



**United Way of the
Southern Alleghenies**

Serving Blair, Cambria & Somerset Counties

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Helping more people than ever before



82,310 LIVES TOUCHED

UnitedWaySA.org



**United Way of the
Southern Alleghenies**

Serving Blair, Cambria & Somerset Counties

We Are Better Together

The United Way of the Southern Alleghenies provides a forum for positive community discussions centered on improving lives in Blair, Cambria, and Somerset Counties. Since 1930 we have been leveraging volunteers, ideas, expertise, and generous donations to fund, implement, and sustain programs that support healthy families. Together, we create lasting change.



WHAT WE DO

The United Way of the Southern Alleghenies is strategically focused on funding evidence-based programs and impactful services aimed at three core initiatives:

- Early Childhood Development
- Parental Engagement
- Youth Drug & Alcohol Prevention

Our process finds, and provides funding for, an optimal group of programs that address our core initiatives, as well as other basic human needs. A growing roster of direct programming is helping to fill service voids where other options are not available.

We work with multiple organizations throughout our service area to help implement periodic health needs assessments. Those results, and other data, helps to guide our work.

United Way represents a unique place where like-minded community members can convene to create lasting change.

HOW WE GREW, AND WHY WE WILL HELP MORE PEOPLE THAN EVER BEFORE

United Way of the Laurel Highlands and United Way of Blair County have joined together as part of a strategic effort to leverage resources for maximum community impact in Blair, Cambria, and Somerset Counties.

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT: Both United Ways already invest heavily in early childhood development, parental engagement, and essential health and human services. This news will allow the combined agency to focus on strategic growth, leveraging staffing synergies and grant-making, to expand programming in each county. The goal is to help more people through carefully identified, evidence-based programs.

WHAT TO EXPECT: Both agencies already help more than 80,000 people a year. This union will result in more lives being impacted. As we grow together, United Way's Community Impact Model will be expanded into Blair County, leveraging volunteer panels to help us identify priority needs, and to find the right programs to fund, or create, to meet them. The goal is to increase the community impact in each of Blair, Cambria, and Somerset Counties.



“This union will provide for transformational programs for tens of thousands of families across Blair, Cambria, and Somerset Counties. I am so excited for our community, as we grow, united together, for lasting change.”

— Karen Struble Myers, President & CEO

HOW WE WORK

The United Way of the Southern Alleghenies uses an Enhanced Community Impact Model (ECIM)[®]

Enhanced Community Impact Model

The Enhanced Community Impact Model (ECIM) is the foundation of “how” the United Way implements, sustains, and creates lasting social change across a three-county service area. This model follows collective-impact strategies focused on building collaborative efforts to address priority community needs. Throughout the process, progress is tracked, measured, evaluated, and reported.

Community Impact Process



Funding Partner Agency Programs & Services

The impact of the United Way of the Southern Alleghenies would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of our 39 Partner Agencies that deliver programs and services to the community. Decisions on appropriate levels of funding allocated to these Partner Agencies is completed through the Community Impact Process. This process is completely driven by volunteers, and ultimately helps to determine what programs will be funded based upon the applications they evaluated.

To receive funding from the UWSA, a Partner Agency must go through the Request for Proposal Process. Many partner agencies have long-term relationships with UWSA, and continue to illustrate their impact to the community based upon an annual assessment, which is done via the Community Impact Process.

Non-UWSA Partner Agencies must respond to a Request for Information (RFI) put forth by the UWSA in order to submit an Request for Proposal (RFP). RFI's are not published annually, and are done so if the need to expand an area of impact is presented.

The Community Impact Committee, which is comprised of civic-minded leaders, United Way board members, and United Way volunteers, oversees the Community Impact Panels.





Community Impact Process continued ...

PANEL #1 - Helping Children & Youth Succeed

The HCYS panel is focused on evaluating Partner Agency programming in Cambria/Somerset for our youngest community members. Volunteers who comprise this panel will evaluate programs focused on pre-birth to school-aged youth.

