

# UNITED WAY PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

## **United Way Agenda for Change**

The United Way *Agenda for Change* is a fluid, goal-driven framework to advance the common good in our community. The *Agenda* outlines our priorities in education, income, and health, along with the essential services and outreach we must do. The *Agenda* includes the strategies in which we fund and collaborate upon to reach our goals and produce results in our community. If you are passionate about a certain area within our *Agenda for Change*, you can designate your gift to drive change specifically in that area.

## **Adopt-a-Family/United Way Labor Community Services**

In times of need, labor families can receive help through the *Adopt-A-Family* program. This program is facilitated by United Way *Labor Community Services* and is funded and utilized by union members. The program provides emergency support like food, housing, utility, and medical assistance to union members in order to minimize hardship due to financial crisis. To qualify for assistance, individuals must be a union member in good standing and out of work for 30 days.

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## **The Center for Nonprofit Resources**

The Center for Nonprofit Resources is dedicated to ensuring nonprofit organizations in our region have the information, resources, and support needed to operate efficiently, effectively, and successfully to advance their missions. United Way of Greater Toledo partnered with the Toledo Community Foundation to create the Center for Nonprofit Resources. This community resource hosts a variety of workshops and provides tools, information, and support.

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## **Conestoga Project**

The Conestoga Project is a neighborhood revitalization effort targeting the area between Maple and Lincoln Streets in Port Clinton. The project includes a comprehensive, overall neighborhood development plan designed to attract residents to a rebounding neighborhood, and to increase the overall stability of existing residents. The end reward is increased financial stability of individuals who are living in a vibrant neighborhood, increased property values and tax revenues, and decreased costs for law enforcement and social services. The project connects residents and community members along with community leaders, elected officials, and social services.

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## **Local Emergency Response Fund**

The Local Emergency Response Fund ensures resources are available in the time of an emergency.

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## **United Way 2-1-1**

United Way 2-1-1 is an easy-to-remember telephone number connecting people to important community services and volunteer opportunities. By simply dialing 2-1-1, anyone can be connected 24 hours a day, seven days a week to community resources for basic needs. Staffed by trained specialists, this free, confidential, bilingual, and anonymous helpline gets people connected to resources that can improve their lives in both the short term and long term.

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## **United Way African American Initiative**

United Way *African American Initiative (AAI)* works to provide solutions to community issues through leadership development, volunteerism, and philanthropy. Currently the *African American Initiative* is focused on promoting higher education among African American males. *AAI* develops programs to educate, inspire and engage African-Americans around key issues; provide opportunities for recognition, networking, and volunteerism; and to increase philanthropic giving among African-Americans.

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## **United Way Latino Initiative**

United Way *Latino Initiative* mobilizes the caring power of the Latino community. Currently focused on creating ways to keep kids and families healthy and active and developing Latino leaders, this group is always looking for people interested in getting involved.

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## **United Way Family Information Network (FIN)**

United Way *Family Information Network (FIN)* is a specialized information and referral network dedicated to providing education, support, and mentoring services to families of children with delays or disabilities and the professionals who serve them. Information and referral includes parent-to-parent support, community resources, advocacy on related issues, and special events like summer programs and workshops.

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## **United Way Volunteer Center**

The United Way *Volunteer Center* connects volunteers to projects in our community to meet local needs and create lasting change in education, income, and health. From tutoring opportunities to joining a local nonprofit board, there are hundreds of volunteer opportunities available. The *Volunteer Center* also organizes Days of Caring, or service projects, for businesses, churches, schools, or any group who wants to volunteer. In times of disaster, like floods and tornadoes, the *Volunteer Center* mobilizes volunteers to action. The *Volunteer Center* also coordinates *Ambassador Projects* with a variety of local organizations targeting the issues that matter most to our community. Coordinated by a volunteer leader, *Ambassador Projects* are recurring opportunities that represent United Way and drive social change.

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## **Women's Initiative of United Way**

*Women's Initiative of United Way* mobilizes women to become leaders, philanthropists, and advocates on issues that concern women and children. Every woman has time, talent, and treasure to give. *Women's Initiative's* greatest strength is to channel those resources, voices, and time to have a positive impact on issues that concern women. Since its inception in 2001, *Women's Initiative* has invested more than \$1 million donor-designated dollars toward programs for women and children.

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## **United Way Leadership Council**

*United Way Leadership Council* encourages leadership giving, assists families in embracing a philanthropic culture, and promotes community service. In addition, the *Leadership Council* works to identify, connect, and develop local leaders, sustain leadership giving, and has participated in an inaugural series of *Ambassador Project* volunteer opportunities.

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## **United Way AmeriCorps**

*United Way AmeriCorps* provides opportunities for Americans to make an intensive commitment to service. The AmeriCorps network of local, state, and national service programs engages more than 70,000 Americans each year. *United Way AmeriCorps* members serve Toledo in a very targeted way, furthering United Way's education work by serving as Graduation Coaches in Toledo Public Schools. These coaches guide and support students in developing a tangible plan to achieve graduation in four years, prepared for the next step. *AmeriCorps* recruits and coordinates members while also promoting volunteerism and personal development.

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