



Getting to Know United Way



United Way of
Kankakee & Iroquois Counties

Agenda

- Who we are
- What we do
- Why we do what we do
- How you can help

Our Mission, Vision & Values

OUR VISION: United Way envisions a world where all individuals and families achieve their full potential through **education, income stability** and **healthy** lives.

OUR MISSION: To improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of our community **to advance the common good.**

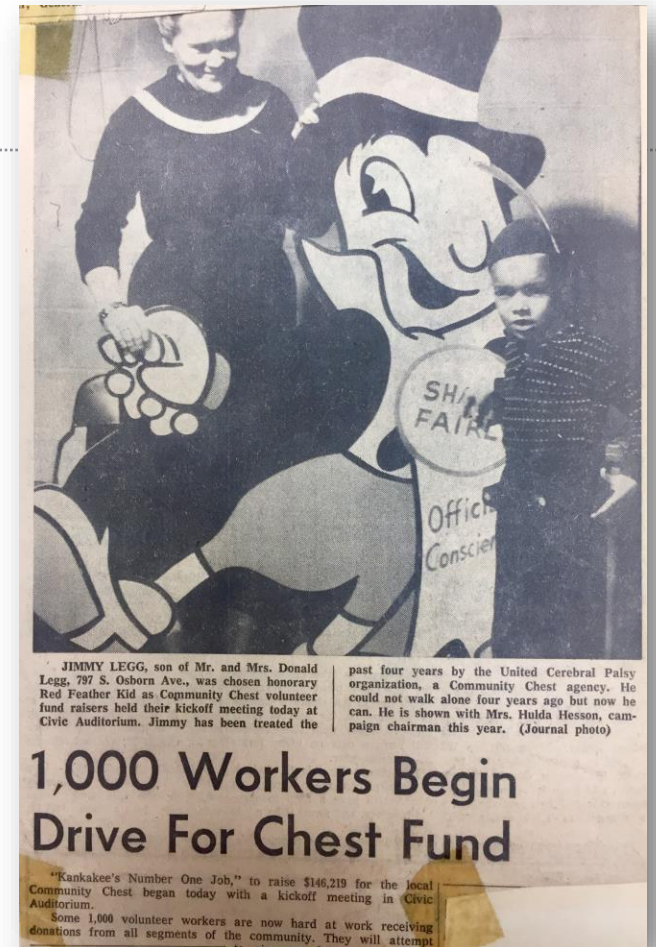
OUR VALUES: Excellence, Community-First Commitment, Vision, Empathy, Equity & Inclusion



