

United Way



United Way of Rhode Island

COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

2020-2021



OUR VISION

A Rhode Island where every individual in each community has equal opportunity for justice and prosperity.

OUR MISSION

Uniting our community and resources to build racial equity and opportunities for all Rhode Islanders.

HOW WE WORK.

Two principles guide the work of United Way of Rhode Island: Always starting with Community First, and always keeping equity at the center of *everything* we do.

Community First

Our Community First mindset is not just a slogan.

It's the way our 211 community resource specialists answered more than 250,000 calls in the middle of a global pandemic, at an average of 16 minutes a call. They were there when our neighbors needed their help even as they cared for their own families and communities.

It's the way our Summer Learning Initiative provides so much more than just funding for innovative summer programs. We create a community of support for our providers that allows great ideas to flow. We also create a lot of smiling children!

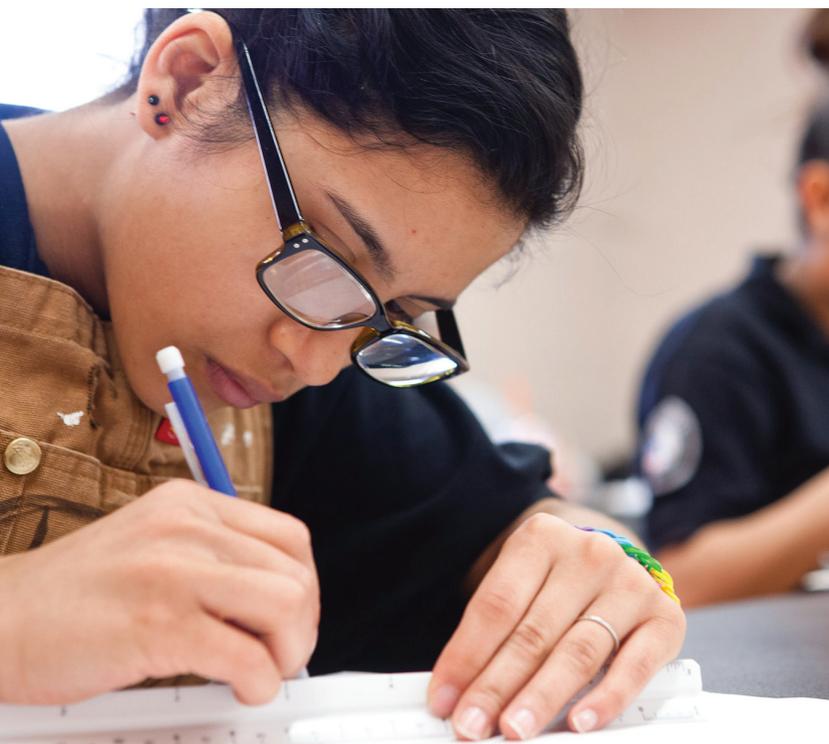
It's the way our Impact Network of donors unite their resources to deliver strategic grants and support to community partners that are innovating daily to meet our state's needs.

It's the way that our policy and equity team build coalitions of support to secure major wins for housing, education, workforce development, and economic opportunity.

United, we are doing more than any of us can do alone when we put community first.

Cover: A Newport student shows off a live crab during a Summer Learning Initiative activity with Newport Boys and Girls Club and Save The Bay. Photo courtesy of Boys & Girls Clubs of Newport County.

Below: A student at YouthBuild Preparatory Academy, one of our Community Impact Fund grantee partners, puts pencil to paper.



Equity at the Center

United Way of Rhode Island centers equity in everything we do. Every decision made, every resource allocated is intended to address the issues of racial equity and justice. We are committed to lifting our community out of poverty, helping students reach their highest potential, investing in Rhode Island's nonprofit sector, and advocating for research-based policies that help all Rhode Islanders.

While we serve all Rhode Islanders in need, we work to target the root causes of intergenerational poverty among people of color. Disaggregated data helps us to uncover how systemic racism works to perpetuate racial disparities in our community. Until we can make sure our neighbors have equal opportunities for prosperity and justice, Rhode Island will not reach its full potential.

During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, nearly 500 institutions, coalitions, and individuals pledged to support United Way's LIVE UNITED 2025; a strategic plan built through an equity framework. We will continue to partner with our stakeholders to build a more equitable Rhode Island.

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211: ON THE LINE.

"It's been very, very difficult at times," shares Evelyn Cabrera, a senior community resource specialist and team leader for 211. "But I couldn't be more proud of our work and the ways we've been there to help our fellow Rhode Islanders throughout this crisis."

When the COVID-19 pandemic forced resource specialists to work remotely from their homes, the service that our state and its residents can turn to for help 24/7, 365 didn't miss a beat.

"We are the place where Rhode Islanders can get their trusted information," says Courtney Smith, the director of 211, "and we're going through the same pandemic with you."

Looking back at the last non-pandemic year, 211 specialists – who handled 170,860 calls that year – took an average of 470 calls daily. Those calls typically lasted just over 3 minutes each.

In 2020, calls rocketed to 700 each day (peaking at 890), totaling some 255,164 for the year. And they lasted much, much longer... averaging 16 minutes. The increase in volume led United Way to expand 211 staff, bringing in specially-trained, temporary specialists thanks in large part to Rhode Islanders' generous support of our Community Impact Fund.

