



Our Initiatives play a critical role in bridging service gaps in the community, that also fit our identified goals and objectives. By identifying and addressing areas where support is lacking, we ensure that no one is overlooked, helping individuals and families not just get by but thrive. This approach reflects our commitment to creating a community where everyone has the opportunities and support they need for success.

**YOUTH OPPORTUNITY**

**LITERACY KITS**

Distributed to children across Southwest Louisiana, each kit includes books and volunteer- designed props or games to make the reading interactive

**WRITESTART PROJECT**

Provides school supplies, admin fees and necessary support to children and teachers in need. Providing supplies year-round ensures teachers and students can focus on learning

**BORN LEARNING TRAIL**

Bilingual interactive signs installed on trails or playgrounds that offer engagement and learning opportunities for young children and their families or caregivers

**SUMMER OF SERVICE**

Specifically designed teen volunteer program has human services projects each summer that focus on community members most in need and illustrate the value of serving

**SUCCESS BY 6**

Addresses the lack of access to quality early education childcare for working ALICE families by funding a year of learning for the child with goals and objectives for the parents

**FINANCIAL SECURITY**

**VITA - VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE**

IRS certified United Way volunteers offer free income tax prep for low-income individuals, persons with disabilities, the elderly and limited English speaking taxpayers

**CAL-PRI - CALCASIEU PRISONER RE-ENTRY**

This vital program is a link between formerly incarcerated individuals and the resources available to help them succeed with a new life in the job market and community

**MATCHED SAVINGS**

This program teaches saving and budget habits for those working toward the purchase of a liquid asset. Participants are encouraged to build a down payment with a dollar match upon graduation.

**BANK ON SWLA**

Partnerships with banks and credit unions work to ensure low-income households have access to safe and affordable financial products and services

**EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EMPLOYMENT**

Equips low-income workers with the necessary skills and resources for a more successful job placement

**ALICE - ASSET LIMITED, INCOME CONSTRAINED, EMPLOYED**

Our report on families working and earning above the Federal Poverty Level yet unable to afford basic expenses, rarely qualifying for assistance

**CASEWORK MANAGEMENT PORTFOLIO**

Scalable caseworker program that can address disaster assistance quickly or everyday benefits programs for any government, nonprofit or company's needs

**HEALTHY COMMUNITY**

**CRISIS CHAT**

A confidential online chat operated by licensed crisis counselors for anyone going through a difficult time, having thoughts about suicide or just needs to talk

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Addressing the epidemic of human trafficking in the region through partnerships and Initiatives

**833.TXT.TEEN**

This texting platform for teens serves anyone ages 13-22, in any type of crisis. It provides confidential access to 24/7 support from professionally-licensed counselors

**EMERGENCY FOOD & SHELTER PROGRAM (FEMA)**

Provides grants to nonprofits supplying basic needs for the unhoused in Calcasieu parish

**SINGLECARE PRESCRIPTION DISCOUNT PROGRAM**

A partnership focused on improving the health of individuals, families and communities by helping to make prescription medications more affordable

**COMMUNITY RESILIENCY**

**SWLA VOAD - VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER**

Provides a place where governmental, faith-based and non-profit organizations can cooperate, communicate, coordinate, and collaborate in the event of a disaster

**211 | 898-211**

An easy-to-remember phone number that links people in need to relevant information in the complex maze of human services with an accurate database of public and community-based resources, even during a disaster

**THE PATH HOME**

Program matching resources with the individuals and families needing assistance with issues surrounding homelessness

**UNITED AGAINST CHILD HUNGER**

Weekend Food Packs are created for the Summer Feeding Programs in Southwest Louisiana so children have access to easy-to-eat foods over the weekend

**BUILD BACK THE BLOCK**

Gentrification of ALICE neighborhoods through grants and partnerships with the goal of saving areas decimated by disasters

**STRONG HOMES**

Proactive effort to prepare the homes of ALICE families for the potential threats caused by inclement weather

**EMPLOYEE CRISIS FUND**

Allows employers to offer a program that helps employees cope with unexpected hardships while an external nonprofit partner oversees the process

**POWER TO CARE**

Entergy Louisiana's Initiative aimed at assisting senior citizens during high utility bill seasons



**UNITED WAY**  
Southwest Louisiana

**UNITEDWAYS.WLA.ORG**

Serving Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron & Jefferson Davis Parishes

**2025-26 FUNDED PARTNER AGENCIES**

United Way Southwest Louisiana uses a competitive grant process to allocate resources to community programs that support **YOUTH OPPORTUNITY**, **COMMUNITY RESILIENCY**, **FINANCIAL SECURITY** and **HEALTHY COMMUNITY**. Local organizations submit proposals, which trained community volunteers review and the board of directors makes the final approval. Funding is awarded to projects with the most significant impact, that meet United Way's identified goals and objectives, maximizing positive outcomes and fostering a stronger sense of community ownership and accountability.

**ABRAHAM'S TENT**

Serves hot lunch Monday to Saturday for individuals in need

**ASSIST AGENCY**

Assists low- income individuals and families with bills, legal aid and food vouchers

**BEAUREGARD COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

Operates June Jenkins Women's Shelter providing housing/services to domestic violence victims

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF ACADIANA**

Provides a safe place for life enhancing programs and character development experiences

**BOYS VILLAGE**

Providing direct coordinated educational support for children in shelter

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SWLA**

Provides basic needs assistance and disaster response

**FAITH SHARE OUTREACH**

Community resources for Cameron parish families

**FAMILY & YOUTH COUNSELING AGENCY**

Provides affordable counseling, child advocacy, autism support and youth leadership

**GIRL SCOUTS OF LA - PINES TO THE GULF**

Scholarships provided to engage girls in activities, academic success and leadership

**GIRLIE GIRLS MENTORING PROGRAM**

Provides mentoring and self-confidence activities for teen girls

**HOLY GROUND HOMELESS OUTREACH GIM**

Mind to Thrive casework program for unhoused individuals to reach self-sufficiency

**IBERIA COMPREHENSIVE -MERRYVILLE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER**

Provides comprehensive health services to residents in the Merryville area

**JEFF DAVIS CADA (COMMUNITIES AGAINST DOMESTIC ASSAULT)**

Provides shelter, basic emergency needs and services to battered women and dependent children

**JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF SWLA**

Provides financial literacy instruction to students

**KAY DORE COUNSELING CLINIC AT MCNEESE**

Provides affordable mental/behavioral health services and suicide prevention/ education programs

**LITERACY COUNCIL OF SWLA**

Provides adults with instructional programs to improve educational skill levels

**NEW COVENANT FAITH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Operates Bethesda House for transitional living for males over age 18

**OASIS A SAFE HAVEN**

Provides shelter and counseling for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence along with their children

**PROJECT BUILD A FUTURE**

Provides homebuyer counseling and financial education programs

**SALVATION ARMY**

Provides emergency assistance, emergency shelter and meals

**SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK**

Provides food distribution and disaster response to local food pantries

**ST. NICHOLAS CENTER FOR CHILDREN**

Educational services for children with autism, developmental delays and neurological disorders

**SWLA ADULT & ADOLESCENCE RESOURCE SERVICES**

Supports at-risk individuals by connecting them with resources to improve their quality of life

**SWLA LAW CENTER**

Provides low-cost legal assistance on a sliding fee scale for individuals unable to obtain free services

**SWLA YOUTH FOUNDATION**

Education program for middle/high school students on human trafficking, relationship abuse, etc.

**YOUTH OPPORTUNITY**

**COMMUNITY RESILIENCY**

**FINANCIAL SECURITY**

**HEALTHY COMMUNITY.**