United Way of
Kankakee & Iroquois Counties

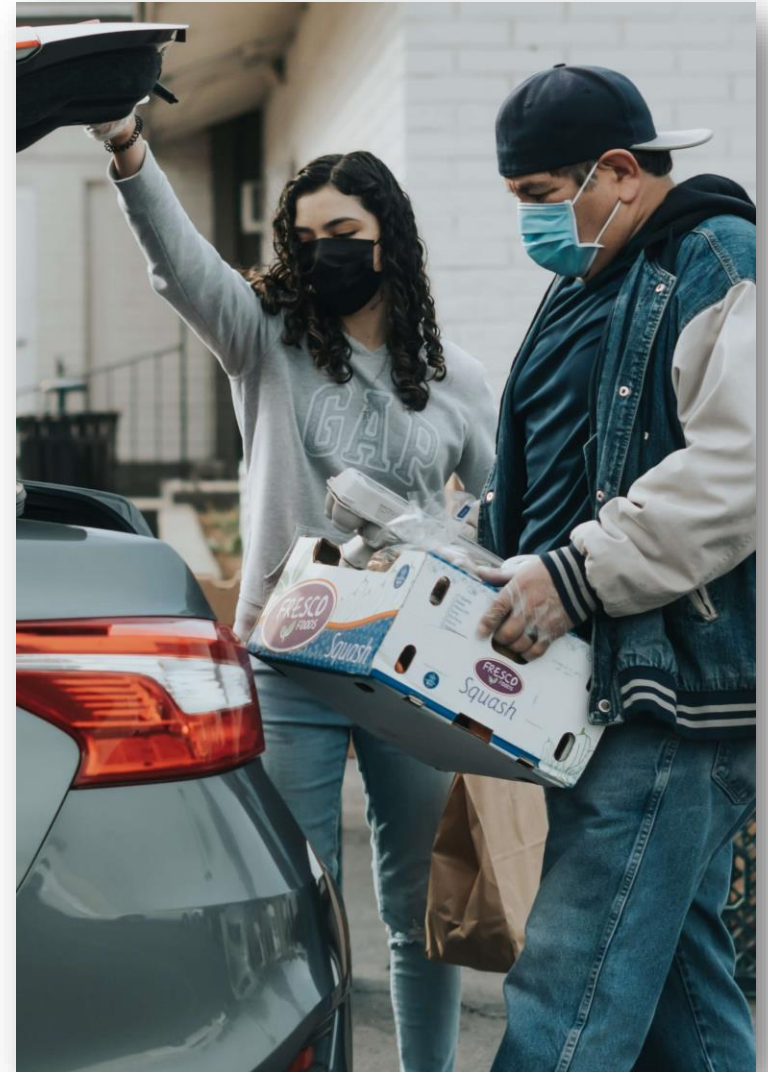
Who we are

- Established locally in 1941
- We unite local businesses, government, nonprofits, & community leaders to fight for...
 - **Health**
 - **Education**
 - **Financial Stability**
- Serves Kankakee & Iroquois Counties



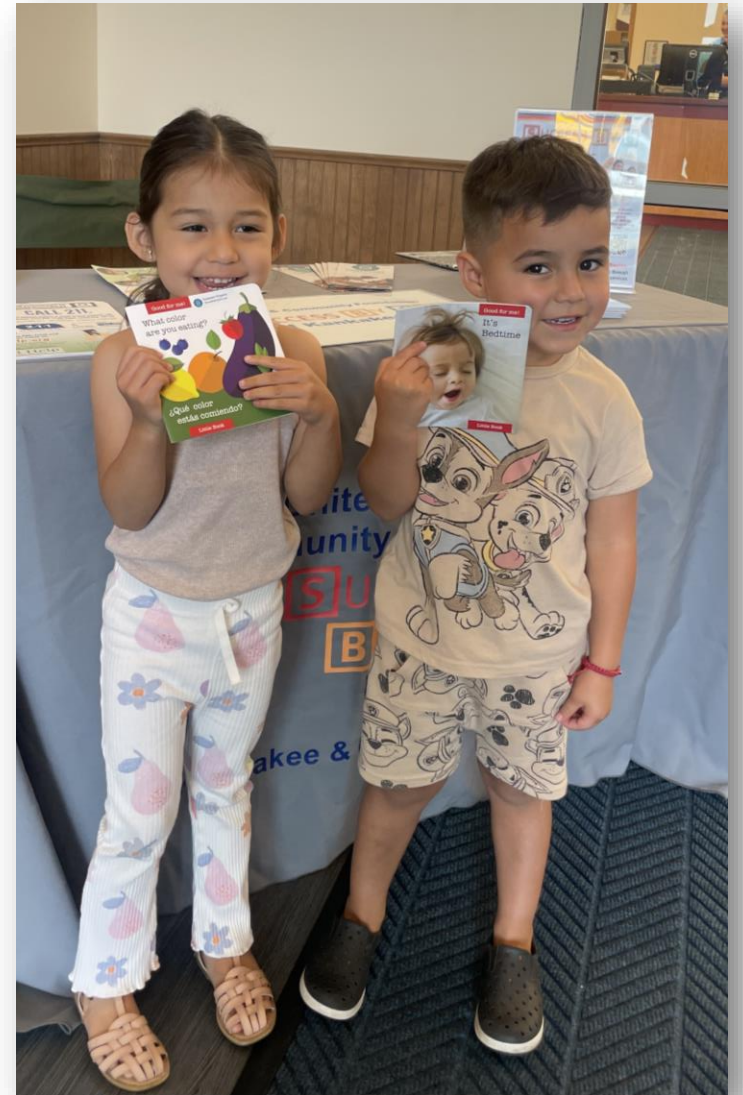
What we do

- **Community Investment**
 - **\$133,729** granted to 22 programs via **12** agencies for FY 2023-24
 - Funded programs submit progress reports quarterly to show the impact of local investment
 - Funded programs fight for the **health, education, and financial stability** of families in Kankakee & Iroquois Counties
 - We fund **effective, data-driven programs**, and do not provide direct assistance to individuals



