



UNITED WAY
Greater Toledo

IMPACT REPORT



2025



DEAR FRIENDS,

At United Way of Greater Toledo, we believe lasting change requires constant action and adaptation, especially as families face increasing economic pressure and uncertainty. Over the past year, United Way has been at the center of emerging social service crises, responding in real time while continuing to evolve our work. This effort is ongoing, deeply needed, and rooted in a commitment we have upheld for more than 100 years. This year, we advanced initiatives that respond to immediate needs while strengthening long-term outcomes. Through our partnership with the Art Tatum Zone, we piloted Success Planning, supporting schoolchildren

in Toledo's central city. Cultivate Toledo continues to grow, expanding access to healthy food and sustainable food systems through partnerships with community members and experienced urban farmers. Across this work, United Way invests significant dollars and mobilizes volunteers to ensure food, education, and stability reach the people who need them most.

When the near-crisis of SNAP benefit cuts emerged during the government shutdown, United Way stepped forward as a strong advocate for families. We convened partners, engaged the media, hosted webinars, and created a public information hub, helping keep food on tables by ensuring clear communication, coordinated response, and continued access to resources during a critical moment. Every day, United Way 211 serves as a vital entry point for help, connecting thousands of people to food assistance, housing support, and other essential services. During periods of severe weather and economic disruption, 211 helps stabilize families by guiding them to timely, life-sustaining resources. As needs continue to grow, United Way's role as advocate, investor, and organizer becomes even more essential. With your partnership, United Way of Greater Toledo will continue to mobilize people, direct resources, and advance solutions so families can meet today's needs while our community builds a more resilient future.

Wendy Pestrue
Wendy Pestrue, CEO

The mission of United Way of Greater Toledo is to mobilize the caring power of community to improve lives.

Our vision is to be a trusted community hub that leverages human, data, and financial resources to tackle social issues that no single donor, nonprofit, or government agency can solve alone.



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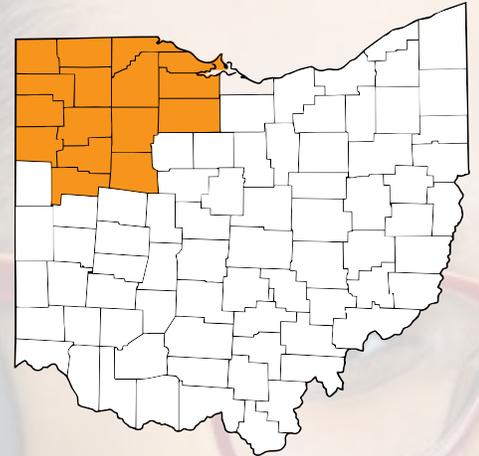
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211 IMPACT



United Way 211 is a free, confidential service that connects people to thousands of local health and human service resources.

Whether you're looking for help with housing, food, utilities, or mental health support, our trained Community Resource Advisors are here to guide you to the support you need. 211 is a free, 24/7, information and referral service, available to anyone in Lucas, Ottawa, Wood, and 13 surrounding counties with a health or human service need. In 2019, 211 services were brought back to Northwest Ohio and they immediately came to the aid of the community during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, 211 has continued to step up and help connect our community members to critical resources.



TOP NEEDS IN OUR AREA

Highlights

January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025

23,178

Requests for Housing Assistance

9,923

Requests for Food Assistance

7,935

Requests for Utility Assistance

4,170

Requests for Transportation Help

4,781

Requests for Clothing and Household Help

211 TO YOU

211 Community Resource Advisors table at the Main Branch of the Toledo Lucas County Public Library every Tuesday and on the first Friday of each month.

In April, SAME Café closed, leaving many library patrons without access to daytime food. Since August 26, every other Tuesday, Community Resource Advisors (CRAs) have provided lunch to between 50 and 100 people. The meals have included pizza, sandwiches, hot dogs, a Thanksgiving-style lunch, snacks, and drinks.

211 is responsive in difficult situations and consistently finds creative solutions to meet community needs.

RIDE UNITED TRANSPORTATION ACCESS

Ride United helps break down transportation barriers so individuals and families can access the services they need most.

Through a partnership with United Way 211 and Lyft, the program provides free rides for eligible community members—ensuring lack of transportation doesn't stand in the way of vital resources like medical care, food, housing support, and employment services.

