WORKING TOGETHER IMPACTING LIVES

United Way is helping build healthy youth, stronger families, and a vital community.

REDUCING CHILD HOMELESSNESS BY:

Helping families avoid eviction and stay in their homes Providing emergency shelter for homeless women and children Helping families avoid having their water disconnected

PROVIDING BASIC NEEDS BY:

Providing beds for kids that are sleeping on floors Providing prescription drug assistance for kids in need Providing clothing for kids in need Helping kids get access to mental health services

FIGHTING HUNGER BY:

Supporting local food pantries Providing emergency food vouchers for kids and their families

PROVIDING EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE BY:

Helping families that lost their home due to a fire Providing transportation help for families with a medical emergency Helping families dealing with the death of a parent or child

SUPPORTING IMPOVERISHED FAMILIES BY:

Providing donated furniture Providing donated cars to families lacking transportation Providing mentoring for single parent women

SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS CITIZENS BY:

Providing Meals on Wheels for our homebound elderly Providing emergency assistance for low-income seniors

Giving children and teenagers hope for a bright future.

Want to know more?





WORKING TOGETHER FOR LASTING CHANGE

UNITED WAY is committed to helping youth succeed, stabilizing families, empowering lives and improving public safety. United Way connects people to resources, problems to solutions, donors to important causes and hope to the hopeless.

A BRIGHTER FUTURE - A foundational principle of United Way is - every child deserves a chance to grow up with a true sense of hope for a bright future. By supporting the United Way campaign, you can help give a child hope for a better future.



THE GIVING CARD

Supporters of United Way that donate or pledge \$150 or more will receive the United Way Giving Card. Our Giving Card provides attractive discounts at over 40 local businesses, retailers and restaurants. These discounts are available for a full year with no limit on the number of times it can be used. Visit <u>www.unitedwayfd.org</u> for a full listing of participating merchants.

United Way of Greater Fort Dodge

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2024-2025 UNITED WAY COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN Building Hope - Changing Lives



OFFERING HOPE for a BRIGHTER FUTURE

www.unitedwayfd.org

Programs

BEDS FOR KIDS

Over the past 14 years, United Way has distributed over 1,500 beds to children who lack a bed and were sleeping on couches or drafty floors.

HOPE FOR HEALING FUND

United Way helps low-income families with transportation assistance to get seriously ill children to Iowa City, Des Moines or Rochester.

PERSONAL NEEDS

For children that lack important staples of life, United Way helps meet these needs. Be it coats, shoes and other clothing items, eyeglasses, or personal hygiene items, United Way helps.

FOOD ASSISTANCE

United Way helps food insecure families by supporting our local food pantries and helping individual families in immediate need of food.

WHEELS FOR WORK

United Way accepts donated vehicles and gives them to families with children that need a car for work, to get their kids to school and to run family errands to the grocery store, doctors office, etc.

BRIDGING THE GAP

United Way accepts gently used furniture, beds and household items and distributes them to families in need to help make their apartment a home.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels provides daily nutritious meals and safety checks to homebound seniors and individuals with disabilities who lack the ability to cook nutritious meals for themselves.



Of every donation to the 100% United Way campaign stays in **Fort Dodge and Webster County**

UNITED WAY WORKS TO CREATE LASTING CHANGE

Offering Hope for Kids



Preventing Child Homelessness

It is estimated that over 100 children are homeless in Fort Dodge every week. And, 1 out of 5 children live in households at risk of becoming homeless. Child homelessness is a crisis in our community. Many children sleep in a different place almost every night because they have no home. These children sleep in basements, on floors, or on chairs or couches. Some even sleep in a car with their parent and other siblings. United Way's Family Support Program helps homeless children and their families by providing emergency housing and helping them attain affordable housing so their children can have a stable home environment.

Basic Needs for Youth

One out of four children and teens in Fort Dodge and Webster County live in poverty or very close to the poverty level and often lack their basic living needs. To learn effectively and grow and develop in a healthy way, their basic needs must be met. Unfortunately, too many children are coping with the social ills of poverty and face many barriers and challenges every day. Be it the need for food, shelter, medical care, personal hygiene items, or not having water or electricity in their home. United Way works with impoverished youth and their families to help them meet their most basic living needs.

Women's Support Network

Hundreds of women in our community are single parents trying to raise their children and work to make enough money to support their families. Inflation has devastated so many of these families. Unfortunately, too many are living in poverty and dealing with ongoing financial crises. Many of these women are trying to raise two to four children on a single income and are constantly facing the stress of being able to pay their rent, and utilities while trying to feed and clothe their children. United Way provides guidance, support and mentoring to help these women get their families on a path to stability and financial self-sufficiency.

Emergency Support

United Way provides emergency assistance for families facing a crisis due to a house fire, the death of a parent or child or a serious medical emergency. Emergencies often leave lower income families in desperate situations. Families facing an emergency or tragedy often need help for housing, food, clothing, and other critical needs. United Way is here to help.

Supporting Our Senior Citizens

In the Fort Dodge area, it is estimated that 15% of our senior citizens live in poverty and another 20% struggle to meet their basic living needs. Many are living on Social Security stipends of \$500 to \$1,000 a month. These senior citizens need our help. Many are members of the "greatest generation," and they deserve our respect and support. They need our help with housing, food, transportation and medical care. United Way is here to help support our seniors through our Meals on Wheels program and our assistance to prevent homelessness and help with other basis living needs.