DEAR FRIENDS,

The United Way of Douglas County has deep roots in our area. Our very first Campaign Chair was none other than Coach Forrest "Phog" Allen who first approached the KU campus with a letter that stated, "we recognize the needs of our neighbors, and we unfailingly respond to those needs founded upon helpful services." From this humble beginning in 1940, the United Way is still striving for the same goal year after year, it is in our DNA to help those in need.

United Way works with government offices, businesses and non-profit organizations to find solutions to our most pressing issues. In addition to our grants, we provide to multiple agencies, we manage the Roger Hill Volunteer Center and the AmeriCorps program. This creates additional capacity for the agencies that provide life-changing services to vulnerable populations.

Thank you for your continued support. When we UNITE together, we can make a difference. We cannot do this without you and your support. As Phog Allen so eloquently stated,

"In the name of those less fortunate than we, I am,
Sincerely yours,"

Peggy Johnson - Interim CEO
OUR BOARD

OFFICERS

Kurt Schueler
Chair

Krystal Loomis
Chair-Elect

Jacy Hurst
Secretary

Kate Campbell
Treasurer

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University of Kansas

Blake Glover
The Law Offices of Blake Glover

Ashley All
Communications Consultant & Strategist

Jacy Hurst
Kutak Rock, LLP

Krystal Loomis
Children’s Alliance of KS

Kurt Schueler
Garmin International

Kate Campbell
Community Volunteer

Melissa Rhodes
University of Kansas

OUR STAFF

Peggy Johnson
Interim CEO

Mandy Enfield
Director of Operations

Ali Dover
Director of Marketing & Resource Development

Amy Fultz
Operations Manager

Grace Brunner, AmeriCorps Member
Volunteer Events & Program Coordinator

Kjrsten "KJ" Abel Ruch
Director of Community Engagement

Mary Kirkendoll
Eudora Resource Center Navigator
MISSION: Fighting Poverty & Improving Lives by Uniting Douglas County

For the last two years, a variety of complex challenges have disrupted routines and forced us to find new approaches to our work. This 2-year annual report combines data from 2020 & 2021 to better illustrate our county-wide efforts throughout the pandemic. All reported numbers represent combined data unless otherwise noted.
COMMUNITY IMPACT

GOALS

The United Way envisions a thriving, healthy and resilient Douglas County. Our goal is that all people have an equal opportunity to succeed. We focus our efforts on these areas of need, health, financial stability, education and racial equity.

We are proud of our funded partners’ ability to strategically adapt to pandemic challenges. Despite impossible circumstances, they continued to serve the needs of their clients and impact our community for good!
GOAL
Equitable access to quality services & resources to foster complete physical, mental, emotional & social well-being for everyone in Douglas County.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT
Success by Six received funding to support the Doulas of Douglas County Program, a community-based collective of Doulas providing prenatal, postpartum and parenting support to Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) communities.

“This project has made a significant impact on the growing community served by the doulas” - TRACI DOTSON

Doulas of Douglas County is a community-based collective of Doulas providing prenatal, postpartum and parenting support to BIPOC communities. They have worked to replace the net income of working moms to support healthy bonding and to relieve the economic constraints and distress that interfere with that bonding. These Doulas have implemented the BIPOC Parent-Infant Bonding Project: a paid leave program for BIPOC women served by the Doulas of Douglas County.

With the United Way’s support, they replaced the net income of working moms through cash payments while providing doula support through pregnancy, birth and into the postpartum period. These programs relieve economic, social and emotional distress that BIPOC birthing people face while pregnant and parenting. Having a baby guarantees an increase in expenses and most often comes with some sort of loss of income. Whether temporary or long-term, the result is families being pushed further into poverty. Since, July 1, 2021, Doulas of Douglas County have been able to serve 29 families.
GOAL

All youth in Douglas County have equitable opportunities to achieve their full potential through quality education.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

Positive Bright Start received funding to pay for scholarships for eligible children to participating sites regardless of whether the child attended or whether the center was open to maintain capacity.

