



give joy 

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



In a year of uncertainty and unique challenges, United Way of Sandusky County did what we do best - stepped up and filled the needs of our community. Thanks to our donors, we were able to GIVE JOY where people needed it most.



OUR MISSION

United Way of Sandusky County's mission is to transform funding into lasting community solutions.

United Way of Sandusky County is taking the lead to tackle our community's toughest challenges and find solutions that will have lasting impact. We work with community leaders to identify areas of systemic need and fund programs that address those needs to truly improve the lives of people here in Sandusky County.



United Way
of Sandusky County

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Friends,

Through this year of unprecedented change and upheaval, your local United Way continued to make a difference in the lives of local residents.

Just as in a non-pandemic year, volunteers reviewed requests and made decisions to fund \$345,365 for 23 programs that touch thousands of lives in Sandusky County in the areas of safety and basic needs, health and education. These volunteers work hard to make sure donor funds go to programs that can make lasting change in our community.

To help alleviate issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, we joined forces with the Sandusky County Communities Foundation to distribute \$29,390 from local donors wanting to help their neighbors. Your United Way continues to step up to tackle the real challenges that people face in Sandusky County.

Staff and volunteers helped distribute food with three local non-profits. United Way staff helped more than 2,175 local residents register for COVID-19 vaccinations with the Sandusky County Health department. And, First Call for Help continued to help local residents with questions and needs.

In an unusual year, your United Way of Sandusky County made a difference in the lives of thousands of local residents. Our volunteers, donors, supporters and staff made that possible. I thank them all for helping to Give Joy.

Genia Lovett

Board Chair

United Way of Sandusky County



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WHEN YOU GIVE TO UNITED WAY OF SANDUSKY COUNTY, YOU GIVE JOY WHERE SANDUSKY COUNTY NEEDS IT MOST.

We envision a Sandusky County where every student feels the joy of reading, every senior feels the joy of companionship, every mother feels the joy of financial stability, every person feels the joy of a warm meal, every struggling addict feels the joy of hope, and every child feels the joy of a safe environment to thrive in.

When you give to United Way of Sandusky County, you give joy – exponentially.

LEADING

United Way of Sandusky County is about leading our community and stepping up to tackle the real challenges that people face in Sandusky County, not just for today, but for generations to come.

CREATING LASTING CHANGE

We fund programs that demonstrate their impact on improving lives in Sandusky County. When you give to United Way of Sandusky County, you are part of something bigger than just one life touched. You are helping us do the work it takes to create real change that will endure for generations to come.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

United Way of Sandusky County funds programs that touch thousands of lives in Sandusky County every year. When you give to United Way of Sandusky County you know that you are giving a child a new chance at reading or a young family a chance at financial stability, right here in Sandusky County. You are helping a neighbor or co-worker.

KEEPING IT LOCAL

United Way of Sandusky County serves Sandusky County. Our goals and approach to the programs we fund have a singular focus of creating lasting change for Sandusky County.



CAMP FIRE SANDUSKY COUNTY



Two siblings who had never attended a summer camp program until the summer of 2020, now truly understand the value of Camp Fire Sandusky County. Their mother trusted Camp Fire Sandusky County with her son who previously had a number of behavioral issues at home and while attending school. Additionally, her daughter's mental health had been negatively affected with the stress of quarantine, and she was desperate to see her smile again with her peers. During Summer Camp staff saw the young man thrive and witnessed the young lady come to life as she shifted into a mentor role assisting younger youth who were experiencing anxieties. United Way funding has helped youth just like these two sibling have safe, healthy connections after a year of so much change and uncertainty.

"I want to thank Camp Fire and the staff for the scholarship for my children to attend summer camp! The experience was so needed in this time! As a mom who always received phone calls that my son is acting up or misbehaving, I was thankful that the only report I received was the positive things he did each day! My daughter was a different person from day one to day 5 and both kids can't wait to come back! Thank You!"

