



UNITED WAY
Cowlitz and
Wahkiakum Counties

Impact Report

April 2024 thru March 2025

We mobilize the caring power of our community to continuously improve the lives of every person in Cowlitz & Wahkiakum Counties.

United Way invests your donations directly back into our community to create meaningful, lasting change in Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Counties. Each year, we fund local nonprofit programs that strengthen education, promote financial stability, improve health, and community resiliency. This includes providing preschool scholarships, supporting an early learning navigator, delivering youth and family services, assisting with housing needs, and ensuring access to emergency food and shelter.

We also proudly fund Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, giving free books each month to children under five to help them develop a love of reading and start school ready to succeed.

Your support makes all of this possible!



Healthy Community.

Improving health and well-being for all.



Financial Security.

Building financial stability and strength.



Youth Opportunity.

Helping young people realize their full potential.



Community Resiliency.

Addressing urgent needs today for a better tomorrow.

\$272,00.00

Donor Dollars Making a Difference Every Day

Plus \$111,745 - the value of our **702** dedicated volunteers, who contributed **3,212** hours of service. Of those, **397** Day of Caring volunteers completed **27** community projects in a single day, leaving a lasting mark on local nonprofits and neighbors in need.



United Way funding helped **32,097** individuals access nutritious food & supported **2,102** individuals with essential needs such as propane, transportation, auto repairs, children's shoes, utility payments, prescriptions, eye care, and medical bill assistance—providing vital relief during challenging times.

United Way funding helped over **40** families, including more than **100** children, stay in their homes through rental, utility, and security deposit assistance. Shelter was provided for **37** individuals in **10** families— **6** of whom are now stably housed.



535 court cases were supported, ensuring clients received free referrals, connections to additional legal providers, and access to case management staff. These services removed barriers to justice and provided critical support at no cost to those in need.

56 adults and **55** children that were fleeing from domestic violence were provided **4,349** safe shelter nights. This support offered safety, stability, and hope to families during their most critical time of need. **316** individuals were provided safety planning.



607 individuals attended classes or workshops focused on self-love, positive body acceptance, intuitive eating and nutrition.

5,207 individuals accessed peer-led support and prevention services, receiving guidance, resources, and encouragement to overcome eating disorders and improve body image.



A Family Resource Navigator assisted **109** families, including support for **44** families with child care needs. In total, **194** families were connected to benefits and community partners—linking them with food banks, diapers, formula, medical resources, rent assistance, legal aid, DSHS support, and more.



38 Families with **52** children, age birth to 5, attended an early learning play group for a total of **30** weeks. Sessions included play time and, a structured circle time with songs, stories, and a craft.

40+ Chuukese high school students attended a mentorship program.



41,809 free, age-appropriate books were mailed to young children this year, fostering a love of reading from birth to age five. A total of **4,421** children participated in the program, with **1,070** graduating fully prepared to begin kindergarten with strong early literacy skills.

United Way funding helped launch a new mobile library, bringing books and resources directly to individuals who may not otherwise have access. Since its launch, the mobile library has welcomed over **200** visitors and issued **19** new library cards, expanding literacy and learning opportunities in our community.



Approximately **5,200** students gained hands-on learning experiences through school-based gardens. More than **2,000** seeds and hundreds of pounds of soil were distributed to support local growing efforts, and over **5,000** pounds of fresh produce were harvested and shared with the community.

34 children participated in an early education program, gaining a strong foundation for school success. **22** families completed parent support and financial stability training, strengthening household resilience. In addition, **34** children received comprehensive well-child checkups, including dental, vision, hearing, and developmental screenings.



40 teens regularly attended weekly Teen Night at a local nonprofit, with many sharing that it provides them with a safe and supportive place to connect and belong.

Emergency funds provided critical support for community members in need—helping with rent, mortgage, and utility assistance; stocking essential items in food banks; offering shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness; and supplying diapers, formula, and other basic necessities for families.

UNITED IS THE WAY!

United Way works alongside local organizations to develop solutions, build partnerships and increase our impact in the community.

Annual Sponsor Partners



Partners in Impact

Cascade Pacific Council Boy Scouts of America
Children's Discovery Museum
Community Caring Project/Parents' Place
Community House on Broadway
Cowlitz Community Network
Cowlitz County Child Advocates
Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Legal Aid
Emergency Support Shelter
Ethnic Support Council
ESD112

Family Promise of Cowlitz
FISH of Cowlitz County
Hello Life
Lower Columbia Head Start/EHS/ECEAP
Lower Columbia School Gardens
Progress Center
St James Family Center
Woodland Action Center
YMCA of Southwest Washington
Youth & Family Link

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Sponsors

**The Stanley and June
Rose Foundation**



Kelso, Longview &
Woodland Clubs

Event Sponsor Partners

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Glacier NW A CalPortland Company
GT Metal
Heritage Bank
JH Kelly
ilani
Kaiser Permanente
KLOG/KUKN/101.5 The Blitz
Lower Columbia Longshoremen's Credit Union
Main Event Party Store
Matt's Custom Meats
Mike Karnofski
NW Trailer & RV
Penny Parvi American Family Insurance
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