2025 RIDE UNITED PRESENTING SPONSOR

Taylor Automotive Group

Something as simple as assisted transportation has elevated my endurance as a man and as an employee. I have to be at work before the earliest buses are even running, so for many weeks I was running to work arriving exhausted and drenched in sweat before my shift had even begun. Since my release [from prison] it has been a struggle to regain both my sanity and my life. I don't know what could have come of me without the help and support of 211.

- Ride United Transportation Recipient
Workforce stability rides sponsored by 5/3 Bank

PROJECT DASH

Project DASH is a partnership between United Way and DoorDash that helps bridge the transportation gap for essential goods. This program delivers food, hygiene products, baby supplies, and other critical items directly to the doorsteps of individuals and families who may not have access to transportation or traditional delivery services.

TOTAL RIDES:
7,216 Since 10/2022

RIDES TO:
Health 1906
Employment 419
Food 3533
Economic 184
Legal 103
Housing 639
Education 425

DELIVERY TOTAL:
2,224 Since 12/2023

DELIVERIES FROM:
Pregnancy Center: 12
Brown Bag Food Project: 357
Greater Grace Food Pantry: 1537

A woman living in Bowling Green who relies on a motorized wheelchair became stranded in her home when the city's Main Street construction removed the surrounding sidewalks, leaving her without safe access to food. Through Project DASH, we were able to provide consistent monthly food deliveries, ensuring she had reliable access to the resources she needed during this challenging time.



VOLUNTEER IMPACT

Launched in 2025, the volunteer platform supports not only United Way but also community partners in their search for volunteers. Community partners and community members can sign up on the site to connect with one another and create meaningful opportunities that contribute to the betterment of the community.



546

Volunteers

819

**Volunteer
Hours**

\$27,428

**Economic
Impact**

IMPACT CREATED BY:

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service • Day of Caring
Nourished to Flourish (Campaign Kickoff) • United for the Holidays**

AFFINITY GROUPS

African American Leadership Council

\$7,500 given to support leadership development programming for adults and students

Women's Initiative

raised and donated \$15,800 to Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center

Emerging Leaders

Continue United

“It is our responsibility to give to those that have less or need help whether it’s monetarily or through our time. It helps the nonprofits, the people they serve and ourselves. Volunteerism adds depth and value to our lives.”

Tammie Brainard, Women's Initiative volunteer



COMMUNITY IMPACT

Community Impact means making real change where it's needed most.

United Way works with 40 local community partner organizations to support programs and services that help people meet their basic needs, build stronger families, and create more opportunities for success.

Whether it's helping kids succeed in school, making sure families can put food on the table, or connecting people to resources, we're focused on creating a better future for everyone in Lucas, Ottawa, and Wood counties.

LEAD PARTNERS

Our Lead Partners play a key role in advancing United Way's impact work. They use their networks and expertise to bring organizations together, share effective practices, and improve how services are delivered across the community. By helping coordinate efforts and guide priorities, they ensure our work is focused, effective, and leads to lasting impact for the community.

- Healthy Lucas County
- Local Initiatives Support Corporation
- Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board
- Lucas Metropolitan Housing



2025-2026 INVESTMENTS

\$373,985

Invested in
Programs Creating
Youth Opportunity

\$407,309

Invested in
Programs Creating
Healthy Communities

\$673,643

Invested in
Programs Creating
Financial Stability

\$693,188

Invested in
211 Resource &
Referral

GRANTEE PARTNERS

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality
American Red Cross of Western Lake
Erie
Beach House Inc
Boys & Girls Clubs of Toledo
Cancer Services of Erie County
Catholic Club
Cherry Street Mission Ministries
The Cocoon
Day52 Inc
Equitas Health
The Fair Housing Center
Family and Child Abuse Prevention
Center
Family House
Grace Community Center Inc
Great Lakes Community Action
Partnership
Habitat for Humanity of Wood County
Harbor
Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio
LISC Toledo
Lucas Metropolitan Housing