And while the numbers were rising, resource specialists were navigating through call to call, and as caregivers and parents themselves.

For Evelyn, and her husband, that meant being there for their oldest daughter as she acclimated to distance learning and transitioning to high school rolled into one. Or caring for the needs of their youngest girl, now 4, who, like countless other local toddlers, suddenly found themselves unable to be in the early childhood environments we know are so important.

One minute, a 211 specialist could go from helping their child with a virtual school assignment to picking up the phone and talking to someone considering suicide, and getting them the help they need. Or being there to hear how a family is about to lose their home and connecting them with the support they need to stay housed. And comfort a caller lacking food after enrolling them in an emergency benefits program and providing a referral to a nearby pantry.

Then, multiply these calls by the tens of thousands, weaving in the need for specialists to learn and incorporate new pandemic-related programs on the fly.

There was the Quarantine and Isolation Resource Center (QIRC) in partnership with Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH), which supported individuals and families who were quarantined with food boxes and other necessities. With the Rhode Island Department of Human Services, we helped families with children participate in the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) program. And together with United Way's POINT, a program of the state's Office of Healthy Aging, we offered Project Hello, placing calls to isolated, homebound seniors to check on them and get them essentials.

"As our world was turned upside down during this pandemic, our compassionate, skilled resource specialists stayed on the line helping hundreds of Rhode Islanders every single day," says Cortney Nicolato, president and CEO. "And as we emerge from the pandemic, their steady presence is there for our neighbors who are on the line between crisis and wellness."

"Sometimes you just need to let people vent; they're upset – I know I'd be upset, too," adds Evelyn. "When you're in crisis, it can create desperation. But no matter what, we are here to help and that's what we do. This is more than a job – this is making a difference. We're all in this together and need to be there for one another."

At United Way, we take great pride in the fact that 211 is always there for our Rhode Island neighbors. And while we're moving closer toward the light at the end of the pandemic tunnel, there's little question that 211 will be needed more than ever as tens of thousands recover from the aftermath of a global crisis.

But as they've done more than 1.5 million times since 2007, 211 community resource specialists will be there – on the line – ready to help.

"We are the place where Rhode Islanders can get their trusted information," says Courtney Smith, the director of 211, "and we're going through the same pandemic with you."



Last year, 211 answered

255,164 calls

with an average of

16 minutes per call

connecting Rhode Islanders with food, housing, health services, and more.



SUMMER LEARNING COMMUNITIES

A year after COVID-19 turned summer learning programs upside down, youth in five communities reveled in a full return to engaging, in-person activities this summer – with recommended safety guidelines in place and the support of dozens of partners.

These programs were part of United Way of Rhode Island’s Summer Learning Initiative (SLI), which provides high-quality, high-impact opportunities for students to explore new topics and ideas all summer. The SLI is funded by the donations of thousands of Rhode Islanders to the Community Impact Fund with additional support from Hasbro and Women United. This summer marked the second year of a three-year grant cycle, with programs to receive a third round of funding in summer 2022.

“It was awesome to see these kids make up for lost time being around their peers and get excited about the different projects they took on,” said Kevin Lamoureux, one of the educational coordinators for the program run out of Hamlet Middle School.

Throughout the state, students who ranged from rising first-graders to high school juniors spent six weeks sharpening their social-emotional skills, tackling service projects to address community needs, and preparing their minds for a return to the classroom.

“What we need to do next is ensure every single Rhode Island student who wants to participate has that access,” shares Marlene Guay, program officer for child development and education initiatives.

It was exactly what kids needed after 14+ months of academic uncertainty and distance learning. In the face of the trauma of a global pandemic, friends reconnected with friends and kids were able to be kids – with academics seamlessly embedded into their daily activities.

In Cranston, elementary-age students couldn’t wait to see what surprises their program partners had in store, like Roger Williams Park Zoo, Ocean State Kidz Club, and Global Science Envirotech to name a few. Science lessons in the form of weekly trips to Stillhouse Cove were highly anticipated, with kids learning about water pollution and wildlife protection. They’d regularly test the water for its pH and oxygen levels, explore for bugs and crabs, and play “Bird Bingo.” And on the program’s final day, students hosted a Science Showcase to highlight their efforts.



Nearby, at Park View Middle School, high school students spent time this summer building remote-operated vehicles using 3-D printed materials and testing circuit experiments.

“You’ve got to be really precise with what you do,” said Andy Wu, an incoming sophomore at Cranston East High School, when he spoke to the Cranston Herald during the paper’s visit to the program in August.

STEM-focused lessons and projects weren’t the only hits among this summer’s participants. In fact, a major component of the SLI – service-learning projects driven by youth choice – stole the show in each community (Central Falls, Cranston, Newport, Westerly, and Woonsocket) where it had a presence.

There were students who made pet toys to donate to their local animal shelter, and kids who volunteered to paint the picnic tables at their school in hopes it would encourage people to use them more. Others, like a group in Westerly, helped expand a community garden. And in Newport, a kid-run lemonade stand doubled as a fundraiser for a local nonprofit that brings birthday parties to hospitalized children.

Afterschool and summer learning programs are critical to youth development. Yet, nearly 59,000 Rhode Island children don’t have access to these programs, according to the America After 3PM 2020 report. Through the SLI and other initiatives, United Way is working to increase access to afterschool and summer learning programs in low-income communities.