What we do

- **Success By 6**
 - Early childhood community collaborative founded in 2008 serving Kankakee & Iroquois Counties
 - Joint partnership with the Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley
 - Seeks to improve...
 - **Family & parent engagement & education**
 - **Awareness of & access to resources**
 - **Early childhood workforce development**



What we do

- **Women United**

- Affinity Group - Brings women together to further advance our mission & improve the lives of women and girls
 - Memberships start at \$5 a month
- Fundraising Efforts
 - Women United Annual Breakfast
 - Power of the Purse
- Kindness Projects
- EmpowHER Hour Networking Events



What we do

- Support Services Offered To Our Entire Community
 - 211 – Free Phone-Based Assistance
 - SingleCare – Prescription Discount Cards
 - Family Support Bus Partnership – Free developmental screenings and resources provided for children ages 0-5 through our Success By 6 partnerships



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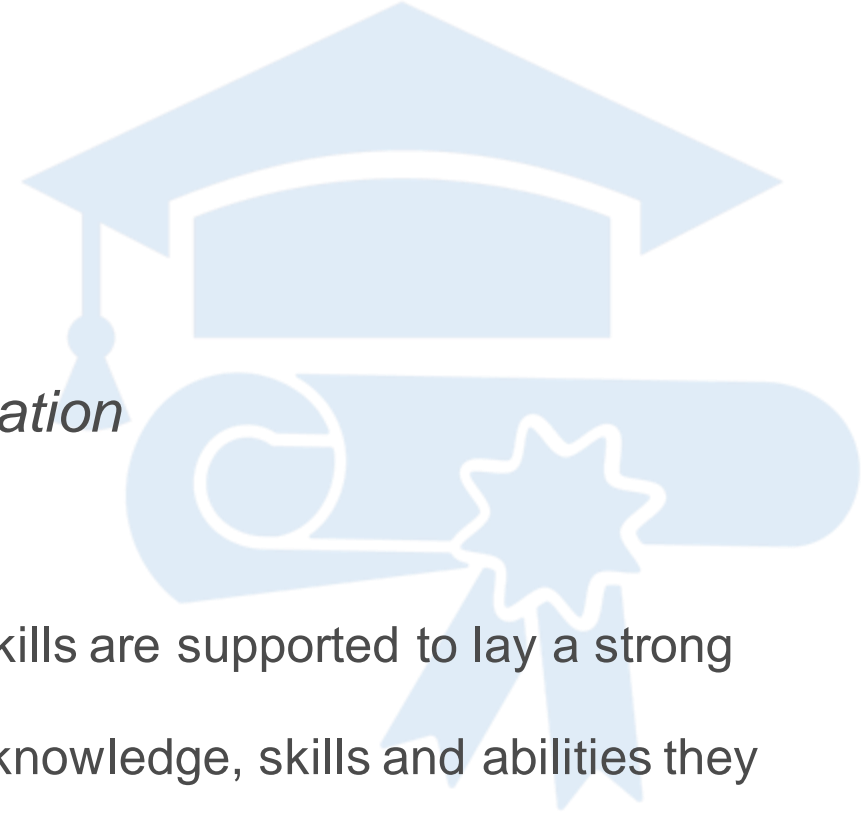
Impact Areas

Why we do what we do



Education

- *Helping individuals achieve their potential through education*
- **Our Goals**
 - Children’s health, social, emotional, language and literacy skills are supported to lay a strong foundation for a successful life.
 - Students successfully transition through school gaining the knowledge, skills and abilities they need for success.
 - Students graduate high school on time prepared for post-secondary education and/or training, work and life.
- **Why?**
 - On average, **79%** of 3rd graders in Kankakee County and **66%** of 3rd graders in Iroquois County do not read proficiently for their grade level. - *ISBE SY 21-22*
 - **Education** emerged as the priority community “need” among Kankakee County focus group participants. – *2022 Kankakee County Needs Assessment*



