

UNITED WAY OF MONROE COUNTY #35-0985959

Form 990, Schedule O Program Service Accomplishments

United Way of Monroe County works with 24 member agencies and a network of other community partners to provide comprehensive and collaborative solutions that help local residents improve their lives. We have served Monroe County since 1936, and became a United Fund/Way in 1956.

By focusing on the building blocks of a better life – Education, Earnings, & Essentials — we find and support solutions to the most pressing issues in our community.



Specifically, we work to meet these priorities:

Our Priorities		
Education	Earnings	Essentials
Helping children, youth, and adults achieve their potential by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entering school ready to succeed • Graduating school ready to earn • Continuing to build job and life skills 	Helping hard working families get ahead by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining or gaining stable employment • Increasing and retaining income • Building savings and assets 	Helping individuals and families meet basic needs with access to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient food • A stable place to live • Health care and wellness • Crisis management skills

In 2009, United Way invested \$2,568,377 in support of 24 certified member agencies, other exempt organizations, and United Way initiatives. We also distributed \$153,784 to 89 exempt organizations through the Combined Federal Campaign.

Donations were invested in local programs and achieved measurable results:

Highlights of Our Results		
Education	Earnings	Essentials
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 7,500 youth participated in after-school programs, day care, educational opportunities, mentoring, therapy, and other organized activities at partner agencies. • Together with our partners, we formed the Monroe County Dropout Prevention Coalition, and oriented 50 youth workers and school counselors to Check & Connect[®], a model proven to improve school outcomes and reduce dropouts. • We launched the Monroe Smart Start Birth-to-Five Coalition in partnership with the Community Foundation and Smithville Charitable Foundation, to ensure children enter kindergarten healthy, happy, and ready to succeed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the VITA Community Team, we helped 29% more low-to-moderate income people file their taxes and obtain over \$900,000 in refunds, including 57% more in Earned Income Tax Credits. • Basic needs services such as a food, financial assistance, bus tickets, and clothing helped more than 300 employed community members stabilize their households during crises. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 10,500 residents in need were provided with medical services, equipment, prescription assistance, screenings, and counseling, enabling them to maintain their health. • Partner agencies provided more than 1,350,000 meals to community members at risk of hunger. Demand for food was up 16%-28%. • 2-1-1 operators responded to 26% more calls. Most callers were seeking help with health care, housing and utilities, food, employment, and education. • About 7,000 free bus passes helped individuals get to jobs, job interviews, and health care appointments.

Highlights of Our Results

Education	Earnings	Essentials
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 350 free books were distributed to preschool children in six child care centers during Day of Action. • Over 750 families received <i>Born Learning</i> materials filled with research-based parenting tips for children birth to five. • The American Red Cross trained 7,443 people in First Aid, CPR, AED, swimming, lifeguarding, etc. • Amethyst House helped 11 clients enroll in a GED program and 12 take classes at IU and Ivy Tech. • At Area 10 Agency on Aging, 78% of students tutored by seniors markedly improved reading scores. • Big Brothers Big Sisters' expanded middle school mentoring programs into all four, matching 42 students with mentors, a 25% increase. • Children with a Big are 46% less likely to start using illegal drugs, and 52% less likely to skip school • At Boys & Girls Clubs, kids increased their math and reading test scores by 45% and 26%, and over 66% felt better prepared for school. • Through Catholic Charities, students improved their social skills, and learned how to resolve conflicts appropriately and to value diversity. • At Girls Inc., 100% of the teenage girls participating in after-school programs graduated high school. • 95% of families reported that Girls Inc. helped their daughters become more interested in technology and science; all said their girls became more interested in playing sports. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner agencies provided over 1,200 at-risk residents with assistance gaining or maintaining jobs • Women staying at Amethyst House saved at least 5% of their monthly income to help meet housing needs upon moving. • While working with Amethyst House, 25% of clients received work promotions • At Area 10, RSVP volunteers served as job coaches for 767 low-income and recently-incarcerated clients, helping 134 secure jobs. • Catholic Charities offered youth programming needed by 75% of parents in SCCAP's Circles Program. • 92% of ILS clients either increased or maintained their income and assets. • 83% of Middle Way House residents increased income. • At Monroe County United Ministries, 69% of parents believed enrolling their child in MCUM's child care increased their own opportunities for stable employment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Monroe County Long Term Recovery Committee, a United Way program, assisted more than 500 individuals and families affected by the severe storms and floods of 2008. • Nearly 500 families were kept from homelessness because they received help with rent, utilities, and legal issues. • Abilities Unlimited distributed or loaned 1,215 pieces of medical equipment and home health items. • The American Red Cross provided 34 individuals and families with emergency food, shelter, and supplies to help them recover from home fires. • At Amethyst House, 80% of clients in residential substance abuse programs are drug and alcohol free at discharge. • At Area 10's Endwright Center, nearly 24,000 seniors participated in health screenings, health seminars, intergenerational community programs, and computer, art, and exercise classes. • Over 80% of Catholic Charities' clients showed significant progress toward the goals they developed. • Community Kitchen served 185,029 meals -- 61% to children and 17% to seniors. The agency also distributed 2,413 weekend backpacks, up 24%; served 51% more lunches and after-school snacks to at-risk children, and delivered 11,985 summer breakfasts to children in 3 programs and 8 low-income neighborhoods. • Hoosier Hills Food Bank distributed 3,165,145 pounds of food, up 29%. HHFB provides 71% of food distributed by local pantries.

