UNITED WAY
Mid & South
Jefferson County

Annual Report
2024-2025

Our Impact Areas

UNITED WAY
Mid & South
Jefferson County

Healthy Community

16,866 Individuals Served

Improving health & well-being for all

Examples of Our Impact:

United Way's West Port Arthur Community Garden Initiative

We also support local existing programs focusing on:

- Food Insecurities
- Mental Health
- Pediatric Therapies
- Meals on Wheels
- Senior Congregate Meal Sites
- Equine Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Substance Abuse Therapy

Community Resiliency

1,518 Individuals Served

Addressing urgent needs today for a better tomorrow

Examples of Our Impact:

United Way's Virtual Volunteer Center Initiative & Day of Caring Initiative

We also support local existing programs focusing on:

- Fighting Domestic Violence
- Supporting Victims of Rape
- Supporting Victims of Child Abuse
- Senior Social Engagement

Our 4 Areas of Community Impact

Youth Opportunities

9,427 Individuals Served

Helping young people realize their full potential

Examples of Our Impact:

United Way's 4 Youth Initiatives: Virtual Reading Time, Summer Reading Palooza, Book Vending Machines, and Born Learning Trails

We also support local existing programs focusing on:

- Youth Sports
- Afterschool Programs
- Youth Mental Health
- Youth Therapies
- School Supplies for Success
- Summer Youth Programs

Financial Stability

44,543 Individuals Served

Creating a stronger financial future for every generation

Examples of Our Impact:

United Ways' First Impressions & United We Work Initiatives

We also support local existing programs focusing on:

- Food Pantry Programs
- Food Distribution
- Financial Education
- Rental Assistance
- Utility Assistance

Janie Johnson, CEO

a message from the CEO

Five years ago, United Way of Mid & South Jefferson County entered a new chapter with the launch of our community initiatives. That pivotal step deepened our roots and expanded our impact across the region.

We began with a year of listening–identifying critical service gaps in our community. From those insights, we designed programs to support families and address unmet needs, focusing on workforce development, early literacy, and healthy families. Since then, we've adapted our work to stay aligned with evolving challenges and opportunities. Our progress is a testament to the powerful collaboration between donors, volunteers, and staff.

With your help, this year we will invest $2,415,105 in grants to local nonprofits and an additional $315,000 through our initiatives. These efforts address healthy communities, financial stability, community resiliency, and youth opportunities. One of our proudest milestones is the launch of SETXvolunteers.org, a regional virtual volunteer center. This platform connects individuals and groups with local opportunities and allows nonprofits to promote their work statewide through our partnership with the OneStar Foundation's Volunteer Texas program.

Collaboration is at the heart of all we do. This year, we partnered with Lamar State College Port Arthur to expand our United We Work initiative, providing job seekers with online tools, TWIC assistance, and more. We also joined forces with the United Way of Orange County to extend SETXvolunteers.org's reach, encouraging volunteerism throughout Southeast Texas.

As proud members of the global United Way network–founded over 125 years ago–we benefit from collective knowledge and support, especially during times of crisis. Our participation in global councils and initiatives like the recent branding refresh ensures our local voice helps shape the future of the movement.

Though our focus is local, the ripple effects of our work reach far beyond. We remain committed to identifying needs, building solutions, and mobilizing our community to create lasting change.

Thank you for your support and belief in our mission. In five years, we've grown, adapted, and thrived. I invite you to continue this journey with us as we build a stronger future–together.

With gratitude, Janie

UNITED WAY

2024 OUR IMPACT

72,354 people helped in M.S.J.C.

- 1,038,881 meals served to the hungry
- 1,239,592 pounds of bulk food distributed
- 178,748 senior meals delivered to homes or at community meal sites

- 27,234 therapy/counseling sessions

- 53,389 local households supported with basic needs

- 584 children were provided with safe places to sleep
- 38,451 nights for individuals needing safe shelter

- 24,040 books were placed in the hands & homes of local youth this school year

2023-2024 OUR FINANCIALS

From our most recent Audit & 990

Report Information is From 2023-2024 IRS 990

Contributions	$3,014,642
Investment Income	174,900
Other Revenue	269,138
Total Income	**3,458,680**
Grant Expenses	1,702,105
Human Resources	301,395
Other Expenses	325,320
Total Expenses	**2,328,820**
Total Assets	7,473,402
Total Liabilities	45,396
Net Assets or Fund Balance	**$7,428,006**

Our Administrative Percentage Rate is 5%

Our 2023-24 Audit & 990 can be found on our website unitedwaymsjc.org

Community Investment Funds Initiative 2024-25

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The United Way of Mid & South Jefferson County collaborates with local programs to address identified community needs related to our four focus areas of Community Health, Community Resiliency, Financial Stability, and Youth Opportunity. During the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 this Initiative was carried out through three grant opportunities; Community Investment Grants, A.L.I.C.E. Grants (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, and Employed.