Financial Stability



- *Helping households become financially stable and independent*

- **Our Goals**

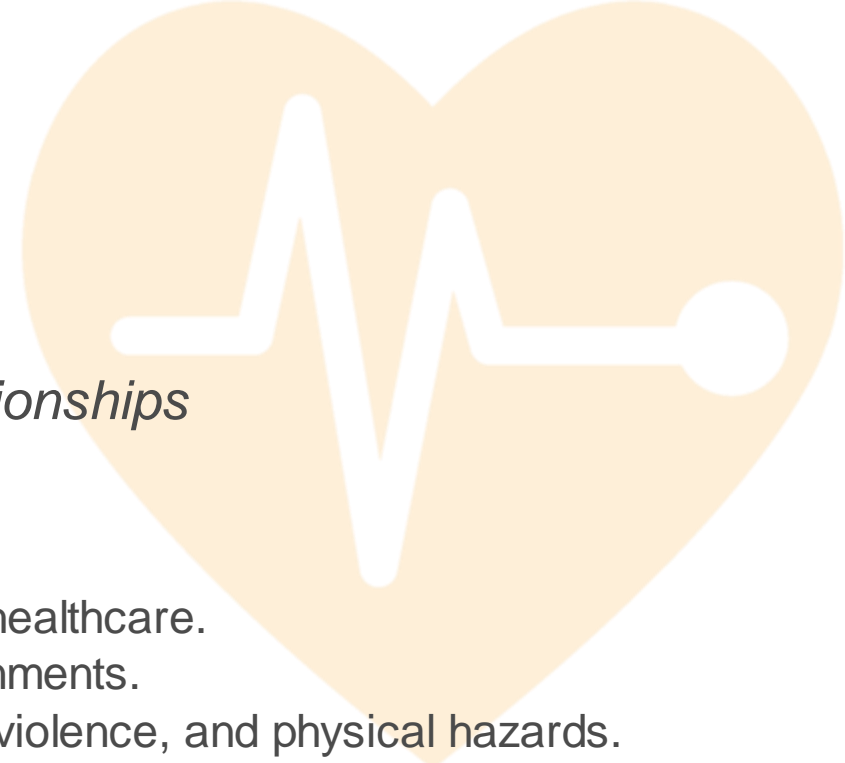
- Individuals pursue educational opportunities to increase financial stability.
- Individuals have the knowledge, skills and supports to make choices that increase their financial stability and advance their economic mobility.
- Safe, good quality housing units are available at an affordable cost.

- **Why?**

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- Family sustaining employment data suggests women are more likely to not make a family sustaining wage in Kankakee County. In fact, around **70%** of female households with children are indicated to live below the ALICE threshold.
- Nearly **30%** of households in Kankakee County are “house-burdened”, spending more than 30% of their income on rent or mortgage.
- *2020 Community Health Status Assessment*

Health



- *Helping support safe, stable environments and nurturing relationships*
- **Our Goals**
 - All households have easy access to ample, affordable high-quality healthcare.
 - Babies are born at a healthy birthweight and grow in healthy environments.
 - Households are free from Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), violence, and physical hazards.
 - Households will demonstrate improved behavioral health by reporting better mental health and a reduction in substance abuse.
 - All households will have access to healthy, nutritious food.
- **Why?**
 - The ratio of mental health providers to residents in Kankakee County is **nearly double (820:1)** the Illinois rate (480:1) – *2021 Community Health Needs Assessment – Partnership for a Healthy Community*
 - An average of **43%** of Kankakee and Iroquois County 8th grade and high school students reported signs of depression last year. Nearly **300** students in both counties reported “seriously considering attempting suicide.” – *2022 Illinois Youth Survey*

Making An Impact

How you can help create change in our community



Ways your organization can partner

United Way works together with partners to create initiatives that engage employees in deeper ways while improving the communities in which they live and serve.



- Corporate Sponsorships
- Workplace Giving
- Women United/Affinity Groups
- Volunteer Opportunities



Thank You!

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