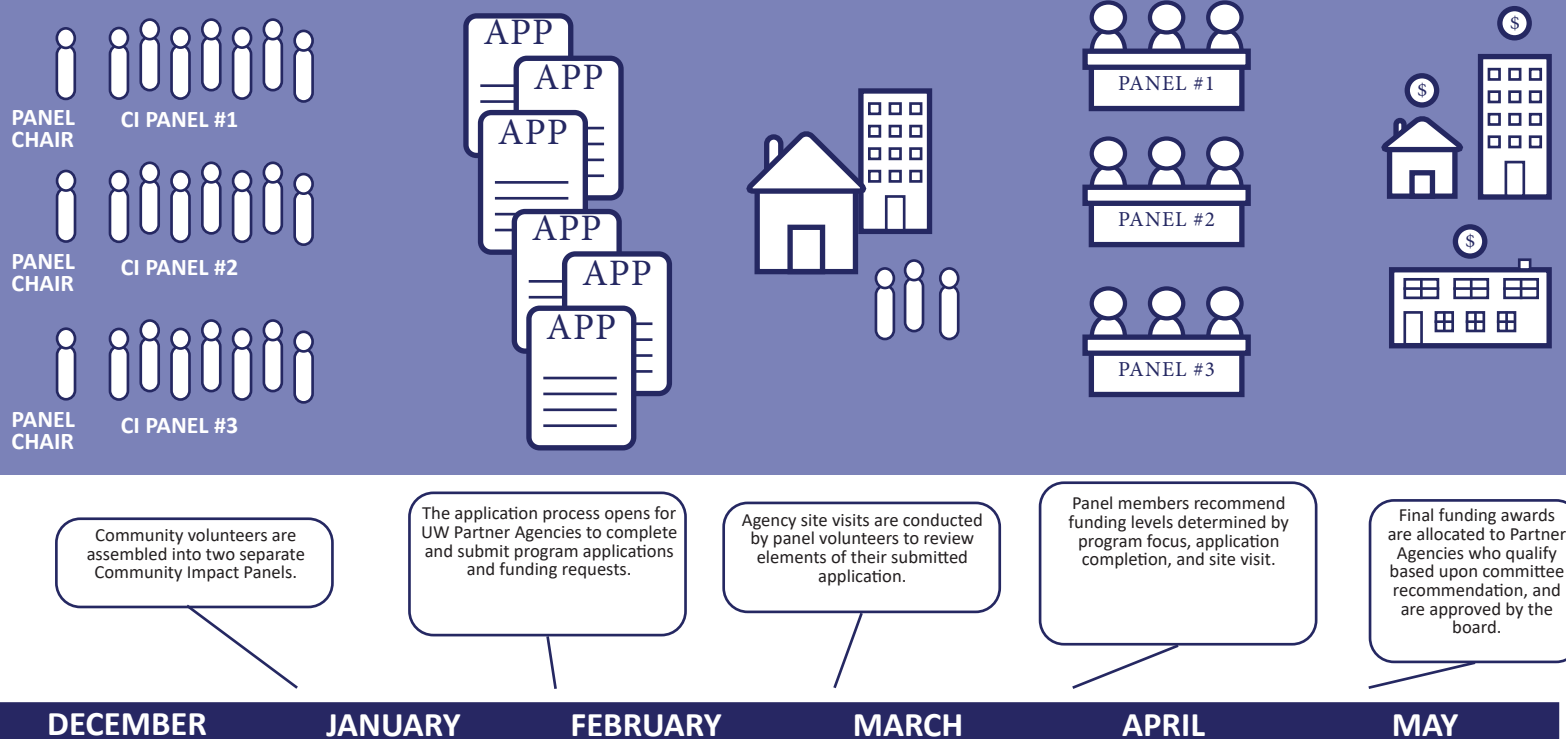
PANEL #2 - Strengthening & Supporting Families, Supporting the Vulnerable & Aging, Promoting Self-Sufficiency, and Promoting Health & Wellness

This panel is focused on evaluating Partner Agency programs in Cambria/Somerset, which strengthen families, promote health and wellness, support the vulnerable and aging, or promote self-sufficiency. Volunteers on this panel also review programs focused on basic human needs within our community.

PANEL #3 - Blair County Programs

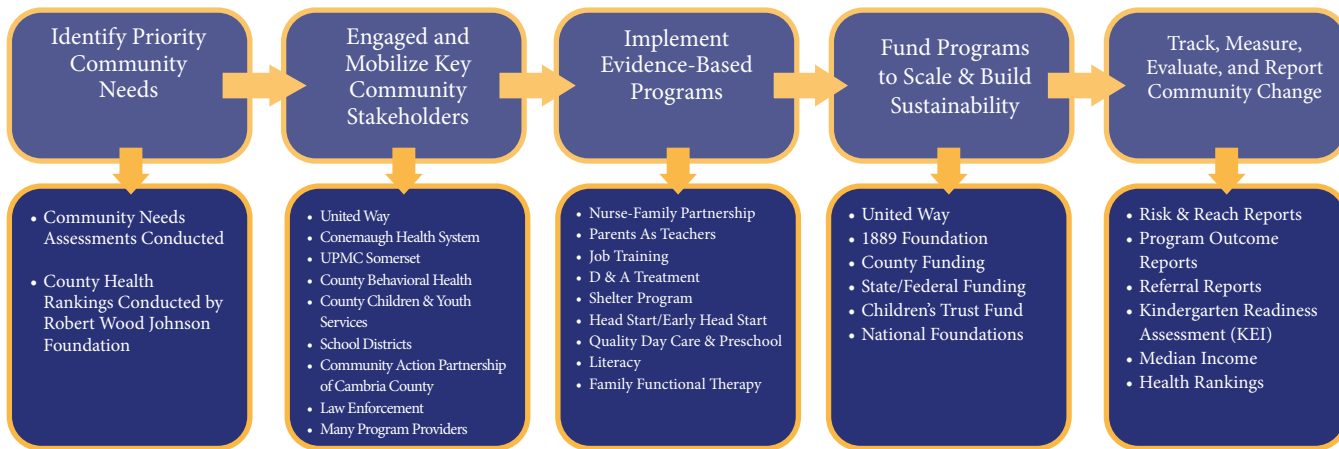
The 2024 CI Allocation Cycle was the first time that Blair County Partner Agencies joined the process. In order to be sure that Blair County applications were given specific attention and assistance, a third panel was used to review and score these applications.