“...United Way funding allowed us to maintain staff capacity” - ANNA JENNY

Positive Bright provides several services to support children and their caregivers. These programs include, early childhood education, therapy services, financial aid and food program.

Through the use of United Way funding, Positive Bright Start was able to fund 30 preschool children through their scholarship program, as well as adapting their staff and client needs through the peak of COVID. State, Federal and United Way funding allowed Positive Bright Start to maintain staff capacity.

One of the creative adaptions made by Positive Bright Start was utilizing teletherapy for their mental health services. They have maintained a positive outlook and continued to strengthen our community through their vital services.
FINANCIAL STABILITY

GOAL

Equitable access to quality services & resources to foster complete physical, mental, emotional & social well-being for everyone in Douglas County.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

Providing a resource connection to health foods, food budgeting and education in Douglas County through the Just Food.

“Just Food has expanded services and now offers home delivery to individuals all across Douglas County for the first time in the organization’s history”. - ELIZABETH KEEVER

The food disparity has increased in Douglas County by 400%. To address these issues, Just Food expanded services to include home delivery to individuals all across Douglas County for the first time in the organization’s history as well as an ongoing curbside distribution. With these methods, clients received grocery boxes with non-perishable and perishable products that vary based on household size.

Just Food is truly the first line of defense for individuals experiencing difficult circumstances. In addition to the food pantry, Just Food also offers programs that aim to reduce barriers to health and well-being and cultivating self-sufficiency. These programs include a garden initiative, cooking classes, kitchen supplies and other household basics. Just Food believes any responses to food insecurity must also address the overlapping challenges our friends and neighbors face each day.
RACIAL EQUITY

GOAL
Just, equitable and inclusive community for residents of all racial and ethnic backgrounds in Douglas County.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT
A Community Closet to provide clothing and supplies to those in need. The closet focuses on houseless, low income, struggling and BIPOC members of the community.

“Not only is this project helping me build and grow, it directly serves & gives a voice to the needs of the BIPOC community members I serve” - CLARE NDERAGAKURA

Clare’s Community, a project created out of love, began with a need for winter supplies in December of 2020. Clare’s Closet was able to partner with other United Way Racial Equity Grant recipients to further the connection of the Closet within the BIPOC community. Clare focuses on individual needs and has provided items like, purses, coats, shoes and cell phones.

The Closet also works with the Municipal Court and anyone who needs to serve community service hours can complete them on location, with BIPOC members having first preference. Clare’s giving heart does not stop there. She works closely with other organizations to maximize community impact. She is truly a community connector.
COMMUNITY VALUE

IT ADDS UP!

Our United Way network strives to engage community members, especially those whose voices have traditionally been marginalized. We work with residents, and public and private partners to co-create solutions that ensure everyone has the resources, support, opportunities and networks they need to thrive. We commit to leveraging all of our assets (convening, strategic investments, awareness building and advocacy) to create more equitable communities. When the United Way fundraisers, we not only make sure the funds are going where they are most needed, but also, providing capacity to our local agencies to focus on what they do best. No one agency can do it all!

In 2020 & 2021, we provided **$1,188,500** in grant funding

& an additional **$187,570** in federal grant facilitation.

85.5% goes directly to local agencies and United Way Programming

Only 15.5% is used for administrative costs.

In 2021, our volunteers provided over **$411,000** in service hours,

Saving our local agencies each **thousands** in labor costs.
“Folks who donate to the United Way know their dollars will have the greatest impact. They know it’s the smart choice because serving the community means knowing the community. We do the work to understand Douglas County and we make informed funding and programming decisions that target the neediest among us.”

- MANDY ENFIELD
  Director of Operations
The United Way of Douglas County maintained an average of 14.5% fundraising and operating expenses in 2020 & 2021. That means, 85.5% of the money raised, goes right back into our community through grants, United Way programming and volunteer services.

*Average fundraising cost calculated using 990 reports from 7 partner agencies.
COMMUNITY VALUE

UNITED WAY is the **SMARTTEST** way to give back

$1,088,500
Anti-Poverty & Family Stabilization Grants in 2020 & 2021

$65,000
Basic Needs Mini Grants in 2021 for COVID-19 recovery

$35,000
Racial Equity Grants in 2021

DID YOU KNOW?