“The model of this program, which is built around funding a lead partner who engages other community organizations and benefits from extensive support from United Way, has proven successful on so many levels,” said Marlene Guay, our program officer for child development and education initiatives. *“What we need to do next is ensure every single Rhode Island student who wants to participate has that access.”*

COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND DISTRIBUTION 2020-2021

The Community Impact Fund helps Rhode Islanders gain the skills they need to achieve financial stability, move from chronic homelessness to stable and affordable housing, receive high-quality educational experiences, and, in the event of a crisis, get connected to essential services through United Way's 211 helpline.

Total Funding July 2020 – June 2021: \$6,872,974

Workforce Development, Economic Mobility & Basic Needs	\$1,260,790
Beautiful Day	\$ 50,000 •
Center for Health and Justice Transformation at The Miriam Hospital	\$ 50,000 •
Center For Southeast Asians	\$ 75,000 ••
College Unbound	\$ 70,000 ••
COYOTE RI	\$ 50,000 •
Economic Progress Institute	\$ 75,000 ••
Federal Hill House	\$ 50,000 ••
Fuerza Laboral	\$ 75,000 •
Genesis Center	\$ 70,950 •
Higher Ground International	\$ 75,000 •
Latino Policy Institute	\$ 50,000 •
Local Initiatives Support Corporation	\$ 75,000 •
Lucy's Hearth	\$ 75,000 •
Man Up, Inc.	\$ 50,000 •
Mental Health Assoc. of Rhode Island	\$ 33,500 •
Nonviolence Institute	\$ 50,000 •
One Neighborhood Builders	\$ 75,000 •
Progreso Latino, Inc.	\$ 50,000 •
Refugee Dream Center	\$ 50,000 •
Rhode Island Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	\$ 50,000 •
SISTA Fire/Project South	\$ 50,000 •
West Bay Collaborative	\$ 11,340 •

Housing	\$1,191,467
Childhood Lead Action Project	\$ 75,000 ••
DARE (Direct Action for Rights and Equality)	\$ 75,000 •
Foster Forward	\$ 75,000 •
House of Hope CDC	\$ 75,000 •
Housing Network of Rhode Island	\$ 75,000 ••
HousingWorks RI at RWU	\$ 75,000 •
NeighborWorks Blackstone River Valley	\$ 75,000 •
OpenDoors	\$ 75,000 ••
Pawtucket Central Falls Development Corporation	\$ 50,000 ••
Providence Revolving Fund	\$ 50,000 •
Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence	\$ 75,000 •
Rhode Island Coalition for the Homeless	\$ 75,000 ••
Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc.	\$ 75,000 •
RI Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty	\$ 50,000 •
Sojourner House	\$ 75,000 •
The R.I. Center for Justice	\$ 75,000 •
West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation	\$ 66,467 ••

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)	\$ 227,000
Community Care Alliance (Lead for CAP Associations)	\$ 90,000 •
Connecting for Child and Family	\$ 13,000 •
Federal Hill House (Lead for PVD Coalition)	\$ 99,000 •
Johnny Cake Center of Peace Dale	\$ 10,000 •
Progreso Latino	\$ 10,000 •
Westerly Area Rest Meals (WARM) Center	\$ 5,000 •

Early Childhood & Youth Development	\$2,271,493
A Leadership Journey	\$ 75,000 •
AS220	\$ 75,000 •

Books Are Wings	\$ 75,000 •
Boys & Girls Clubs of Northern Rhode Island	\$ 50,000 •
Camp RYSE*	\$ 75,000 •
Children and Youth Cabinet of RI at TSNE MissionWorks	\$ 74,981 •
DownCity Design	\$ 50,000 •
FabNewport/PVD Young Makers	\$ 75,000 •
Festival Ballet Providence	\$ 75,000 •
Friends Way, Inc.	\$ 75,000 •
Fund for UCAP on behalf of The UCAP School	\$ 50,000 •
Generation Citizen	\$ 75,000 •
Global Science Envirotech, Inc.	\$ 75,000 •••
Grow Smart RI	\$ 75,000 •
Highlander Charter School	\$ 43,418 •
Meeting Street*	\$ 75,000 •
Mount Hope Learning Center*	\$ 50,000 •
Movement Education Outdoors	\$ 75,000 ••
New Urban Arts	\$ 50,000 •
Oasis International	\$ 60,000 ••
OCYL: The Mayor's Office of Children, Youth and Learning	\$ 21,670 •
Parents Leading for Educational Equity (PLEE)	\$ 50,000 •
Providence ¡CityArts! for Youth	\$ 50,000 •
Providence After School Alliance, Inc.	\$ 75,000 •
Rhode Island Black Storytellers	\$ 50,000 •
Rhode Island Parent Information Network	\$ 75,000 •
Rhode Island Urban Debate League	\$ 50,000 •
Riverzedge Arts	\$ 74,977 •
Roger Williams Park Zoo	\$ 51,046 •
Southside Community Land Trust	\$ 50,000 •••
The Learning Community	\$ 75,000 •
The Manton Avenue Project	\$ 50,000 ••
Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council	\$ 75,000 •
Young Voices	\$ 45,400 ••
Youth In Action	\$ 75,000 •••
YouthBuild Preparatory Academy	\$ 75,000 •

*Made possible by the Women United Fund grantee.