Community Impact Process & Timeline



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

Building a Civic Infrastructure for Early Childhood



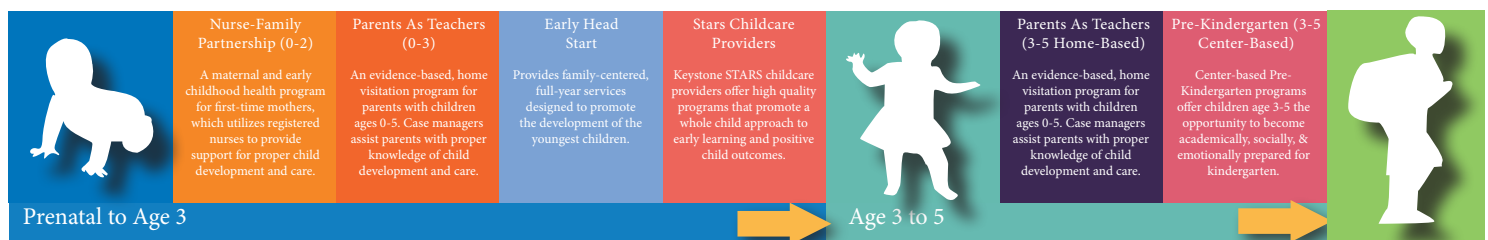
United Way of the Southern Alleghenies has been dedicated to developing strategies, opportunities, and collaborations that strengthen our youngest learners. Using a whole-child approach, we seek to make investments that support children's health, learning, nutrition, economic security, and safety. We know that bright futures happen when we empower children and families.

Designing & Implementing a Resource Model - Parental Pathways to Success

The United Way of the Southern Alleghenies, in partnership with multiple early learning providers, school districts, and agencies, has built the **Parental Pathway to Success**. This linear model guides parents and their children through specific programs and services available within the community that assist, strengthen, and support healthy family development, promote resiliency, and create sustainable self-sufficiency.

The model accomplishes three main goals:


1. Maintain continued year-to-year support and assistance for at-risk families needing aid via family and personal development.
2. Provide a continuum of care for both parents and their children, leading up to the child entering our school systems.
3. Increase parental knowledge of child development and care, while preparing all children socially, emotionally, and academically for kindergarten.



Implementation, Funding, and Outcomes

Following the Enhanced Community Impact Model®, the United Way of the Southern Alleghenies funds both the **Nurse-Family Partnership** and **Parents as Teachers** programs at sustainable levels in Blair, Cambria, and Somerset Counties through annual fundraising, grant procurement, state and federal funding, and continued foundation support. The implementation and scaling of these programs has led to the following results in Blair, Cambria, and Somerset Counties.


607
Families Served Annually


98%
Up-to-date Immunizations


100%
Referred to Annual Development Screening


100%
Referred Developmental Delays

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE



Lauren Lazzari

Meet the Early Childhood Systems Coordinator

The United Way of the Southern Alleghenies, in partnership with the 1889 Foundation, Community Foundation for the Alleghenies, Lee Initiatives, the Center for Population Health, and Vision Together 2025, is excited to introduce Lauren Lazzari as the Early Childhood Systems Coordinator for Cambria and Somerset counties.

The hire comes after an extensive planning process leveraging the insight of experts from numerous organizations serving the early childhood sector in the region.

In the role, Lazzari will oversee the organization and implementation of the early childhood strategic plan for Cambria and Somerset counties.

"I strongly believe our region is the best place to raise a family and my work entails making sure that child health, nutrition, education, safety, and economic stability are all being addressed to make this possible," Lazzari said.

Lazzari previously worked for Beginnings Inc., a long-time United Way Partner Agency implementing the crucial Parents As Teachers program.

PRESCHOOL & AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING

At the United Way, we continue fund high quality preschool and afterschool programming within our community. Investment in these programs helps children to develop socially and emotionally, and contributes to academic success. Through our Partner Agencies, children continue to receive the care they need to learn, grow, and thrive.

Preschool Programming - Partner Agencies & Impact

- **The Learning Lamp** — Early Childhood Behavioral Intervention & Support Program was funded at \$25,000 in 2023-24. This program incorporates the expertise of three Master's level Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants who provide both individual child and classroom observations, develop recommendations for improvements, and coach staff and parents through implementation.
- **Small Town Hope** — Funded in the amount of \$26,000 in 2023-24 to provide preschool programming to children in the northern areas of Cambria County, Small Town Hope continues to provide high-quality learning experiences to 20 students.

Afterschool Programming - Partner Agencies & Impact

- **Flood City Youth Academy** — Funded in the amount of \$20,000 in 2023-24 to provide an afterschool tutoring and mentoring program to, on average, 175 students each weekday. Each student also receives a meal.
- **Boys & Girls Club of Somerset County (BGC)** — Funded in the amount of \$7,000 in 2023-24 the Boys & Girls Club of Somerset County's "Power Hour" program has become a community asset for advancing student learning in grades K-5. Funding from the UWSA gives BGC the ability to secure volunteers to assist students with one-on-one tutoring.
- **Gloria Gates Foundation** — Funded in the amount of \$11,438 in 2023-24 to provide afterschool programs to youth in Blair County.
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters** — Funded in the amount of \$5,313 in 2023-24 for two programs, which provides youth mentoring in Blair County.
- **Leadership Blair County Youth** — This program received \$625 in funding in 2023-24 to implement a leadership program to youth in Blair County.

Diaper Bank, Toasty Toddler & Stuff the Bus

Diaper Bank

On average, about 1 in 2 families fall short by about 25 diapers each month, creating a barrier for parents to get their children into day care and preschool. This, in turn, creates a barrier to going to work. Our growing diaper bank network was developed to meet that emerging need. The network of distribution points throughout Cambria/Somerset Counties provides more than 8,000 diapers a month to families. In 2024-25, UWSA staff will explore expanding the Diaper Bank to Blair County.

