

United Way Frequently Asked Questions

How does United Way work? United Way brings people and resources together to focus on education, health and income. Your contributions stay in YOUR community to focus on problems that affect us all.

How is United Way different? United Way focuses on advancing the common good by getting at the root causes of social problems in our community. We believe we can prevent many problems from happening in the first place. That way, everyone benefits. By focusing on education, health and income – the building blocks for a good life – we’re creating a better community for everyone.

Why should I give to United Way? Because we’re efficient, effective, accountable and local! Nearly 75 cents per dollar goes back to the community... that means we put more of your gift where you intend for it to go – where it will help people and do the most good.

Why should I give to United Way in addition to other charities? Everyone should give to charities that mean the most to them, but when you give to United Way you are helping improve community conditions for everyone. We invest 75% of your contributions in 40 programs that are UNITED to educate children to be ready for school, to promote economic stability so people can provide for themselves and their families and provide for the most vulnerable in our community.

Why not give directly to an agency? United Way bases our allocations on a rigorous process that demands accountability from partners. We put our resources and volunteer expertise to work with our partner agencies to create lasting change in our community. UNITING to work with community partners is the best way to advance the common good.

Who benefits from my donation? Everyone! Besides the thousands that use United Way programs, the entire community benefits through the work of United Way.

How can my gift make a difference? Your United Way investment is combined with the investments of thousands of others to create lasting changes in our community. Working together, we can accomplish much more for our community. That’s a great way to LIVE UNITED!

Who decides how donations are spent? Volunteers (like you) decide how much money is allocated to the programs we fund. Many Budget and Allocations volunteers visit agencies and review their programs and budgets annually to assure that every dollar is spend well. You may designate your gift; however, most contributions rely on United Way’s volunteer review process to make the best use of their money. When the giving power is combined, it can create lasting change in our community.

How can I get other questions answered? Call on the United Way staff or your Team Captain to answer any questions you or your co-workers may have about our community partners or how money is allocated. Better yet, get involved! GIVE! ADVOCATE! VOLUNTEER! United Way needs U!