Summer Learning Communities	\$ 518,177
Central Falls–Central Falls School District	\$ 102,265 •
Cranston–Cranston YMCA	\$ 96,023 •
Newport–Newport Partnership for Families	\$ 107,870 •
Westerly–Southern Rhode Island Conservation District	\$ 70,000 •
Woonsocket–Connecting for Children & Families	\$ 142,019 •

Opportunity Grants	\$1,229,018
African Alliance	\$ 25,000 •
Amos House	\$ 25,000 •
Back to School	\$ 6,500 ••
Beat The Streets	\$ 25,000 •
Brown University School of Public Health	\$ 96,178 •••
City of Central Falls	\$ 20,000 •
City of Providence (Amos House Fiscal Sponsor)	\$ 125,000 •
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center	\$ 10,000 •
Elijah Project	\$ 40,000 •
Elisha Project	\$ 10,000 •
FHH Summer	\$ 25,000 •

Habitat for Humanity – South County	\$ 10,000 ••
Higher Ground International.....	\$ 20,000 •
Latino Public Radio	\$ 25,000 •
Lights & Sirens International.....	\$ 25,000 •
Mount Hope Neighborhood Association	\$ 5,000 •
Mount Hope Neighborhood Association	\$ 10,000 •
Mystic Aquarium	\$ 100,000 •
NAACP	\$ 25,000 •
Native Indian Council.....	\$ 25,000 ••
Parent Support Network	\$ 25,000 •
Prince Hall Masonic Lodge	\$ 25,000 •
Providence Youth Student Movement	\$ 10,000 •
Rhode Island Kids Count.....	\$ 75,000 •
RI Community Food Bank.....	\$ 10,000 •
RI Free Clinic.....	\$ 25,000 ••
RIBBA	\$ 25,000 •
RIDE–Student Survey.....	\$ 22,500 •
Social Enterprise Greenhouse (SEG) Extension Year 2	\$ 327,840 *

Society of St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 10,000 •
The College Crusade of Rhode Island	\$ 5,000 •
The Wilbury Theatre Group.....	\$ 6,000 ••
Youth Pride.....	\$ 10,000 ••

Olneyville Fund	\$ 175,029
Amenity Aid	\$ 9,442 •
Button Hole.....	\$ 6,250 •
Children’s Friend and Service	\$ 7,100 •
Clinica Esperanza/Hope Clinic	\$ 20,000 •
Farm Fresh Rhode Island	\$ 20,000 •
FirstWorks	\$ 10,000 •
Inspiring Minds	\$ 20,000 •
Project Weber/RENEW	\$ 20,000 •
Providence Community Library.....	\$ 20,000 ••
Reach Out and Read Rhode Island	\$ 9,375 •
RIOT RI // Girls Rock! RI	\$ 12,862 •
YWCA RHODE ISLAND	\$ 20,000 ••

*This grant supports the second year of the Nonprofit Innovation Lab in partnership with Social Enterprise Greenhouse.

- **Lift United:** Through our Lift United pillar, we’re investing in affordable housing, improving care coordination, and expanding access to adult education and job training. We’re also supporting the growth and stability of women- and minority-owned businesses.
- **Achieve United:** Through our Achieve United pillar, we’re working to ensure that all Rhode Island children walk into the classroom with the tools to learn. This includes increasing literacy levels and expanding access to afterschool and summer learning programs.

- **Invest United:** Through our Invest United pillar, we’re building nonprofit resiliency and leadership development. We’re also empowering donors, engaging corporations, and connecting Rhode Islanders with volunteer opportunities.
- **Advocate United:** Through our Advocate United pillar, we’re driving systemic change through public policy and research. And, because democracy isn’t a spectator sport, we’re training Rhode Islanders to be advocates and working to increase voter turnout.

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



Photo courtesy of Beautiful Day.

United Way of Rhode Island has partnered with Beautiful Day to ensure our neighbors have the support needed to secure livable wage jobs. Beautiful Day is a social enterprise, community-based organization that produces granola and coffee as a means of providing paid, transitional employment to refugees settled in Rhode Island.

Beautiful Day trainees receive support in building English language proficiency and transferrable skills, while receiving wraparound support in addressing emotional issues related to trauma and family hardships. As a result, over 70 percent of our neighbors receive permanent work after graduating from Beautiful Day’s workforce training.

Through United Way’s Community Impact Fund, Beautiful Day has received funding and support to build capacity and deliver their workforce development program. In the future, Beautiful Day hopes to develop an incubator space to encourage entrepreneurship. Beautiful Day is a trailblazer in building economic security for refugees who have the greatest need in Rhode Island.

ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS

Equity, particularly racial equity, must be at the forefront of decisions at the municipal, state, and federal policy-making level. Additionally, the most critical areas of need in Rhode Island, such as housing and education, which have seen dramatic reductions in investments over the years rather than improvements in line with demand, must be prioritized immediately.

United Way of Rhode Island has long been the leader, convener, and early funder of organizations that are bringing innovative ideas to our state. We are shining a bright light on those issues that require attention, and building a coalition of support towards justice. Additionally, we are proud to support community and neighborhood mobilizing organizations that are focused on breaking down the barriers to racial equity.

