

# DID YOU KNOW?



United Way  
of Southeastern Connecticut

## DID YOU KNOW...

### Your gift to United Way funds 39 partner programs in Southeastern CT?

United Way of Southeastern Connecticut is a locally-based non-profit organization supporting a vital network of health and human services, programs, and initiatives in New London County that work together to help people in need and change lives.

Of those programs, 39 are Partner Programs at 22 local nonprofit organizations funded through our Allocations process, and they help in our four impact areas: **Basic Needs; Community Wellness; Promoting Independence; and Thriving Children.** Your gift to United Way accomplishes so much good!

**With all of us working together, we *can* make a difference in our community. Please join me in supporting United Way of Southeastern Connecticut. For more information go to: [www.uwsect.org](http://www.uwsect.org). Thank you!**

## DID YOU KNOW...

### The equivalent of 3.1 million meals were distributed from the Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center last year through its network of free emergency food programs and Mobile Pantry?

Member programs include shelters, food pantries, community meal sites, child care centers, and programs for seniors, in addition to a Mobile Pantry, that help to ensure no one goes hungry.

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## DID YOU KNOW...

### United Way's 2-1-1 helped callers from New London County with 26,623 requests for service last year?

2-1-1 is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for information and referral to services and volunteer opportunities. 2-1-1 is a free call from anywhere in the state, and it is a partnership between all Connecticut United Ways and the State of Connecticut. The top five requests in the county were for: housing and shelter, mental health services, employment/income, healthcare, and utility assistance.

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## DID YOU KNOW...

### United Way has been actively involved in COVID-19 relief efforts?

Over the two years of COVID recovery, United Way has leveraged significant funds for New London County. Both help to recognize needs, convene partners, and unite others around a common goal:

- More than \$1.5 million in grants supporting homelessness outcomes, and
- \$935,476 in grants supporting equitable health outcomes

The Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center has been particularly stretched but responded by adding new pantries to help get food to those in need. The Food Center increased the number of meals provided to the community, distributing the equivalent of 3.1 million meals last year, an increase of 21% pre-pandemic.

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## DID YOU KNOW...

### You could be the eyes and ears of United Way donors?

United Way Allocations Volunteers ensure donations to United Way of Southeastern Connecticut are wisely invested in local health and human service programs. Relying on applications, site visits, program results and financial records, you can help decide how United Way funding is allocated among programs that, working together, provide a vital network of services to help those in need.

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## DID YOU KNOW...

### The Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center partners with local gardens to help provide fresh produce to residents of Southeastern Connecticut?

The vegetables grown at Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center's Coogan Farm Giving Garden and East Lyme Giving Garden are harvested and delivered to the Food Center, then quickly cleaned, packaged, and distributed by volunteers to those facing hunger and food insecurity. The gardens harvest several tons of fresh produce for the Food Center. In addition, many local farms donate to the Food Center and/or allow United Way to send volunteers to glean produce at their location. If you'd like to volunteer at Coogan Farm, go to [www.uwsect.org/volunteer](http://www.uwsect.org/volunteer) to learn more.

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## **DID YOU KNOW...**

### **23% of working people in New London County are ALICE?**

ALICE stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. ALICE is employed but does not qualify for assistance programs. ALICE walks a financial tightrope and can be impacted by an illness, a car repair, a broken appliance, or a sudden emergency. If you include the percentage of people living below the Federal Poverty Level (10%), that means 33% of people in New London County struggle to pay for basic needs. Learn more about ALICE at [uwsect.org/2020AliceUpdate](http://uwsect.org/2020AliceUpdate).

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## **DID YOU KNOW...**

### **United Way has a goal to increase the number of financially stable households in Norwich to 66% in ten years?**

New Capacities is a collective impact project that works with a diverse cross-section of partners. The project is a community-driven plan incorporating key components of collective impact – combining of resources, continuous communication, data-sharing, and making systems-level change. Learn more and view a series of Career Exploration videos at [uwsect.org/newcapacities](http://uwsect.org/newcapacities).

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## **DID YOU KNOW...**

### **United Way is committed to moving the needle on Healthy Eating, Active Living, and Child Wellbeing?**

Our communities are on a dangerous, upward trend in obesity and adverse childhood experiences, ultimately impacting health and wellness outcomes and contributing to preventable, chronic diseases and increased healthcare spending. Therefore, United Way is leading the Eastern Connecticut Health Collaborative consisting of numerous organizations spanning 13 towns aimed at reducing the obesity rate, reducing child abuse and neglect, and narrowing racial disparities in percent of births that are low birthweight. Learn more at [uwsect.org/echc](http://uwsect.org/echc).

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## **DID YOU KNOW...**

### **The United Way Mobile Food Pantry has several deployments each month to help feed local families facing hunger?**

The program reaches families facing hunger, including where access to healthy food and larger retail grocery stores, and the transportation to reach them, is limited. Individuals receive items including fresh produce, dairy items, proteins, and healthy snacks. The Mobile Pantry has five regularly-scheduled monthly deployments.

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## DID YOU KNOW...

### **United Way has a strong, time-tested partnership with Organized Labor?**

You can be part of United Way's Union Community Activist Network (UCAN) and become the link between people in your workplace that need help to local programs that can provide assistance. United Way also works with Unions to prepare for and run the annual Workers' Memorial to honor those whose lives have been lost while on the job and the AFL-CIO Golf Tournament to benefit the Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center.

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## DID YOU KNOW...

### **United Way is an active partner in ending homelessness in southeastern Connecticut?**

United Way provides ongoing support to the New London County Fund to End Homelessness (NLCFEH) for both Shelter Diversion and Rapid Re-housing efforts, the Eastern Coordinated Access Network (CAN), and the annual Point-in-Time Count where volunteers help to count individuals who are homeless and offer information and referral services. We also fund Partner Programs who provide basic needs, including shelter, and we assist with the Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP).

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## DID YOU KNOW...

### **Last year, New London County residents saved a total of \$517,995 on their prescriptions through the SingleCare (formerly FamilyWize) Discount Prescription program, helping to ensure they receive necessary medications for their good health?**

United Way is a partner with SingleCare to help distribute prescription cards that may lower the cost of medications. It can be used by anyone, is accepted by more than 60,000 participating pharmacies throughout the country, and is funded by the pharmaceutical companies to provide up to 45% off the cost of prescriptions. You can also use their mobile app at pharmacies by texting FAMILY to 700700.

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