

By contributing to United Way's Community Wide Care Fund, more than 100,000 local people receive help through over 50 funded programs with our agency partners, our initiatives and grants.

Last year, more than \$10.5 million was raised to support community needs and invest in high priority and high performing programs.

How Does United Way Make a Difference?

AGENCY PARTNERS

United Way works closely with **34 agency partners** and provides funding for a broad range of programs within the focus areas of: **Education, Health, Financial Stability and Safety Net Services.**

Programming includes: youth development, after-school programming and mentoring, services for older adults, physical and mental health programs, disaster response and more.



READY.SET.READ!

We're helping kids become better readers to achieve greater academic and future success. United Way manages this community initiative and partners with the educational community, businesses, community organizations and volunteers.

Over 400 trained volunteers tutor nearly 500 students in 29 elementary schools, within 12 school districts as part of the Star Readers program within the initiative.

Additional RSR components:

- Raising A Reader
- Growing Readers
- Opening Doors
- Reach Out and Read
- Neighborhood Bridges

INITIATIVES

The Volunteer Center links individuals and groups with volunteer activities throughout Berks County. **2-1-1** connects people to the help they need with a single phone call. *Bilingual service, 24/7, or by texting your zip code to 898211.*

FamilyWize Discount Prescription Drug Program for those without prescription drug coverage and may reduce costs for those with coverage.



GRANTS

We expand our work by awarding Rapid Response, Venture and LIVE UNITED grants. The grants support unanticipated changes jeopardizing a program's effectiveness, expand programming and focus on grass-roots programs.

Recent grants focused on: **several community programs addressing food insecurity** and nutrition education, as well as a Day Center to support homeless individuals, an educational therapeutic program for kids, literacy opportunities for homeless youth, mentoring programs, prescription assistance for those unable to afford medications and a program supporting animal-assisted therapies for veterans.

COMMUNITY CONVENOR

We bring people and organizations together around community needs, including the **Summer Learning Coalition** to address "summer slide" and the **Oakbrook Collective Impact Council.**

We connect people to volunteer opportunities throughout Berks, as well as mobilize volunteers for events, such as **Day of Caring**, a county-wide day of volunteering, and **The Big Cheese**, which supports the community's food needs.