Along with our partners, United Way of Rhode Island secured important victories in fiscal year 2021. Here are just a few of the examples of what we were able to achieve by being *United*:

- **Passing the 'Yes on 3' campaign**, which secured \$65 million for affordable housing. This bond will provide desperately needed funding for the development of affordable housing in communities across Rhode Island.
- **Ending source of income discrimination in the rental market.** For far too long, renters in search of a place to live would face discrimination if they were using housing assistance, like a Section 8 voucher, to pay their rent. This discrimination, which disproportionately impacted Black and brown communities, is now illegal.
- **As part of the Rhode Island Complete Count Committee, we made sure that everyone who lives in our state was counted in the 2020 Census.** Because of the efforts of this diverse coalition of organizations, Rhode Island showed steady population growth that allows us to maintain much-needed levels of federal funding.
- **Securing a dedicated funding stream for housing in the State budget.** The housing crisis is not new, and it's not going to disappear overnight. For the first time ever, the state budget now has a dedicated funding source for housing investments. This funding stream will provide predictability and opportunity as communities look to increase their housing investments.
- **In a boost to workers in the state, Rhode Island is now on its way to \$15 minimum wage** and the state has its first pay equity bill to ensure that everyone is paid what they deserve regardless of their gender.



Homes RI is United Way's inaugural Community United Award recipient.

Established in 2017, Homes RI is a coalition of organizations working together to increase and preserve the supply of safe, healthy, and affordable housing throughout

Rhode Island. The coalition has been a driving force – and leading voice – addressing Rhode Island's housing crisis. Among Homes RI's most notable recent impacts are its unified advocacy in support of the \$65 million Housing and Community Opportunity bond that passed by a wide margin this past March, work on the eviction moratorium and varied housing assistance programs throughout the pandemic, and its role in the published report calling on state leaders to invest \$500 million of federal dollars on housing.



Linda Katz, the policy director and co-founder of the Economic Progress Institute, is the John H. Chafee LIVE UNITED Award recipient.

United Way recognizes her years of dedication and action to create change and transform lives. For decades, Linda has been among Rhode Island's most influential and revered advocates, taking the lead on legislative and policy analysis for issues and public benefits programs, including child care, employment and training, health care, and welfare. Among her contributions, Linda was instrumental in moving forward Rhode Island's minimum wage from \$10.10 per hour to \$15 per hour and increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit. Recently, she led and organized a two-year campaign to raise the benefits and improve the economic wellbeing of families enrolled in the RI Works program, including allowing 18-year-old dependent children to continue eligibility for RI Works as long as they're in high school or getting a GED.

WHAT'S AHEAD

2022 promises to be an exciting year for United Way of Rhode Island. Here are a few of the initiatives we're launching and expanding in the next 12 months.



211 2.0

We've partnered with Unite Us to develop a stronger care coordination system for social service requests in Rhode Island. This technology will enable our community resource specialists to provide more comprehensive support to 211 callers, as well as more streamlined access to the resources they need.



Nonprofit Management Center

In collaboration with the broader nonprofit community, we're working to create a nonprofit management center to build resiliency and leadership development opportunities in the sector. Through a process of co-creation we have been working with nonprofit leaders to understand their needs and hope to launch the center in spring 2022.



Advocacy 101/201

Through our Advocacy 101/201 training series, we're empowering Rhode Islanders to advocate for the platforms they're most passionate about. Our goals are to triple the number of trained advocates and expand the training series to be delivered in every city and town in Rhode Island.



2022 Legislative Session

We'll continue to fight for investments in the most critical areas of need in Rhode Island, including housing and education. We'll also continue to advocate for policies focused on equity, including ones that help our neighbors get back on their feet during and after incarceration.



Equity Challenge 2022

We're launching our second Equity Challenge in winter 2022. Participants will receive a daily email with resources to read, watch, listen to, or write about for 15 minutes. Sign up for our e-news at unitedwayri.org to be the first to know when the Challenge goes live.



401Gives

401Gives is coming back on April 1, 2022. We launched this 24-hour online fundraising event in 2020 to support local nonprofits delivering vital services to our communities. Our 2022 goal is \$4 million for 500 Rhode Island nonprofits. Visit 401gives.org to join the biggest giving day in Rhode Island history.



Data Driven Decision Making

In 2022 we will be launching a data dashboard that highlights the challenges, and opportunities, facing our state. We build our work on disaggregated data, which can often uncover the subtle but substantial ways in which systemic racism impacts us, our neighbors, and all that we do.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends,

I am honored to be elected as the Board Chair for United Way of Rhode Island. As I take on this role, I couldn't be more excited to work with this board alongside Cortney Nicolato and the entire United Way of Rhode Island team. I am humbled by this responsibility, and so privileged to work with such an exceptional group of people who want to make our communities more just and equitable for all.

The task ahead of us is daunting, but never more clear. The COVID-19 pandemic has shined a bright light on the many ways we are letting down our neighbors when it comes to housing, education, coordination of care and more. It also put into stark relief how inequities continue to harm our Black and brown community members.

That's why, I believe that the United Way of Rhode Island is needed now more than ever. We are committed to put community

first and ensure that equity is at the center of everything we do. That commitment is critical to building prosperity for everyone in the state.

This work will take all of us. That is why I am so thankful for the entire United Way community including our dedicated board and committee members, expert staff, loyal donors, tireless volunteers, relentless community advocates, and our partners in government, business, labor, and the nonprofit community. We're grateful for your support and hopeful that our community will continue to grow in the years to come as we have so much more work to do!