Toasty Toddler (Blair County)

719 children ages birth to 5 received new winter wear.

Stuff the Bus (Blair County)

551 students in grades K-12 received new school supplies and backpacks.

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER OF BLAIR COUNTY/HEALTHY BLAIR COUNTY COALITION



Sponsoring the Family Resource Center of Blair County is one of the ways that United Way is making a positive impact on early childhood education.

The Family Resource Center is one of 42 state-funded Family Centers in Pennsylvania. Family Centers increase parent involvement and knowledge, a child's success in school, school readiness, and the health and welfare of families. Family Centers help to prevent child abuse and neglect and saves the Commonwealth money in terms of reduced crime, increased labor market benefits, and health care savings.

The Family Resource Center offers many cost-free programs including:

- Parents As Teachers, an evidence-based home visiting program for families with children prenatal to Kindergarten entry. The center is a Blue Ribbon Affiliate of the international Parents As Teachers, making it one of the top performing early education and home visiting affiliates within the network.
- Make Parenting A Pleasure, evidence-informed parenting classes for any parent in Blair County wishing to learn more about parenting.
- Families in Recovery, pilot parenting class program that works with families experiencing addiction and recovery.
- Community Outreach Programs, including Stuff the Bus, Toasty Toddler, and Week of the Young Child Celebration.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Family Resource Center has a variety of volunteer opportunities that allow community members to share their time and talents for the benefit of families in our community:

- Parents as Teachers — assist with the planning and implementation of group activities
- Parent Education Classes — help to provide expertise and classes that interest parents
- Stuff the Bus — donation, collection, and distribution of school supplies
- Toasty Toddler — donation, collection, and distribution of winter supplies
- Week of the Young Child Celebration — join the planning committee or set up an activity at the celebration

For more information about the center, contact Denise Adams, Family Resource Director, at 814-317-5567, Ext. 405.

Healthy Blair County Coalition

The Healthy Blair County Coalition is a partnership of local individuals and organizations under the guidance of United Way, working to promote the social, economic, emotional, and physical well-being of area residents.

Vision

A healthy Blair County community.

Mission

To assess facets of a healthy Blair County by sharing resources, engaging local partnerships, and implementing strategies and programs to make a positive impact on the lives of the people in our community.

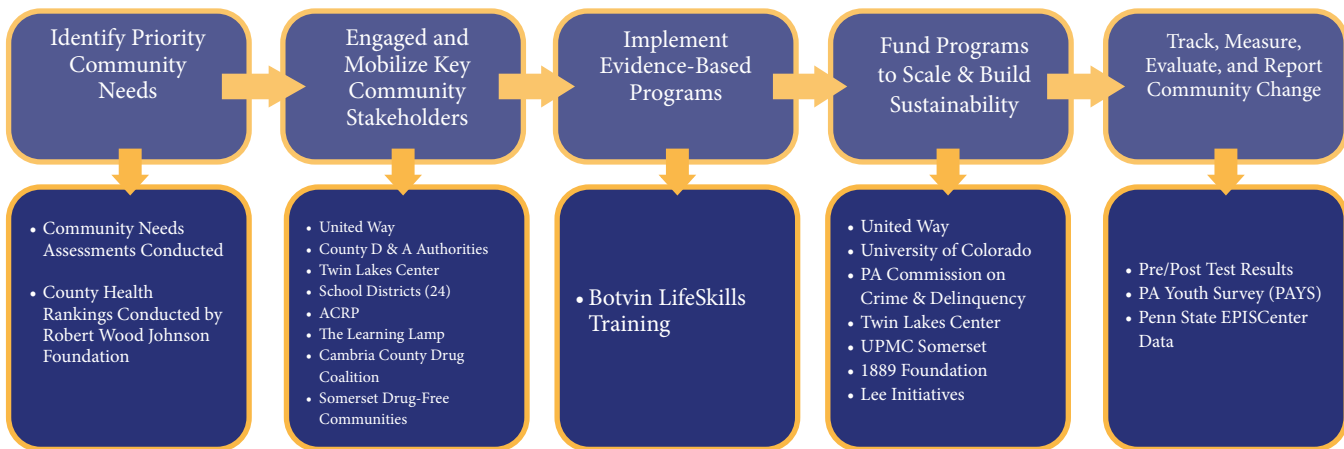


YOUTH DRUG & ALCOHOL PREVENTION INITIATIVE

The United Way of the Southern Alleghenies is committed to providing youth drug and alcohol prevention programming in all school districts in both Cambria and Somerset Counties. In 2011, the UWSA Board of Directors made the decision to fund the growth and expansion of the nation's top prevention program, Botvin LifeSkills Training, in four predetermined school districts across both Cambria and Somerset, reaching approximately 160 students.

During the last 12 years, the work of the UWSA, along with many key community stakeholders, including each county's Single County Authority, Twin Lakes Center, Cambria County Drug Coalition, Somerset Drug-Free Communities, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, University of Colorado, 30 school districts, and providers of Youth Drug & Alcohol Prevention programming, have made significant a impact within the region. Botvin is now being taught to 6,603 students each year.

Implementing the Enhanced Community Impact Model to Create Social Change



PA 211 Helpline

I AM 211

"So many people do not know there is often help out there when they are in a difficult situation, to be found right in their own communities."

