

United Way of Southeastern Connecticut (UWSECT) Allocations supports a dedicated network of nonprofit organizations in New London County, Connecticut within three of the four impact areas: Healthy Community, Youth Opportunity, and Financial Security.

UWSECT strives to serve community members living below the [ALICE](#) (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) threshold. Partner Program applicants will need to address their commitment to serving ALICE households and alignment to United Way's key Impact Areas.

SCOPE OF AWARD

- United Way anticipates approximately \$1.5 million in available funds and intends to grant awards to approximately 40 programs. There are no minimum or maximum funding request amounts though, do consider the median award amount is approximately \$37,000.
- Partner Programs receive a three-year award commitment though the amounts for Year 2 and 3 may adjust based on United Way's fundraising campaign performance.
- Funds must be used for the awarded program.
- *Funds may not be used for:* fundraising efforts, advocacy or lobbying, political activism, or sponsorships.

ORGANIZATION ELIGIBILITY

- Must be a **non-profit, 501(c)3 Health & Human Service organization**. May *not* have a fiscal sponsor.
- Must have a **full-time Executive Director or CEO**. May *not* be a shared role with another organization.
- Organization has an **active Board of Directors** that meets the requirements of the board-approved bylaws including number of board members and number of meetings.
- Has completed **three consecutive years of financial reporting** in adherence with State and Federal business requirements.
- Must be aligned with United Way's strategic efforts to support individuals or families that live below the ALICE Threshold.
- Municipalities & Schools (public, private, magnet, charter, and university) are **not** eligible.

Important Dates

RFP Released

July 14, 2025

STEP #1:

Eligibility Screener & Intent to Apply

Deadline: September 8, 2025

 [Link to Online Form \(Temelio\)](#)

STEP #2:

In-person Information Session

September 17 at 9:00 – 10:30 am

September 19 at 9:00 – 10:30 am

September 23 at 3:00 - 4:30 pm

**Attendance is required at one Info Session to apply. (Date selections are made on the Intent to Apply form).*

STEP #3: Admissions Application

Deadline: October 10, 2025

**The application and review process will be detailed at the in-person Info Sessions including the online link to the Admissions Application.*

Award Announcement

by June 2026

For questions contact:

Carli Herz, Comm. Impact Director

(860) 464-3312

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PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

- Programs must have a **physical footprint in New London County, Connecticut**.
May be a shared space, utilization of local community space, etc.
- **Program has been in existence for the last 3 consecutive years.**
- The requested funding amount may not exceed 25% of the program's current year budget.
- The program proposal must choose one (and only one) Impact Area:
Healthy Community, Youth Opportunity, and Financial Security.
- **The program must align with the Impact Area's Outcomes & Indicators** as follows:
 - Track participant count (unduplicated).
 - Align with at least one "Reach" data point (ie: outcome) from chosen Impact Area.
 - Align with at least one "Result" data point (ie: indicator) from chosen Impact Area.
- Food access programs are not eligible for Partner Program funding. UWSECT prioritizes significant donor funds for the operation of the Gemma E. Moran United Way / Labor Food Center benefiting 65 programs with no-cost access to food.

CONSIDERATIONS

- United Way funding does not require an increase or expansion in services. Partner Program funding is intended to stabilize and ensure longevity of existing programs.
- United Way funds programs. A program is defined by having a separate budget within the organization's overall budget if it's not the sole program within the organization.
- Organizations may request funding for up to 3 programs (Separate applications for each).
- New Applicants must submit the three most recent years of financial audits/990s. New applicants are organizations who are not current United Way Partner Programs.

PARTNER PROGRAM APPLICATION & REVIEW PROCESS

UWSECT Partner Program's multi-year funding utilizes an intensive volunteer review process to determine which programs will receive funding for three years.

1. **STEP 1: Complete the Eligibility Screener & Intent to Apply.** Completed online via United Way's "Temelio" grantmaking platform. The screener will determine if both the organization and program meet United Way's eligibility requirements. If eligible, the applicant will then complete a simple Intent to Apply form and select an Info-Session date to attend.
2. **STEP 2: Attend the Info-Session** selected on the Intent to Apply form. Details about both the Admissions and Allocations process will be reviewed at the required in-person meeting. The link to the Admissions Application will be provided following attendance at the Info-Session.
3. **STEP 3: Submit the Admissions Application.** This 2-page application (in Temelio) will provide a summary of both the organization and program for a panel of United Way volunteer reviewers. The volunteer review panel will then make decisions on which applications will be invited to the Allocations Application. Responses by December 1.
4. **STEP 4: Allocations Application.** If the Admissions Application is accepted, the applicant will be invited to submit an Allocations Application, the final step in the process where funding amounts are determined. This step in the process includes a more thorough online

application, program budgets, program site-visits, and in-person meetings with directors. The full process will be reviewed at the Info-Session.

