power of the community can provide everyone the opportunity to reach their full potential.*

- **Sixty-one years** serving Mesa County (founded in Grand Junction in 1959).
- Programs funded by UWMC currently serve about **50,000** people in Mesa County.
- UWMC funds **programs** provided by health and human service agencies in Mesa County. This year, we are funding **42** programs at **27** different local nonprofit agencies. The programs address a variety of social problems focused on:
  - **Health** - People are connected to regular, quality health services
  - **Education** - All children enter school ready to learn and more students will be reading at grade level by 4<sup>th</sup> grade
  - **Self-Reliance** - Basic needs are met in times of crisis so that people can remain independent
- United Way of Mesa County is not just a fundraising organization. It facilitates community collaboration to insure the community's needs are being addressed, and provides education, information, and referral to the community at large.
- The Community Investment Process or "Deciding Where the Money Goes" – We feel the people who donate the money should be a part of giving it away. Between **60-80 volunteers**, people like you, serve on our community investment panels each grant cycle. These panels review the grant applications from the agencies and make on-site visits to help determine which programs are most effective and efficient at delivering services our community needs.
- UWMC is governed by a **local** Board of Directors. **All funding and policy decisions are made locally.** United Way Worldwide provides training, marketing support and help with national accounts.
- 100% of the dollars raised locally stay here in Mesa County – In addition to funding non-profits in Mesa County, our staff members live in the Grand Junction area and we use local vendors as much as possible.
- Total raised in 2019-20 – **\$905,994**. This amount came from around 4,000 donors. Just over **100** companies typically contribute. About **85%** of all donations raised come from the workplace.
- Campaign Goal for 2020-21: **\$1 Million**
- **Payroll deduction** offers a convenient and affordable way to help others in need. Frequently, donors who give by payroll deduction can give more.
- Giving is a choice. We do not support coercion – giving is a personal matter and decision.
- In addition to payroll deduction, individuals may make a donation to the United Way campaign with cash, check, credit card (MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express), or by automatic bank withdrawal.
- The United Way campaign has a three-year average of 27.45% fundraising and administrative expense. According the Better Business Bureau, the most efficient charities spend less than 30%, on fundraising and administrative fees.

For more information, contact: United Way of Mesa County, 422 White Avenue, Suite 337, Grand Junction, CO 81501  
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