PA 211
Resource Navigator



PA 211 is non-emergency helpline dedicated to connecting individuals who are in need of health and human services with local information and resources that can help them during their time of need. PA 211 is available to all residents in Blair, Cambria, and Somerset Counties free of charge, and is available 24/7, 365 days a year. Annually, PA 211 receives more than 1,700 total contacts from Blair, Cambria, and Somerset residents seeking help for health and human services related to:

- Utility Assistance
- Rent Assistance
- Medical Assistance
- Drug & Alcohol Support or Treatment
- Mortgage Assistance
- Employment Assistance
- Transportation Assistance
- Food Assistance



GLASS SLIPPER PROJECT



The Glass Slipper Project was open this year to teens from Blair, Cambria, and Somerset Counties. The program provided 187 teens with dresses and accessories worth \$56,100. This year, UWSA partnered with Night to Shine to provide 24 adults with intellectual disabilities with formal wear for their annual event, which is a prom-like experience.

Photos from Night to Shine



BASIC HUMAN NEEDS INITIATIVE

Supporting Basic Human Needs

Our United Way invests in basic human needs by funding the work and programs of our dedicated Partner Agencies. These programs commonly provide the vital resources and assistance that most individuals use to avoid crisis situations.

Through the work, these Partner Agencies enable the United Way to reach and impact the lives of more than 82,000 individuals each year. Programs within this initiative area span across the following seven platforms:



Hunger

The United Way of the Southern Alleghenies is the lead administrator of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Grant for Cambria County. During the course of the 2022-2023 grant funding cycle, \$221,903 was allocated to 20 local food pantries and meal centers via the PA Department of Agriculture grant, serving approximately 39,948 individuals requiring food assistance.



Homelessness

Addressing the issue of homelessness in Cambria and Somerset Counties has quickly become a priority area for our United Way. To address this growing need, we invest funding in two separate shelters within our region — \$15,000 to the Martha and Mary House, operated by Catholic Charities in Cambria, and \$10,000 to the Next Step Center in Somerset. Combined, these agencies serve more than 165 individuals annually.



Mental Health

Supporting Mental Health programs is important to sustaining the health and well-being of our community. In doing so, our United Way invested \$15,000 in funding to the Peer Empowerment Network, which annually sees more than 1,400 individuals within Cambria County.



Emergency Utility Assistance

We support the needs of many individuals through funding Emergency Utility Assistance programs in both Cambria and Somerset Counties. In Cambria, Catholic Charities receives \$14,000 annually to provide emergency financial assistance to individuals seeking vital support. In Somerset, \$3,500 is allocated to The Salvation Army — Somerset to provide heating assistance to families.



Medical Assistance

The work of Highlands Health is an important asset for providing much-needed healthcare in Cambria and Somerset Counties. In 2023-24, Highlands Health received \$32,500 to provide medical assistance to 914 individuals in our two-county region. Highlands Health administered 234 COVID-19 vaccines.



Direct Victims of Crime and Domestic Abuse

Addressing direct victims of crime and domestic abuse within our community is a focus at United Way. We are very grateful to have two Partner Agencies that continue to make a positive impact each year. Victim Services, Inc. received \$50,000 and Family Services, Inc., serving Blair County, received \$9,063. Both programs provide direct support to individuals escaping domestic violence or abuse.

SNAP AT THE MARKET

The United Way of the Southern Alleghenies, in coordination with other partners, made SNAP benefits usable at the Downtown Johnstown Farmer's Market for the first full season. The program was first piloted from August-October of 2022.

United Way worked with the United States Department of Agriculture to acquire the necessary technology and to become the qualified agency responsible for processing SNAP benefits. Community volunteers are trained to help work the market each Friday during the season.



FOOD RESOURCE GUIDE



INSIDE
Food banks, recipes, and
some good advice

United Way works with The Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, Center for Population Health, and other partners to market SNAP benefits and other programs regarding food insecurity. This year, the collaboration also produced a new Food Resource Guide.

Signing up for SNAP has never been easier

Are you running out of food, or worried if your groceries will last the week? Will you fall short of money to buy more food, if needed?

 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

If this is even **sometimes** true, you and your family may be eligible for SNAP

Scan the code to learn more about SNAP



1.88 million PA residents use SNAP

- 667,153 of them are children
- 353,149 are older adults
- 485,813 have disabilities



Do you know about **SNAP at the Market**? Redeem your benefits at the Downtown Johnstown Farmers market. Learn more by scanning the code above.

GRANT WRITING

Beginning in 2016, the United Way's Grant Writing Initiative was developed to support grant procurement for both United Way initiatives and community-based collaborations. During the last eight years, the initiative has helped to secure more than \$14.1 million in grant funding, which has largely benefited vital community-based efforts in both Cambria and Somerset Counties. The following table illustrates the progress that has been made throughout the course of the 2022-2023 grant writing cycle. *(Note: Does not reflect outstanding grant applications that may be awarded by the end of the fiscal year.)*

