



UNITED WAY OF GREATER FORT DODGE

HELPING FAMILIES RECOVER FROM A DISASTROUS HOUSE FIRE

Fire Response Fund

Losing your home to fire is one of the worst tragedies any family can face; it is a true disaster in so many ways. It is the loss of much more than a home—it is the loss of comfort and security that a home represents. The victims end up with a deep sense of loss. A fire emergency is a very difficult crisis to deal with for all families, but for lower income families with little or no disposable income, a fire emergency can be devastating.

United Way provides emergency assistance for families facing a crisis due to a house fire. These families need immediate help with housing, food, clothing, transportation, and many other critical needs.

When a family loses its home, the costs for dealing with this crisis are overwhelming for lower income families. Not only are these families coping with a family crisis that is extremely emotional, but they are also having to deal with an immediate financial crisis.

A house fire often destroys everything including personal items such as driver's licenses, social security cards, credit cards, food, all their clothing, all their furniture and other personal items. These families often escape from their home with only the clothes on their backs.

When fire disaster occurs, United Way of Greater Fort Dodge is here to help these families in need of:

- Emergency shelter
- Food
- Clothing
- Prescription drugs and personal hygiene items
- Personal items – driver's license, social security cards, credit cards
- Transportation
- Assistance in find new housing
- Furniture

United Way provides a caring and helpful hand to families in turmoil due to a devastating fire. United Way helps cover costs for families to stay in a local motel until they can find housing. And we provide personal assistance to help these families get resettled into new housing and stabilize their lives that have been traumatically uprooted.

The United Way of Greater Fort Dodge works closely with the Fort Dodge Fire Department so we can respond quickly to help families that need immediate assistance.

Community support, and knowing how to help after a house fire, thus becomes extremely critical for victims to rebuild their lives. Donations from caring businesses and citizens to our United Way Fire Response Fund help us be there for families that are dealing with a life-altering event.



Donations to help families devastated by a fire can be made payable to the **United Way Fire Response Fund** and mailed to
United Way of Greater Fort Dodge, 24 North 9th Street, Suite B, Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501.