AWARDED ORGANIZATION'S COMMITMENT

Adheres to **Partner Program Agreement** ([view document](#)) which includes, but not limited to:

- The organization will run an **annual United Way Giving Campaign** amongst employees and/or board members.
- Funded Partner Program information is listed and **routinely updated on CT 2-1-1 website**.
- Submits an **annual financial audit** and Form 990 for the organization.
- Submits **annual program reports and impact stories** for the funded program(s).

APPLICATION SUPPORT & QUESTIONS

- Carli Herz, Community Impact Director → carli.herz@uwsect.org or 860.464.3312
- Frequently asked questions and United Way's responses will be shared at the in-person Info-Sessions in September.
- [Online Link to Step 1: Eligibility Screener & Intent to Apply](#) (via UWSECT's Temelio grants portal) <https://app.trytemelio.com/eligibility/c3897bd9-7339-408a-a707-7f2df2f3fd92>

Outcomes & Indicators

Eligible programs will select **one Impact Area** (Youth Opportunity, Healthy Community, or Financial Security). Within that Impact Area, the program will need to align with at least **one Reach** and at least **one Result**. United Way understands that the below may be just one of many impacts that your program accomplishes. These common measurables allow United Way to best tell the story of donor impact. Programs are welcome to share additional measurables in the application.

Youth Opportunity

REACH
of children (0-5) enrolled in high-quality early childhood programs supported by United Way
of children served receiving literacy supports in K-3
of families, caregivers served that are provided with information, resources, tools, trainings, and/or teaching skills to support their child's development (birth - 21)
of elementary/middle/high school youth served who participate in school and/or community-based out-of-school time programs and/or receive individualized supports
of youth served who receive job skills training
RESULTS
% of children (0-5) served who achieve developmental milestones
% of children served who are proficient on school readiness assessments
% of children (K-3) served reading at grade level
% of children/youth served who maintain satisfactory or improve school attendance
% of youth served who graduate high school on time
% of youth served who gain post-secondary employment, further education or credentials, or military service
% of youth (ages 15-18) served who gain employment
% of middle/high school youth served who earn passing grades in core subject areas
% of middle/high school youth served who develop soft skills (i.e., active listening, conflict management, critical thinking, and healthy relationships)
% of middle school youth served who transition from middle to high school on time

Healthy Community

REACH
of individuals participating in physical activity and/or food nutrition programs
of individuals served and provided with access to healthcare services / supports
of individuals provided with access to mental and behavioral health services
of individuals provided with access to healthcare insurance
of individuals with disabilities and/or seniors who engage in social activity

RESULTS
% of individuals who eat healthier, increase physical activity, move towards a healthy weight
% of babies who experience healthy birth outcomes
% of individuals who adopt healthy behaviors
% of mothers who access prenatal or postpartum care
% of individuals who improve or maintain good physical health
% of individuals who improve or maintain mental and behavioral health
% of seniors and/or individuals who maintain their independence
% of individuals with disabilities and/or seniors who increase their social connectedness

Financial Security

REACH
of individuals served who receive job skills training
of individuals who receive services related to housing
of individuals who accessed financial services, products, and education

RESULTS
% of individuals who gain employment
% of individuals who increase their wages
% of individuals who increase their disposable income by accessing benefits and/or reducing their costs.
% of individuals who earn job-relevant licenses, certificates, and/or credentials
% of individuals who obtained affordable, stable housing (rental), or home ownership
% of individuals with disabilities and/or seniors who lead independent lives

Partner Program funding's extensive review and award process ensures that United Way is stewarding donor dollars in a responsible and transparent manner. The **required, in-person applicant Info-Sessions** at United Way's Gales Ferry office will review the entire application and review process. **Applicants will receive the link to the Admissions Application after their attendance at the Info-Sessions.** United Way staff are always available for support and guidance throughout the process.