Community Investment Grants provided $1,621,711 in funding to local programs.

Grant Recipient Organizations:

Adaptive Sports for Kids
Anayat House
Capland Speech Therapy Center
Catholic Charities of Southeast Texas
Communities In Schools
Community Care Prayer Outreach
Court Appointed Special Advocates
Family Services of Southeast Texas
Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council
Groves Senior Center
Hospitality Center
Mid County Senior Center
Nutrition & Services for Seniors
Port Neches Senior Center
Crisis Center
Recovery Council of Southeast Texas
Salvation Army of Jefferson County
Samaritan Counseling Center
Three Rivers Council, Scouting America
Shorkey Center
Southeast Texas Food Bank
Stable Spirit
United Board of Missions
Willie Carter Outreach Center
YMCA

A.L.I.C.E. Grants provided $140,000 in funding to support working families..

Grant Recipient Organizations:

Capland Speech Therapy Center
Catholic Charities - Home Matters
Communities In Schools SETX
Community Care Prayer Outreach
Recovery Council of SETX
Salvation Army - Social Services
Samaritan Counseling Center
SETX Food Bank
United Board of Missions

Grant Committee Site Visits

Innovation Lab Grants provided $130,000 in funding to support innovative approaches to address community needs.

Top 3 Finalist:

Recovery Council of SETX
Samaritan Counseling Center
United Board of Missions

Board of Directors

2025-2026

UNITED WAY
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Term Expiring July 2026

Kingsley Amlalo*
TPC Group

Daniel Cruz
Cruz Events

Lucrecia Harris
Port Arthur ISD

Barbara Huval
Retired, LSCPA

Tammy Kotzur
Convention & Visitors Bureau

Erin Peltier*
Chevron

Chrissy Russell
BASF

Scott Street
LSCPA

Term Expiring July 2027

Josh Cross
Valero

Jerrie Guidry*
Valero

Mary Ann Reid*
Golden Pass LNG

Martha Rezaie
Zachry

Term Expiring July 2028

Deborah Drago*
Entergy

Nikki McDonald*
G&G Enterprises

Christina Gutierrez
City of Port Arthur

James Wright
Texas First Bank

Shawn Granger
Port Arthur EDC

COMPOSITION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of this "United Way" shall consist of the following: Not more than twenty-five (25) nor less that fifteen (15) members

2025-26 Executive Committee

President - Nikki McDonald
Vice President - Josh Cross
Past President - Deborah Drago
Treasurer/Secretary - Scott Street

Members at Large:

1. Daniel Cruz
2. Jerrie Guidry
3. Christina Gutierrez
4. Mary Ann Reid

2025-26 Standing Committee Chairs

Christina Gutierrez
Community Impact/Grants Allocations

Jerrie Guidry
Governance/Nominations

Board & Grant Committee at Stable Spirit Site Visit

*indicates member is serving their second term, and must rotate off the board or be a non-voting member for one year following

Day of Caring Initiative

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The Day of Caring Initiative focuses on volunteer activities and events supporting our community. These events can be specific to a company, group, or a larger community-wide event. The United Way mission began with a small group of volunteers collaborating to increase their community impact through mobilizing the community for the common good. That mission continues to guide our organization, and is the heart of Day of Caring events.

Corporate Day of Caring Participants:

aveanna healthcare

Chevron Phillips CHEMICAL

DIAMOND GREEN DIESEL

entergy

Herc Rentals™

OCI Global

PORT ARTHUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Port of PORT ARTHUR

PAISD Port Arthur Independent School District

RECOVERY COUNCIL OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS
WHERE RECOVERY IS NEVER OUT OF REACH

TEXAS FIRST BANK
FDIC FDIC-Insured - Backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government

Valero

WILLIE CARTER Outreach CENTER
Together We Can Make A Difference
LIVE UNITED United Way Community Partner
Providing Recovery Support Services for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders, Call Today 409.982.1387

the YMCA

ZACHRY

Community Garden Initiative

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The West Port Arthur Community Garden began in 2019 through a collaborative effort to address food insecurities. The United Way entered the community partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Garden's Board to manage the day-to-day activities, programs, and budgeting in 2021. The United Way has been able to seek grants that help fund the project and have added to the health of the Garden. Since 2021, the garden has added a greenhouse, benches, replaced raised beds, replaced play equipment, and added additional raised beds. The garden has grown into a community resource while providing food and education to all.