In addition to our 2020 & 2021 grant awards, the United Way also disbursed $21,000 in designated donations. These funds are on top of any grant awards and are never used to supplement our grant-making.

We also facilitate a variety of grant opportunities that go directly to local agencies, like the $187,570 in federal Emergency Food and Shelter funds. This long-standing program is a labor of love and 98% of every award goes directly into the hands of those who need it most.
UNITED WAY PROGRAMS

United Way of Douglas County is creating a more equitable community for us all. Through partnerships with nonprofits, local government, businesses, community advocates and volunteers, we are building a just and fair Douglas County with equitable inclusion in which all can participate, prosper and reach their full potential. These things include grant programs, resources, communication, collaboration outlets and volunteer management.

GRANTS

ANTI-POVERTY & FAMILY STABILIZATION

In 2020 & 2021, The United Way was able to provide $1,088,500 through our Anti-Poverty and Family Stabilization grant programs. Twenty agencies used these funds toward our shared goals of health, education, and financial stability. A special one-time grant was created to provide basic needs support to those impacted by COVID. Through this, an additional $65,000 was awarded to local agencies to prevent utility cut-offs, homelessness and food insecurity for over 350 Douglas County families.

Supplemental Funds

$65,000 in Basic Needs Mini Grants were given to ten local agencies in 2021 to support programs that were directly assisting individuals and families. Those grant recipients were:

- Ballard Center
- Boys & Girls Club
- Catholic Charities
- Lawrence Community Shelter
- Eudora Schools Foundation
- Tenants to Homeowners
- CIS Mid-America
- Positive Bright Start
- Just Food
- Sunrise Project

RACIAL EQUITY

In our fight to end poverty, the United Way has taken a stand to not do “business as usual” if it perpetuates racial or other forms of inequities. In 2021, the Racial Equity Grant Program was introduced and provided $35,000 to grassroots and community non-profit organizations in Douglas County. These projects focused on increasing equity and opportunities for local BIPOC communities.
RESOURCES

COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS
As a bridge between service providers and participant communities, our Resource Navigators and Housing Navigators link community members to the local landscape of service providers to improve their access to housing and other resources.

The Eudora Resource Center collected over 300 surveys, relaying the highest priority needs in the community

TRAININGS & SUPPORT
Additionally, the United Way offers a Video Production Kit, the Alive & Well Trauma Training Program, Mengel Swim Pass, grant writing support, non-profit status resources, a Dental Community Benefit Program and so much more.

COLLABORATIONS
172 is the number of times the United Way convened community leaders and volunteers to foster collaboration between the many social services that exist in our community in 2020 & 2021.

By bringing people from different agencies together to discuss mutual goals and strategize, we reduce overlap, increase communication and build a network of resources that are able to assist Douglas County residents in a holistic, informed manner.
ROGER HILL VOLUNTEER CENTER

Founded in 1990, the Roger Hill Volunteer Center is a nexus for volunteer recruitment, coordination and engagement for all of Douglas County. Named in honor of the late Roger Hill, the center seeks to promote volunteerism and help local non-profits to utilize this invaluable resource in a way that is both effective and responsible. The United Way facilitates this through volunteerdouglascounty.org, overseeing the Volunteer Managers Group, and working with local government to advise and contribute to volunteer initiatives as needed.

Our mission is to provide meaningful volunteer opportunities for residents of Douglas County, that create a lasting, positive impact on local non-profits and help those in need to create achievable pathways out of poverty and into prosperity.

over 4,300 people volunteered for over 16,000 service hours saving $458,000 in labor costs

PLUS over $15,700 value in collected & donated items were distributed to our community

The United Way of Douglas County is Service Enterprise Certified & is a part of the top 11% of high preforming non-profits nationwide!
COVID-RESPONSE

Vaccination Sites

A total of 2,162 volunteers were organized to assist during the mass vaccination sites across Douglas County in 2021.

School Lunches

Roger Hill Volunteers helped serve a total of 46,200 lunches in 2020 to students during remote learning, providing a meal they could depend on.