Grant Received	Grant Recipient	Annual Award Amount	County Supported	Duration
DDAP-GIFA-MARC Program (continuation grant)	MARC-Conemaugh	\$320,000	Bedford/Cambria/Somerset	1 year
Plans for Safe Care- Cambria County	MARC	\$40,000	Cambria	1 year
Plans for Safe Care - Somerset County	Somerset	\$30,000	Somerset	1 year
Plans for Safe Care - Bedford County	MARC	\$30,000	Bedford	1 year
PDE 21st Century Community Learning Center	Flood City Youth Academy	\$360,000	Cambria	1 year
PDE 21st Century Community Learning Center	Clalysburg/Kimmel school district	\$446,250	Blair	5 years
Jacob Fend Foundation	United Way SA	\$2,000	Cambria/Somerset	1 year
Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank SNAP Outreach Grant	United Way SA	\$8,000	Cambria/Somerset	1 year
Lee Initiatives for Health & Wellness	United Way SA Diaper Bank & Family Nutrition	\$28,000	Cambria/Somerset	1 year
NiSource	United Way SA Diaper Bank and Safety Net Fund	\$3,000	Cambria/Somerset	1 year
Lee Initiatives for Health & Wellness	Early Childhood Initiative	\$15,000	Cambria/Somerset	3 year
Community Foundation for the Alleghenies	Early Childhood Initiative	\$30,000	Cambria/Somerset	3 years
1889 Foundation	Early Childhood Initiative	\$50,000	Cambria/Somerset	3 years
Lee Initiatives Health & Wellness	United Way SA SNAP at the Market	\$1,000	Cambria	1 year
UPMC Foundation	Healthy Blair County Coalition	\$25,000	Blair	1 year
PNC Charitable Trust	United Way SA Diaper Bank	\$7,593	Cambria/Somerset	1 year

\$1,395,843

>\$14.1 M in funding secured for the community in the last eight years

REVENUE & EXPENSES 2022-23 FISCAL YEAR

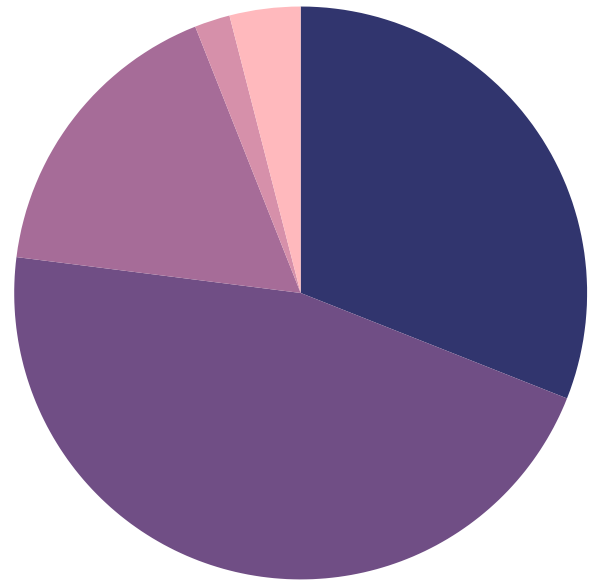
United Way adheres to best practices in non-profit management, applying consistent, effective, internal controls and strong governance to ensure accountability and transparency. Revenue and expense information reflects audited totals from the Fiscal Year - July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. **NOTE: These numbers are for Cambria/Somerset Counties pre-merger with United Way of Blair County.**

Top ratings for efficiency and transparency



Revenues:

- 46% Grant Revenue
- 31% Donor Contribution (Community Impact)
- 17% Investment & Other Incomes
- 4% Fundraising & Other Revenue
- 2% Donor Designated Contributions
- <1% In-Kind Support & Bequests



\$1,378,096

Expenses:

- 22% Grants
- 17% Food Pantries
- 15% Supporting Vulnerable & Aging Population & Promoting Health & Wellness
- 14% Helping Children & Youth Succeed
- 14% Fundraising Campaign
- 6% Management and General
- 4% Strengthening & Supporting Families & Promoting Self-Sufficiency
- 4% Community Impact
- 4% Community Outreach Services



\$1,548,801

Emergency Food and Shelter Program 2023-24

Comprised of local organizations as mandated by Congress, the United Way of the Southern Alleghenies Food and Shelter Committee distributes funds from the Emergency Food and Shelter/FEMA grants and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The United Way is proud to be the administrator of this grant for Cambria County. The blue column at right notes Phase 40 Emergency Food Funding.

Agency	2023-2024 Funding
Victim Services	\$6,543
Food for Families Food Bank	\$4,580
Catholic Charities	\$39,029
Women's Help Center	\$3,500
Community Action Partnership	\$9,814
Windber Area Community Kitchen	\$654
Total	\$64,120

PA Department of Agriculture Grant Funding Distribution

Food Pantries	2022-2023 Funding
St. Bernard Food Pantry	\$21,173
Cresson Food Pantry	\$5,891
Dorothy Day Center	\$8,225
Ebensburg SVDP Food Pantry	\$12,545
Forest Hills Emergency Food Pantry	\$6,155
Franklin Street United Methodist Church Pantry	\$14,391
Good Samaritan Food Pantry	\$9,175
Gr. Johnstown Christian Fellowship Pantry	\$8,152
Interfaith Food Pantry	\$26,700
Moxham Food Pantry	\$15,239
Patton Food Pantry	\$22,891
Portage Area Food Pantry	\$12,468
South Fork Food Pantry	\$9,923
St. Andrew's Food Pantry	\$4,037
St. Clement's Food Pantry	\$7,122
Walnut Grove Emergency Food Bank	\$5,655
West End Food Pantry	\$11,648
Served Meals	
Family Kitchen	\$17,493
Salvation Army	\$3,020
Total	\$221,903

2024-2025 COMMUNITY IMPACT INVESTMENTS

Community Impact Investments

Community Impact Investments are the funds that each agency receives based upon the work of the Community Impact Committee. Allocation amounts are determined based upon agency site visits conducted in March, followed by volunteer evaluations of the programs in April. The table below illustrates how funding raised through the prior campaign, as well as grant procurement, makes an impact in Blair, Cambria, and Somerset Counties.