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THE COMMUNITY FORTRESS

John moved from Detroit to Norwalk to be near his son. He lived in his car while trying to find housing in other shelters. A homeless shelter in Sandusky referred him to The Community Fortress. John stayed with us for a little over 2 months which allowed him to save most of his social security money to use toward his own place. While staying at TCF, he would help with cleaning, laundry, and many other things that needed done. We completed a literally homeless sheet, gave him help obtaining his drivers license, birth certificate, and social security card. He was provided with gas cards to get back and forth from work, packed lunches, and referred to Share and Care for clothing. We also referred him to GLCAP for housing assistance where he was able to get help with first month's rent and deposit. Since moving into his own place, John volunteers to help with laundry, fundraising, and stays overnight several times a month with the guests at The Community Fortress. He tells us that he is thankful and appreciates everything we have done for him so he returns to mentor our guests while motivating them to strive to rise above their situation and be successful in reaching their goals.





COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES OF SANDUSKY COUNTY SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM



"Our son Joe, had a wonderful summer camp experience with the SCBDD. We showed him events on the calendar and he looked forward to going every time. He met new friends and had a lot of active experiences. There were hands on events like arts and crafts that stimulated his mind and strengthened fine motor skills. We also liked the active body events like swimming, bowling, and walking around the zoo. He was very disappointed when we learned that it was cancelled last summer due to the pandemic. We look forward to the Summer Rec schedule for 2021. Thank you."

- David and Catherine

GREAT LAKES COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP SENIOR MEALS-ON-WHEELS



Sally has cancer and with that comes a lot of chemo treatment. She could not remember how to cook and her brain was pretty foggy. Meals-On-Wheels made it possible for her to have the food she needed to stay healthy. She was very grateful for the "extras" that were given to her. She stated, "It was like Christmas all over again! I look forward to seeing my driver and can't say enough about her and all of those who make this program possible."





2020 COMMUNITY IMPACT

255,627

MEALS PROVIDED

4,785

YOUTH PROVIDED SAFE &
POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTAL
EXPERIENCES

2,140

INDIVIDUALS PROVIDED
SAFE & AFFORDABLE
HOUSING

2020-2021 FUNDED PROGRAMS

EDUCATION

Camp Fire Sandusky County

Programs (Club, Self Reliance, and Preschool)
Day Camp Program

Chamber Foundation of Sandusky County

REACH Program

Council for Developmental Disabilities of Sandusky County

Summer Recreation Options

Fremont City Schools

ACE Mentoring Program

Gibsonburg Exempt Village Schools

Reading Mentoring Program

Girl Scouts of North East Ohio

Troop-Based Girl Scout Leadership Experience

Ottawa County Family Advocacy Center, Inc.

TNT Mentoring Program

Sandusky County 4-H

Community Clubs Program

Junior Camp Program

Sandusky County Economic Development Corporation

THINK Workforce Development Program

WSOS Community Action Commission, Inc. / GLCAP

Clyde/Green Springs Afterschool Program

YMCA of Sandusky County

Child Care Program

HEALTH

Goodwill Industries of Erie, Huron, Ottawa & Sandusky Counties, Inc.

Goodwill Employee Wellness Program

Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio

Counseling Program

ProMedica Memorial Hospital

Hospice of ProMedica Memorial Hospital

Sandusky County Public Health

Welcome Home Newborn Visiting Program

Great Lakes Community Action Partnership

Senior Meals- on- Wheels

SAFETY & BASIC NEEDS

American Red Cross of Northwest Ohio Chapter, Sandusky County

Disaster Preparedness and Response Program

Services to the Armed Forces Program

CASA of Seneca, Sandusky, and Wyandot Counties

CASA of Sandusky County

Community Fortress

Community Fortress Shelter

Family and Children First Council of Sandusky County

Wraparound Program

Liberty Center of Sandusky County

Shelter Program

Domestic Violence Advocate Program

Sandusky County Share and Care Center

Family Financial Assistance Program

Sandusky County Food Pantry, Inc.