Together, we LIVE UNITED!



Sincerely,

Dolph Johnson

Board of Directors

Alden Anderson, *Vice Chair, Board Governance, Ethics and Nominating Committee*

Marcela Betancur

Brian Carroll

Barbara Chernow, *Treasurer*

Wes Cotter

Joanne Daly

Jayne Donegan, *Vice Chair, Audit Committee*

Paola Fernandez, *Vice Chair, Community Investment Committee*

James Galloway

Junior Jabbe, *Vice Co-Chair, Strategic Planning Committee*

Dolph Johnson, *Board Chair*

Wendy Kagan, *Vice Chair, Compensation and Benefits Committee*

Robert R. Kent

Dr. Barbara A. Mullen

Cortney Nicolato

Gregg Perry, *Vice Chair, Resource and Engagement Committee*

Joseph Pierik

Betsey A. Purinton, *Vice Co-Chair, Strategic Planning Committee*

Ramona Royal

Christopher A. Sabitoni

Dr. Frank D. Sánchez, *Secretary*

Rena Sheehan

Suresh Swaminathan

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Tomas Ávila

Denise Barge

Elizabeth Burke-Bryant

The Honorable Sandra Cano

Ainsley Morisseau Cantoral

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Michelle Carr

Elizabeth Catucci

Amanda Cantrell

Patrick Crowley

Erin Donovan-Boyle

Lisa Guillette

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Linda Lulli

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Ray Nuñez

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Laura Pedrick

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Yahaira "Jay" Placencia

Kelly Ramirez

Lisa Ranglin

Lucy Rose

Genevieve Schultz

Nancy Serpa

John (JJ) Silvia, III

Susan Stenhouse

Ed Tavarez

Rev. Chontell N. Washington

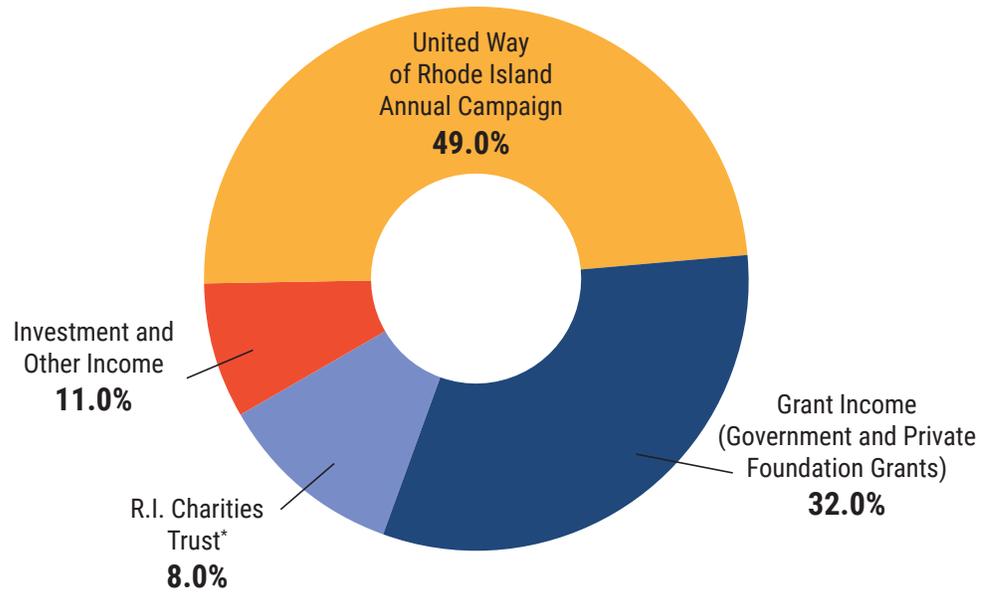
Kasim Yarn

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

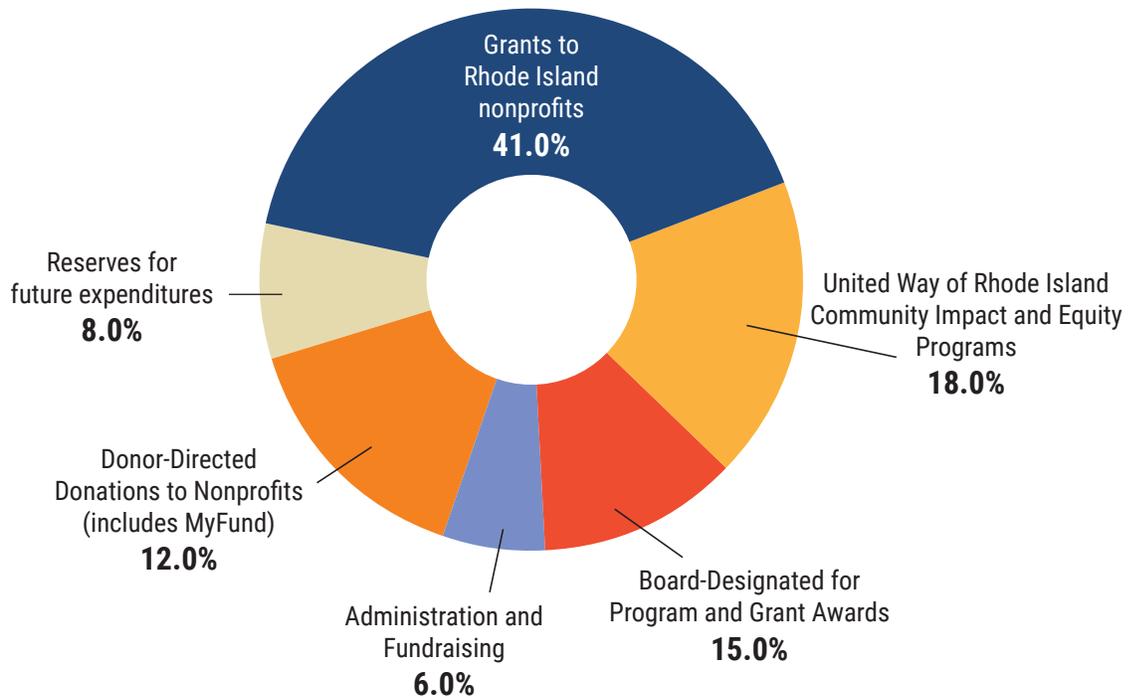
From July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 (audited results)