AmeriCorps

In 2021 the United Way was awarded $163,000 for AmeriCorps members to assist with COVID recovery at our local agencies.

Supply Distribution

In 2020 & 2021, the Roger Hill Volunteer Center helped distribute bottles of hand sanitizer, 15,900 masks, Covid-19 test kits and other supplies to our local agencies and businesses.
Day of Action

United Way’s Day of Action provides opportunities for individuals and groups to be part of the solution that make a real difference in people’s lives.

In 2021, several volunteer groups went out into the community to help older adults with property maintenance, including cleaning garden beds, trimming brushes, heavy lifting and other yard work.

A few hours by many individuals made a huge impact on the lives of many in our community.

Back2School

The Back2School Drive for Douglas County is a collaborative effort between local school districts, non-profits and community volunteers to meet the school supply needs of students and teachers in our county. This includes public schools in Lawrence, Eudora and Baldwin City.

Donations of money and supplies were collected through business and community partnerships, tabling outside of retail stores, online wish lists, donation bins and more.

$13,442 in supplies were distributed.

MLK Day of Service

Thanks to the support of Kansas Volunteer Commission, The Allstate Foundation and Youth Service America, volunteers created art kits based on the work of Alma Woodsey Thomas, 20th century painter.

With the partnership of the Lawrence Public Library, Lawrence Arts Center and Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence, the United Way was able to distribute almost 300 kits. The art was then utilized to create a traveling exhibit and are the decorative elements featured throughout this report! This project engaged over 1,000 Community Members through service, African American history and art.
VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

AmeriCorps

In support of our mission for a thriving, health and resilient Douglas County, the United Way coordinates the AmeriCorps Program to support the direct service capacity of local non-profit health and human service agencies. The United Way places AmeriCorps members at host-site non-profit organizations throughout Douglas County, KS. Each member takes on a unique program or project that will help the organization better serve their clients and our community. Members work on projects to increase capacity for leadership, nonprofit operations, community engagement, outreach and direct services.

Other volunteer programs include:

- Brainfood Book Program
- Group Volunteer Coordination
- Literacy & Hygiene Kits
- Poverty Simulation Workshops
- Donation Drives
- Student United Way
- Youth Service Coalition
- and Much More

“Volunteering is a great way to thank those in our community who sometimes don’t always receive thanks.”

- JEDDREK ROWDEN
  KU Student Volunteer

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

The Roger Hill Volunteer Center is dedicated to creating a fulfilling and mutually beneficial process. Our website, volunteer douglascounty.org, is a useful tool for volunteers and local agencies alike. It is a great way to keep track of volunteer hours and navigate options that fit your needs. The Volunteer Center also offers volunteer management resources, including a "zoom group" and an annual management conference.
# 2020-2021 Leadership Givers

## Tocqueville Society

- Becky & Gary Dick
- Denton Elder
- Jedel Family Foundation
- Karen Dumermuth
- Kaye & Chris Drahozal
- Kurt Schueler & Brian Becker
- Peggy & Larry Johnson
- The Rice Foundation

## Spirit of Kaw Valley Association

### $7,500 to $9,999
- Barb & Bruce Twarog

### $5,000 to $7,499
- Amy Lee & Rick Frydman
- Anthony Schmidt
- Family Foundation
- Barbara Thomas
- Deborah & Michael Orozco
- Donna & Smitty Belcher
- Jane & Charles Eldredge
- Kathy Perkins & Stan Davis
- Durand Reiber & Martin Moore
- Mary & Jeff Weinberg
- Mary & Wint Winter
- Mary Petefish Trust
- Monica Biernat & Chris Crandall
- Rosemary & John Elmore

## $2,500 to $4,999
- Andrea & David Baloga
- Ann & Steve Johnson
- Anna & David Volkman
- Ashley & Matt All
- Bp. John Haslam
- Carolyn Young
- Cheryl Ramberg-Ford
- Allyn Ford
- Colette & Ron Gaches
- Connie & Gary Sollars
- Dr. Linda & Scott Robinson
- Dr. Molly Imber
- Gary L. Grunewald
- Helen Kiefer
- Ingham Family Foundation
- James Inman
- Janet & Thomas Peard
- Jeffrey DeWitt