Feeding Needy Families Program

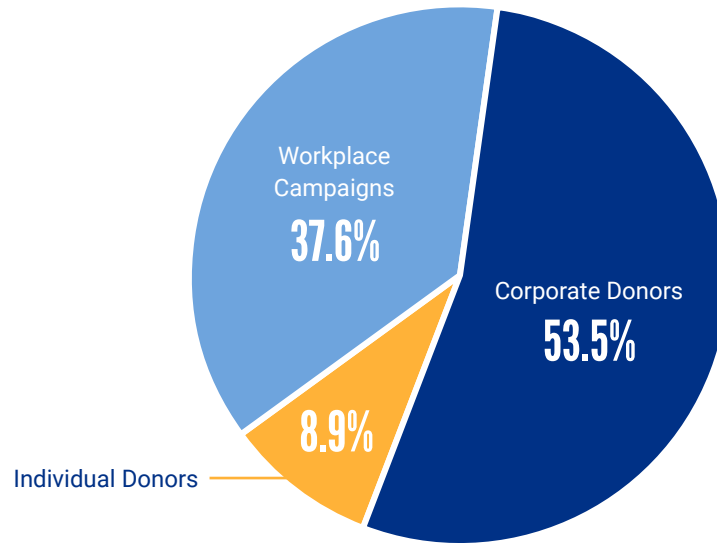
Village House of Northwest Ohio

Supervised Parent/Child Visitation

2020 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

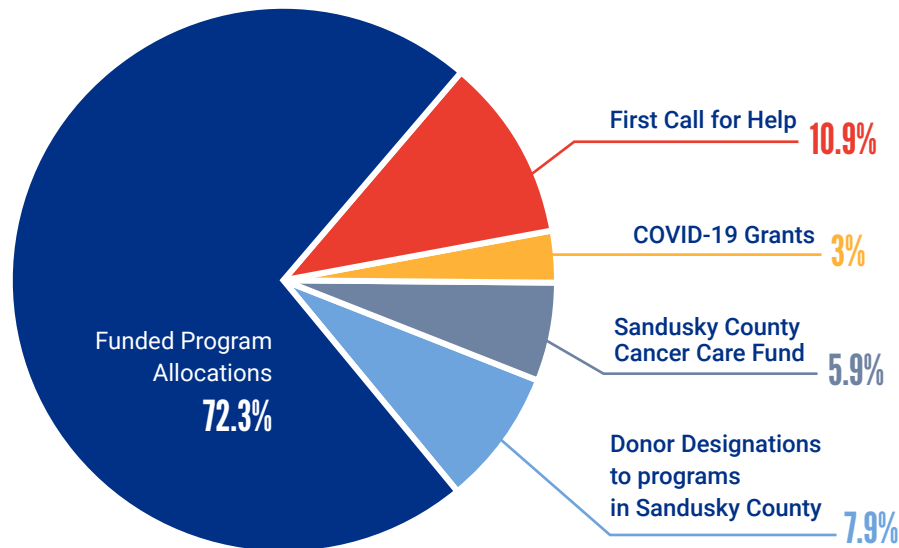
\$667,781.33

raised by the United Way of Sandusky County's annual campaign in 2020.



\$563,574.49

invested back into the community by United Way of Sandusky County throughout 2020.

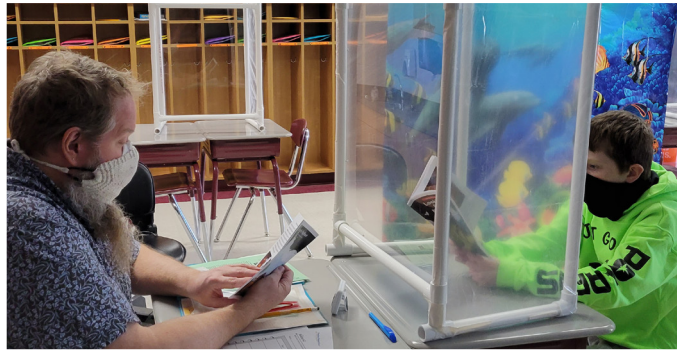


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Thank you to our donors for over 80 years of giving joy in Sandusky County.

When you give to United Way of Sandusky County you support your neighbors living with cancer, raise awareness of the risks of drug abuse and obesity, help families in severe financial crisis, give comfort to our seniors, and support the success of Sandusky County youth.

You made it possible to give joy where we need it most.



United Way
of Sandusky County

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