Program Investment	Program Delivered by	Investment
Parents as Teachers	Beginnings, Inc.	\$180,000
Community Outreach Services	UWSA	\$121,680
Community Impact Initiatives	UWSA	\$83,226
Grant Writing Initiative	UWSA	\$63,600
Direct Services to Victims of Violent Crimes	Victim Services	\$50,000
Youth Drug & Alcohol Prevention	Cambria County Drug Coalition	\$40,000
Parents As Teachers	Family Center	\$34,000
Emergency Food & Shelter	UWSA	\$32,863
Free Medical Clinic	Highlands Health	\$32,500
Youth Drug & Alcohol Prevention	Twin Lakes Center	\$30,000
Early Childhood Behavioral Intervention & Support	The Learning Lamp	\$30,000
Preschool Programming	Small Town Hope	\$26,000
Homeless Prevention Program	The Help Center	\$25,000
Emergency Financial Assistance	Catholic Charities	\$23,375
Toasty Toddler/Stuff the Bus	UWSA/Family Resource Center	\$20,428
Afterschool Programming	Flood City Youth Academy	\$20,000
PA 2-1-1	UWSA - 211 Southwest PA	\$15,225
Early Childhood Initiative	UWSA	\$15,000
Teen Shelter - Blair	Family Services	\$15,000
Family Shelter - Blair	Family Services	\$15,000
Drop-In Center	Peer Empowerment Network	\$15,000
Nurse Family Partnership	Home Nursing Agency	\$14,000
Afterschool Program	Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation	\$11,500
Preschool Scholarships	The Learning Lamp	\$10,000
Girl Scouts Leadership Experience	Girl Scouts	\$10,000
Homeless Shelter - Somerset	Next Step Center	\$10,000
Disaster Cycle Services	American Red Cross	\$10,000
Safe Places	Johnstown YMCA	\$10,000
Family Services	Victim Services - Blair	\$9,063
Heroic Journey	YMCA - Blair	\$8,000
Children's Vision Screening Program	Somerset County Blind Association	\$7,500
Power Hour	Boys & Girls Clubs	\$7,000
Mountain Lion Backpack Program	Blair Community Action Partnership	\$6,563
Sustainable Produce Program	Somerset County Mobile Food Bank	\$5,000
Grief Program	Victim Services	\$5,000

2024-2025 COMMUNITY IMPACT INVESTMENTS

Community Impact Investments continued

Community Impact Investments are the funds that each agency receives based upon the work of the Community Impact Committee. Allocation amounts are determined based upon agency site visits conducted in March, followed by volunteer evaluations of the programs in April. The table below illustrates how funding raised through the prior campaign, as well as grant procurement, makes an impact in Blair, Cambria, and Somerset Counties.

Dental Care	UPMC Partnership Health	\$3,500
Heating Assistance	Salvation Army Somerset Service Center	\$3,500
* Diaper Bank	UWSA	\$3,430
*Glass Slipper Project	UWSA	\$3,170
Reassurance Program	Contact Altoona	\$3,125
Community Based Mentoring	Big Brothers Big Sisters	\$3,000
* SNAP at the Market	UWSA	\$2,754
Site-Based Mentoring	Big Brothers Big Sisters	\$2,500
Housing Counseling	Blair Community Action Partnership	\$2,500
Children's Glasses	Somerset County Blind Association	\$2,000
Scarlet Dragon Backpacks	Central PA Community Foundation	\$1,250
Foundation Scholarship	Blair County Chamber	\$1,000
Healing Patch	Home Nursing Agency	\$1,000
PARTNER AGENCY ALLOCATIONS	→	\$1,044,252
GRANT WRITING COMMUNITY INVESTMENT	→	\$1,395,843
TOTAL COMMUNITY INVESTMENT	→	\$2,440,095

** Doesn't include grants and in-kind donations that helped to make these programs possible.*



WOMEN UNITED & POWER OF THE PURSE



The Women United® of the United Way of the Southern Alleghenies supports the core initiative areas of Early Childhood Development and Parental Engagement. Our core mission is to help educate, engage, and empower families to excel. Our women's affinity group promotes community leadership, interaction, communication, and provides fundraising support for the programs and services aligned with our initiative goals.

What does it mean to be a member of WOMEN UNITED®?

WOMEN UNITED® is a global network of more than 70,000 women in 165 communities across the U.S. and six countries, all dedicated to improving lives and creating stronger communities. Since its inception in 2002, WOMEN UNITED® has raised more than \$1.5 billion to drive real and lasting change. The contributions of these women leaders go well beyond financial donations: they get involved, shake things up, and make a measurable difference in their own backyard and around the world.

We invite you to be part of the solution. Learn more about how you can become involved and connect with interesting, dynamic women who are making a difference. For more information, please contact Karen Struble Myers by email at Karen@unitedwaysa.org, or by phone at 814-535-2563.



More than \$58,000 raised at Power of the Purse (a record)

Women United of the Southern Alleghenies hosted the annual fundraiser at 1st Summit Arena for the second consecutive year in 2023. United Way's top fundraising event has grown significantly, raising more than **\$170,000** in support of the United Way's top two core initiative areas, Parents as Teachers and Nurse-Family Partnership, since 2017.