RESOURCES: \$46,404,116

* Established by Textron founder Royal Little in 1937 to benefit our United Way. Managed by The Rhode Island Foundation.



USE OF RESOURCES: \$46,404,116



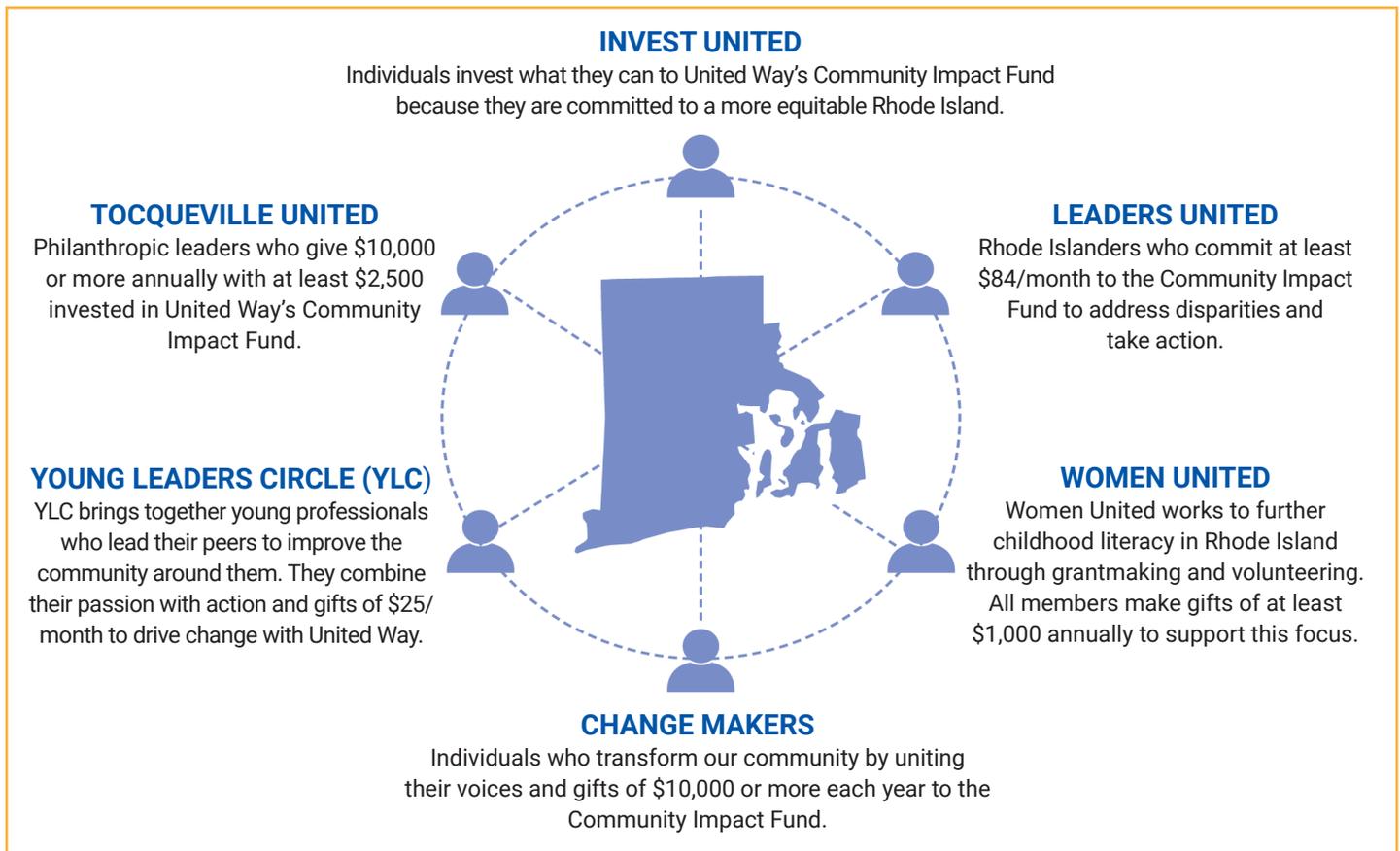
THE IMPACT NETWORK

When our strategic plan launched in January, we set out bold goals to achieve by 2025. With gifts to our Community Impact Fund, thousands of Rhode Islanders are maximizing their impact in creating safe housing, expanding high-quality education, and securing economic and social justice for all. The newly designed individual giving program, the Impact Network, brings together all our Community Impact Fund donors.