## $2,500 to $4,999
- Jill Shelley
- Joan & Web Golden
- Judy & Jack Wright
- Larissa & Jim Long
- Linda & John Lungstrum
- Marsha & Mark Buhler
- Mary & James Keefer
- Nancy & Marty Bregman
- Pam & Doug Houston
- Patricia & Joe Baker
- Robilea Swindell
- Sandy Brown & Lee R. Bittenbender
- Stella Family Fund
- Sue & Dick Himes
- Suzanne M. Sherr
- Toni & Orley Taylor
- Wilma & James Blom

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"I am committed to the unique role United Way plays in our community to support grassroots community organizations and coordination of access to important human services organizations."

- **Beth Llewellyn**
  Relationship & Strategy Consultant
2020-2021 LEADERSHIP GIVERS

$1,000 to $2,449

Alan Feltz
Alice L. Bean
Amy & Dr. John Bradley
Ann Gardner & Tom Gleason
Anna Jenny
Anne & Graham Walker
Anne & Michael Shaw
Anne & Norman Yetman
Annette & Ken Wertzberger
Barbara & Dick Schowen
Beth E. Cigler
Beth Llewellyn & Sandy Hull
Beth Wasson & Paul Stuewe
Betsy & Rob Weaver
Betsy & Steve Six
Betty Bottiger
Brenda & Rob Parrish
Bruce E. Vaughn Charitable Fund
Brunfeldt Family Fund
Carol & Dave Kyner
Carol & Don Hatton
Carol & Jeff Schmidt
Carolyn & Dan Harden
Carolyn & Gordon Montney
Carolyn & John Landgrebe
Casey N. Toomay
Catherine Campbell
Catherine Nelson
Cathy Schwabauer
Cecilia & Martin Burke
Celia & James Heintz
Christina Bayer
Cindy & Dr. Michael Well
Cindy & Mitch Yulich
Cindy & Stephen Carttar
Craig Owens
Dan Watkins
Daniel R. Johnson
David Byrne
Deb & Kevin Boatright
Debbie & Mike Zabel
Deborah D. Perbeck
Diane Stoddard
Dina M. Haverty
Donna Olson
Dr. Steve Bruner
Earl Van Meter Trust
Eleanor Woodyard
Ellen E. Sward
Eric A. Devin
Erika, John, Nicholas & Renee Dvorske
Gary N. Haworth
Georgia & Dick Orchard
Grace & Tom Carmody
Helen & David Alexander
Isabel & Russell Johnson
Jackie A. Lord
Jalon & Chris Hutchens
Jan & Cal Karlin
Jani & Richard Flynn
Jeremy J. Fischer
Jewell & G. Paul Willhite
Jill McGrew
Jim E. Sherman
John Nalbandian
Johnson & Grotewiel Giving Fund
Joonha Park
June & Dave Adams
Kallie & Frank Male
Karen & Tony Mynsted
Karen Kressin
Karin Rexroad
Katherine & Robert Dinsdale
Kathleen & Gary Sebelius
Katie Armitage
Kim Hamlin
Larry R. Bakerink
Laura Borchert
Laurie Comstock
Leroy Komma
Lilan & Fred Six
Linda & Victor Frost
Lois & Jack Leatherman
Loree & Justin Cordova
Mabel L. Rice
Marci Francisco & Joe Bickford
Marcia & Stephen Hill Family Fund
Margaret Livingood
Margery & Carl McElwee
Marie Alice L’Heureux
Marie Galluzzi Potter
Marilyn & Kelvin Heck Bittenbender
Marilyn & Tom Dobski
Mark Gonzales
Marlene & Jim Witthaus
Marlin Harmony
Mary & Pat Ross
Mary Kate & David Ambler
MaryJo & Dr. Willem Anermaat
Megan & Joshua Pearson
Meredith Hartley
Michael Hageman
Michael Kaufman
Michael Wehmeyer
Michele Hammann
Molly & Scott McVey
Murali Mantrala
Nancy & Dr. Jeff Hambleton
Nancy & Mike Scott
Nicki & John Listerman
Pat & Bob Newton
Patricia Campbell
Paul Schumaker
Phyllis & Stan Rolfe
Ralph Metcalf
Ramon Schmidt
Ray E. Carter Jr.
Rebecca & Lorin Maletsky
Richard S. & Susan M. Givens Family Fund
Robert Casad
Roger Stalcup
Rosalea & Peter Carttar
Scott J. Miller
Sharyn Brooks Katzman
& David M. Katzman
Sonja Kaufman
Steph & Tom Karasek
Stephen Egbert
Steve & Chris Edmonds
Susan & Mark Osborn
Tana & Mike Ahlen
Terese Gorman & Steve Glass
Terri A. Harris
The Schnose Family Giving Fund
Tom & Gaye Groene
Tom Harper
Tracy Cullers
Travis Curtis Goff
Uma Outka
Vicki & Joe Douglas
Victoria Thomas
William and Barbara Carswell Family Fund
“The Willow serves community clients with housing and employment assistance... The United Way grant helped to fund these two critical programs and make them possible for some of the most vulnerable members of the community.”