There were more than 700 women in attendance the last two years, raising a record amount of money, and more than 20,000 diapers for the UWSA's growing diaper bank. This year, funding will also support Toasty Toddler in Blair County, run by United Way's Family Resource Center.

The next Power of the Purse is scheduled for Sept. 5, 2024, at the 1st Summit Arena @ Cambria County War Memorial.

ENDOWMENT & PLANNED GIVING

The United Way of the Southern Alleghenies' Endowment and Planned Giving fund is a vessel for individuals determined to making lasting impact on the communities of Blair, Cambria and Somerset Counties. The fund has been built on a variety of gifts from long-time supporters of the United Way.

\$761,166



**United Way of the
Southern Alleghenies**
Endowment & Planned Giving

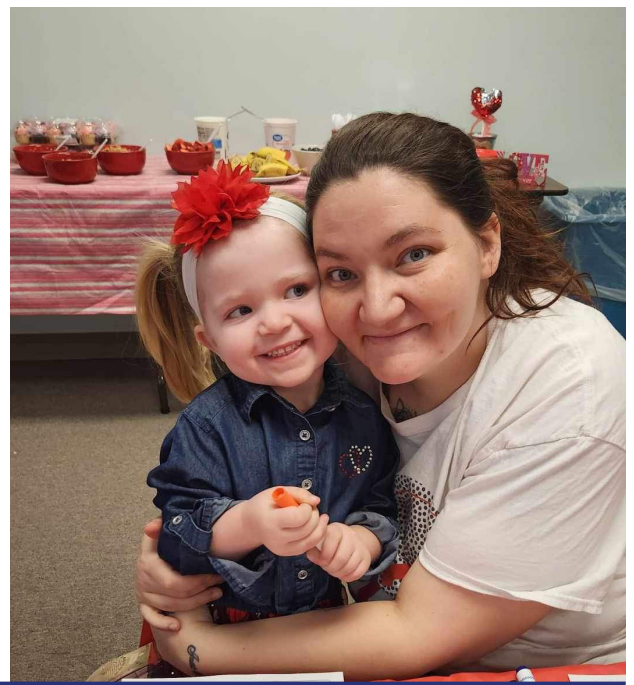
1889 Foundation Investment

The United Way of the Southern Alleghenies is especially appreciative for a strong partnership with the 1889 Foundation. In 2022, the 1889 Foundation provided \$500,000 to advance UWSA's social change initiatives in Cambria and Somerset Counties. These funds were invested across Partner Agency programs to scale innovative approaches to solving some of the most challenging problems.

1889
FOUNDATION

Together, we collaborate to improve community health, enhance food security, advance early learning initiatives, and create sustainable strategies for the well-being of our region.

As a regional leader, the 1889 Foundation's spirit of giving helped UWSA improve the well-being of more than 58,000 residents this past year.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sue Griep

Victim/Witness Director - Blair County District Attorney's Office

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Judith J. Kimberlin

Community Advocate

Natalie Kurchak

Community Advocate

Sue Mann

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Shari Rutch, J.D.

Enrollment Management Director - Penn State Altoona

Andy Rush

President - UPMC Somerset Hospital

Tracy Selak

Administrator - Cambria County Behavioral Health/Intellectual Disabilities/Early Intervention Program

Sherri Stayer

Operations Manager/Business Development Specialist - PS Solutions

Pam Tokar-Ickes, Past Chair

Commissioner - Somerset County

Dr. Toni White

Director - Day Reporting Center for Cambria County Adult Probation

Jeff Wood

Community Advocate

Dr. Jerry Zahorchak, Board Chair

Community Advocate



A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

United Way of the Laurel Highlands and United Way of Blair County are Better Together. As we enter a new chapter in our shared legacy, as United Way of the Southern Alleghenies, we bring with us a rich history of service.

Our founders came together with two fundamental beliefs: first, that the future can be better than the present; and second, that each of us has a personal responsibility to make it so. When the Greater Johnstown Community Chest started in 1930, its mission included the words, “strengthening the spirit of human helpfulness.”

We cannot think of any better descriptor of the change you empower. You help by uplifting, enriching, and advancing the health, well-being, education, and economic stability of community members across Blair, Cambria, and Somerset Counties.

The science of generosity tells us that an act of kindness is one of the quickest and easiest ways to feel happier. But your open-handedness also brightens the lives of more than 83,000 people, many of whom you’ve never met. When we flex our giving muscles, the process begins to transform lives, including our own. No matter how much or little is given we are tapping into our sense of abundance and compassion. That’s the beauty of Living United. When we lift one, we lift all; it is a ripple effect. Just as a pebble creates waves when it’s dropped in a pond, acts of kindness ripple outward, touching lives and strengthening the spirit of human helpfulness everywhere the wave goes. As we navigate the complexities of the modern age, let us remember that kindness is not a luxury but a necessity — a guiding principle that has the power to heal, unite, and transform our community for the better. We appreciate your contributions to enrich these efforts and look forward to building on our progress together. Hope happens here.

In gratitude,

Karen Struble Myers
President & CEO

Jerry Zahorchak
Board President



**Karen Struble
Myers**



**Jerry
Zahorchak**

Staff & Office Information

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Healthy Blair County Coalition

Billie Kochara
Director