Highlights of Our Results

Education	Earnings	Essentials
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Middle Way House, 92% of children maintained good grades or increased their grades; 100% of seniors graduated & started college. • MCCSC and RBB Assistance Funds helped almost 500 students with dental care, vision screenings and glasses, prescription medication, and clothing like shoes and coats. • 73% of the families at Monroe County United Ministries said they were now more aware of how they can support their young child's development and education at home. • At Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, 91% of class participants report that their diets improved as a result of MHC's gardening or nutrition classes. • Options and Stone Belt led an alliance to help students with disabilities succeed in school. Of the 203 participants, 99% graduated. (The usual rate is only 80-85%.) • PALS riders report increased concentration, focus, and a positive attitude toward therapy and school. • At Rhino's, of the 28 graduate age youth in the program, all 28 of them graduated, with 20 planning to attend college or technical school. • All students enrolled in Salvation Army after-school programs advanced to the next grade. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Options placed 14 unemployed individuals with disabilities into gainful employment, and helped another 33 maintain their jobs. • At Stone Belt, 97 people with disabilities held community jobs, working about 20 hours a week for pay. Of those, 6 earned promotions with increased hours, pay, and/or responsibilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indiana Legal Services assisted 58 families facing termination of access to health care (primarily Medicaid) and 34 facing cuts in benefits like Food Stamps. • Middle Way's Emergency Shelter provided 184 people (125 women, 59 children) a total of 5,358 days of shelter. • During the past year, 12 families moved out of MWH's The Rise into safe and affordable housing. Six months later, they are still living in that housing. • At Monroe County United Ministries, there were 3,731 requests for basic needs assistance (including food, utilities, cleaning closet items, clothing items, and rent/mortgage assistance). Of those 1,231 families, 39% were seeking help for the first time. • Planned Parenthood provided 100 local women free access to potentially life-saving colposcopies and performed 8 LEEPs to remove abnormal cells. • Shalom Center prevented homelessness for 227 families. • Volunteers in Medicine saw almost 100 patients a day, up 20%, and distributed nearly \$3 million worth of medication for acute and chronic illnesses.

We Partner to Achieve Community Goals

- In partnership with the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County, and the Smithville Charitable Foundation, we launched the Monroe Smart Start Birth-to-Five Coalition in October 2009. This new initiative is bringing families and communities together to make sure children enter kindergarten healthy, happy, and ready to succeed. More than 50 local leaders from education, government, faith, health, and human services, along with parents and other community members, are active Coalition members.

- We chair the Emergency Food and Shelter Board, a group of government, faith, and nonprofit leaders, to allocate federal funds that provide food, rent, and utility assistance to low-income residents.
- Together with the Chamber, Prosecutor's Office, schools, and other community partners, we formed the Monroe County Dropout Prevention Coalition, which holds summits, publishes an e-newsletter, maintains a service guide for at-risk youth, and seeks to bring a youth voice to the dropout issue. We also oriented 50 youth workers and school counselors to Check & Connect[®], a model proven to improve school outcomes and reduce dropouts.
- The Homeward Bound Walk, Interfaith Winter Shelter, Hunger and Homelessness Week, NonProfit Alliance, and Monroe Smart Start receive our fiscal services at no charge, saving them money for programs.
- For over two years, the Monroe County Long Term Recovery Committee, led by United Way, assisted 500 families recover from the 2008 floods. The Committee will continue to meet to help our community be well prepared for any future disasters.
- We have full accreditation from United Way Worldwide, meeting or exceeding all membership standards. In the past few years, we earned the Chamber workforce award, a statewide communications award, the Chamber family-friendly workplace award, and a Midwest staff excellence award.
- We bring critical funding into our community by providing important information to local, state and federal officials.
- United Way provides funding and technical assistance for the Monroe and Owen County "211infolink" service. This partnership between UW and other organizations makes a simple but critical connection between people seeking services and the appropriate community-based organizations and government agencies.
- Working with local early childhood education and health care providers, we bring United Way's *Born Learning* into childcare centers and pediatricians' offices. Materials provided by United Way are distributed through childbirth classes and available to parents of all babies born at Bloomington Hospital. All mothers in the maternity unit have access to the parenting video. *Born Learning* encourages parents, grandparents, and caregivers to turn everyday tasks into learning experiences for children birth to five.
- United Way and Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) began the process of updating our social service needs assessment.
- With the City of Bloomington, Community Foundation, and SPEA, we sponsor the NonProfit Alliance of Monroe County, which brings trainings, networking and outreach opportunities to help strengthen the operations of all nonprofit organizations and prepare future professionals.
- We worked with management, union, and state, and local officials to assist workers who have become displaced from their jobs.
- United Way's Day of Action placed 180 volunteers at 17 area agencies.
- We raised \$180,487 in the Combined Federal Campaign for the Crane Area.
- United Way partnered with over a dozen businesses and organizations to sponsor a series of education workshops developed by the Foundation for MCC Schools.
- We are helping Bloomington Hospital review its options for future sites.
- Working with nonprofits, local financial institutions, and government, we are building a Financial Stability Alliance that focuses specifically on helping residents become and stay financially stable.
- United Way is partnering with the YMCA of Monroe County, the City Parks and Recreation Department, the County Health Department, and others to promote ACHIEVE, a community-wide wellness initiative.
- In collaboration with the Monroe County Public Library, we host and provide materials for the nonprofit resource center and co-sponsor free access to a national grant search service for local agencies.