- Alicia Cusano-Weissenbach
The Willow, Director of Finance
COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Through the United Way Coalition for Human Services, our Roger Hill Volunteer Center, and the AmeriCorps Programs, we are able to work collectively with other agencies towards common goals. We collaborate through shared resources, events, grant projects, community trainings and more. Through all of these methods we are able to provide the essential connections to UNITE Douglas County.

2020-2021 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Big Brothers Big Sisters
Boys & Girls Club
Catholic Charities of NE Kansas
Child Care Aware
Clare's Community Closet
Communities In School
Community Children's Center Inc
Heartland Community Health Center
Hidden Jewel
Housing & Credit Counseling Inc
Independence Inc
Indigenous Community Center
Just Food
Kansas Suicide Prevention HQ
Lawrence Community Housing Trust
Lawrence Community Shelter
Maseulkauli Farms
Positive Bright Start
Sanctuary Alliance
Senior Resource Center
Sisters With A Purpose
Success By 6
Sunrise Project
The Elizabeth Ballard Center
The Sexual Trauma & Abuse Care Center
The Willow Domestic Violence Center
We All We Got

IMPACT PARTNERS

100 Good Women Lawrence
American Cancer Society
American Red Cross
Audio Reader
Avalon Hospice
Baker Wetlands
Be More Like Clare
Bert Nash Community Center
Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence
Brandon Woods at Alvamar
Centro Hispano Resource Center
Children's Learning Center
City of Lawrence
Community Living Opportunities
Community Village
Cottonwood Inc.
DARE Center
DCCA
Douglas County CASA
Douglas County Community Corrections
Douglas County Community Foundation
Douglas County
Douglas County Teencenter
Douglas County Relay For Life
ECKAN
Elara Caring Hospice
Eudora Public Library
Family Promise of Lawrence
Friends of Hidden Valley Inc.
Girl Scouts of NE. KS. & NW. MO.
Goodwill of Western Missouri & Eastern Kansas
Grassland Heritage Foundation
Harvesters Community Food Network
Heartland Community Health Center
Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc
Housing Authority
Independence, Inc
Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging
Justice Matters
Kansas Appleseed Center for Law and Justice
Lawrence Art Guild
Lawrence Arts Center
Lawrence Farmer's Market
Lawrence Habitat For Humanity
Lawrence Humane Society
Lawrence Parents As Teachers
Lawrence Public Library
Lawrence Douglas County Health Department
Lawrence Meals on Wheels
Lawrence Memorial Hospital
Lawrence Restaurant Association
Legal Aid
LINK Kitchen
LiveWell Douglas County
March of Dimes
Operation Wildlife
Safe Kids Douglas County
Salvation Army
Social Service League
Special Olympics Kansas
The University of Kansas
Toys For Tots
Trinity In Home Care
USD #497
Van Go Inc.
Visiting Nurses Association
Watkins Community Museum
Youth Service Coalition
THANK YOU

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