Under our new 5-year strategic plan, Live United 2025, our Invest United pillar seeks to deepen the culture of philanthropy across the state. We are honored to help donors give to their charities

of choice. We are also proud to host opportunities like 401Gives, Rhode Island's statewide giving day that raised over \$2.2 million for 422 local agencies from over 12,000 donors in 2021. While these gifts are important, the past year has also highlighted the need to pivot our focus to gifts to United Way's Community Impact Fund in future years. Thousands of Rhode Islanders unite as the Impact Network of United Way. Each year, they give gifts of all sizes to United Way's Community Impact Fund because they see a future where every individual in each community has equal opportunity for justice and prosperity.

United for change with the Impact Network.



The following pages reflect our traditional donor levels, look for our future donor acknowledgements to reflect our new Impact Network.

WITH GRATITUDE

The work of the United Way of Rhode Island is made possible by the incredible network of donors, volunteers and partners on the following pages. We are grateful for their generosity.

TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY

We're changing lives through leadership giving. The Tocqueville Society acknowledges philanthropic leaders in each United Way community who contribute \$10,000 or more annually. Their collective leadership represents 31% of United Way of Rhode Island's annual campaign with total gifts of more than \$3.8 million.

Ordre d'Indépendance

(\$250,000 and above)

Tom & Cathy Lawson⁺

La Société Nationale

(\$100,000 - \$249,999)

Mary & Tom Gilbane^{+,w}

Mr. & Mrs. Jack O'Donnell⁺

Barbara & Ralph⁺ Papitto⁺

Thomas D.⁺ & Virginia H. Soutter⁺

Ordre de Fraternité

(\$75,000 - \$99,999)

David R. Katzen, MD & Barbara R. Binder⁺

Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm A. Makin

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Shivan & Jyothi Subramaniam⁺

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"It doesn't matter how much you give. It matters that you have it in your mind and your heart to do what you can to give back to your community." – Cathy Lawson

Cathy and Tom Lawson, 2021 Tocqueville Society Award honorees.

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Eight members wish to remain anonymous.

⁺ Community Impact Fund donor

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We're making waves with leadership giving. The Keel Club recognizes local philanthropic leaders who contribute \$1,000 – \$9,999 annually in support of UWRI's mission. Last year, Keel Club represented 19% of our annual campaign, with total gifts of over \$2.3 million.

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Women United Highlights

United Way of Rhode Island's Women United works to further childhood literacy in our state through philanthropy, advocacy, and volunteerism. This group of 161 women leaders has raised more than \$6.2 million and granted more than \$1.3 million since 2012. Here are a few of our accomplishments in 2021:

- \$443,762 donated to United Way's Community Impact Fund.
- \$277,000 invested in afterschool and summer learning programs.
- 28,947 books collected through United Way's Children's Book Drive.
- \$25,000 raised through Power of the Purse, our signature fundraising event.

Photo: Lisa Guillette, 2020 Women United Award honoree.



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Sixteen members wish to remain anonymous.

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Courtney Nicolato, United Way of Rhode Island's president and CEO, and Ned Handy, chairman of the board of directors and CEO for The Washington Trust Company, stand in front of the Books Are Wings van. Thanks to corporate partners and community volunteers, our Children's Book Drive has collected 245,622 books for Rhode Island children over the past nine years.

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The Anchor Society recognizes United Way of Rhode Island's most loyal donors whose investment in our community's future makes significant and long-lasting change in people's lives. Through their planned gift, Anchor Society members make an impact that will be felt during their lifetimes and for many years to come.

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We're proud to partner with companies and organizations across the state in support of our mission for a more just and equitable state for all. Most complement their giving with a workplace giving program. Many also work with our volunteer engagement team to engage employees in meaningful team-building activities. Others work with us to craft comprehensive corporate social responsibility programs.

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Starkweather & Shepley has received United Way's Partners United Award.

For 25 years, the company has hosted an annual United Way campaign, raising nearly \$1 million in support of initiatives and programs that help improve the lives of Rhode Islanders. Additionally, the Starkweather & Shepley Charitable Fund has awarded more than \$300,000 in grants to local charities – with a particular focus on those that serve children – since 2010. Each year, the company participates in United Way's Annual Children's Book Drive, with employees giving generously of their time as volunteers across the state.

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We are grateful for all the union members who work so hard to help their fellow Rhode Islanders in need.*

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George Nee, president of the RI AFL-CIO, is a Dante F. Mollo Labor United Award recipient. George began his commitment to labor and the rights of workers in 1969 when he left Boston College to organize the historic grape boycott for the United Farm Workers of America. In 1971, he took that commitment to Rhode Island to coordinate a lettuce boycott and has been a leader of the state's labor movement ever since. He joined the RI AFL-CIO in 1983 and became its president in 2009. A tireless advocate for policy changes that improve access to opportunities and education, George's leadership has had a profound impact on the community through advocacy, volunteerism, and philanthropy.

*With special thanks to:
 Chris Sabitoni, Laborers' International Union of North America
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