Garden Sponsors:

Chevron Phillips Chemical

entergy

Valero

ZACHRY

2024-2025

TOP CORPORATE DONORS

UNITED WAY Mid & South Jefferson County

Valero®

DIAMOND GREEN DIESEL

entergy

Golden Pass LNG

TPC Group

H-E-B®

ZACHRY

TURNER INDUSTRIES

ONE Gas

explorer PIPELINE

Chevron Phillips CHEMICAL

BASF TotalEnergies Petrochemicals LLC

A Joint Venture of BASF We create chemistry and TotalEnergies

Early Literacy Initiative

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Together, we placed 24,040 books in the hand homes of area youth this year!

In 2019, the United Way of Mid & South Jefferson County launched it's first formal initiative to address literacy. Super Readers was a support program to the Accelerated Reader program. That seed program has grown into two major programs and one virtual program, United Way Story Time. The Book Vending Machines were introduced in 2022. With four schools onboarding, United Way made the commitment to provide the machines and stock them twice a year. We have now placed Book Vending Machines in all 15 public elementary schools in our four school districts. In 2023, the United Way expanded the Early Literacy Initiative to include Summer Reading Paloozas, providing a bag of books for first graders. As Summer Reading Palooza has grown to 11 participating campuses we have also increased the grades to include K- first graders.

Early Literacy Sponsors:

BASF TotalEnergies Petrochemicals LLC

A Joint Venture of BASF We create chemistry and TotalEnergies

Chevron Phillips CHEMICAL

entergy

Valero

Virtual Volunteer Center Initiative

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SETXvolunteers.org

In 2024, the United Way of Mid & South Jefferson County launched a regional virtual volunteer center. The volunteer center is the first to link the community to volunteer opportunities. Individuals can access nonprofit page profiles, explaining the organization's mission, services, and events. Through the site, volunteers can access their volunteer resume and impact. Groups and Companies can coordinate volunteer activities and measure their community impact. For nonprofits, the site serves as recruitment, engagement, and impact measurement within a regional tool offering volunteer management tools at no cost.

Partnering with One Star Foundation's Volunteer Texas, our opportunities are promoted for allvisitors to either virtual volunteer center.

In 2025, the volunteer center became a collaboration project between the United Way of Mid & South Jefferson County and the United Way of Orange County. This partnership exemplifies the impact we create when we work together, United.

As Southeast Texas enters the 2025 Hurricane Season, our Virtual Volunteer Center has become the focus of another collaboration with Jefferson County as the single volunteer point for organizations responding during disaster. This collaboration is between the United Way and the Long Term Recovery of Jefferson County, which serves as the volunteer coordinator during and following a disaster.

Registered Nonprofits	29
Registered Volunteers	734
Volunteer Opportunities	106
Events Registered	26

United We WORK Initiative

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The United We WORK Initiative is focused on supporting working families who want to improve their household financial stability. United Way of Mid & South Jefferson County has two programs that support this initiative: the United We WORK Toolkit and the Workforce Clothing Closets. The toolkit is an online tool that provides career exploration, job searching, resume building, and financial education with a click. In addition to the online tools, United Way partners with local banks, organizations, and investment firms to provide educational opportunities. The Workforce Clothing Closets are located at three United Way partner programs that offer case work for other services that may be needed by those visiting the closets. The goal of the closets is to provide clothing from the interview to the worksite.

United We WORK Sponsors:

CINTAS
READY FOR THE WORKDAY®

PNC

Valero

Workforce Clothing Closet Locations:

Community Care-Prayer Outreach

UBM
United Board of Missions

Hospitality Center
CATHOLIC CHARITIES
OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS

UNITED WAY
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Jefferson County

Our Mission

The United Way of Mid & South Jefferson County works to better the lives of our neighbors. With our Community partners, we fight poverty and food insecurities, invest in education, and work to improve health in our community.

(409) 729-4040
7980 Anchor Drive #600
Port Arthur, TX 77642