Mom's House Inc
Neighborhood Health Association of
Toledo Inc
Ottawa County
Ottawa County Family Advocacy Center
Inc
Ottawa County Transitional Housing Inc
Partners in Education of Toledo
Port Clinton City Schools
Social Services for the Arab Community
Sofia Quintero Art and Cultural Center
St. Paul's Community Center
YMCA of Greater Toledo
YWCA of Northwest Ohio
Toledo Day Nursery
Toledo Early Learning Coalition
Incorporated
Toledo-Lucas County CareNet Inc
Toledo-Lucas County Homelessness
Board
Tutor Smart
Wood County Educational Service Center
Zepf Center

40 COMMUNITY
PARTNERS

48 PROGRAMS

HEALTHY COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHT

MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE)

ABLE is a nonprofit regional law firm that provides high-quality legal assistance to help low-income families in Western Ohio. This work is essential because access to legal support helps families overcome barriers that affect health, safety, and stability.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Medical-Legal Partnership for Children (MLPC) partners legal aid attorneys with pediatric medical providers to improve the health and well-being of low income children by addressing legal issues related to housing, education, and healthcare. The program targets children living in poverty, with 38% of children in Toledo below the poverty line. Key challenges include political instability affecting services like Social Security and Medicaid, funding limitations, and increased demand for assistance.

A FEW PROGRAM METRICS

Number of unduplicated household members (patients and their families) provided legal services for housing, education, access to health care, income and government benefits, and family law matters whose objectives were positively achieved.

GOAL FOR PROGRAM

46

YEAR END TOTAL

106

Number of household members receiving legal services for issues related to improving living environment, stabilizing housing, preserving housing subsidy, or avoiding eviction judgment

GOAL FOR PROGRAM

70

YEAR END TOTAL

58

WHY THIS MATTERS

Legal problems can harm a child's health and development. Issues like unsafe housing, domestic violence, and lack of access to benefits can lead to stress and poor outcomes. The MLPC works to resolve these challenges so children can thrive.

SUCCESS STORY

The MLPC helped a family caring for a young child after the child was removed from a home due to domestic violence, neglect, and substance abuse. Legal guardianship was secured, and visitation rights were structured to ensure the child's safety.

By addressing these legal issues, the program protected the child's well-being and supported a stable home environment—critical steps toward improving health and educational outcomes.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Programs like the MLPC strengthen families by resolving legal barriers that affect health and safety. This approach improves children's well-being and creates healthier, more stable communities.



FINANCIAL SECURITY (HOUSING)

SAFETY NET

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Safety Net opened in 2016, and provides emergency shelter and support for youth experiencing homelessness or who have run away. The program offers a safe place, basic needs, and connections to resources that promote stability and well-being.

Zepf Center

Zepf Center began providing behavioral health services in Toledo in 1974. Today, Zepf operates seven locations throughout Lucas County and runs Safety Net, the only emergency shelter for runaway and homeless youth in Toledo.

NUMBER OF SHELTER NIGHTS PROVIDED DURING FUNDING CYCLE

GOAL FOR PROGRAM	450	YEAR END TOTAL	513
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SUCCESS STORY

A 17-year-old youth arrived at Safety Net with no stable home or guardian. After spending multiple nights on the streets, the youth received five days of shelter, meals, clothing, and hygiene products.

During the stay, staff provided mental health support, life skills training, and recreational activities to help build coping skills and restore a sense of normalcy. Staff also worked with local agencies to identify a legal guardian and create a safe reunification plan.

The youth left the program with a stable home, a safety plan, and connections to ongoing mental health resources—critical steps toward long-term stability.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Safety Net is the only emergency shelter for runaway and homeless youth in Toledo. By providing safety, basic needs, and support, the program helps vulnerable youth avoid harm and move toward a stable future.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Youth experiencing homelessness face serious risks to their health, safety, and future. Safety Net provides immediate shelter and support, helping young people stabilize and connect to long-term solutions.

OTTAWA COUNTY HIGHLIGHT

OTTAWA COUNTY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING, INC.

Ruth Ann's House

Ruth Ann's House is a transitional housing program located in Port Clinton, Ohio, serving up to six women and their children at one time.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The mission of Ottawa County Transitional Housing is to provide housing, community-based support services, and advocacy for individuals and families in crisis. This work is essential because safe housing and support services help families rebuild stability and independence.

NUMBER OF RESIDENTS AND CLIENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN SUPPORT SERVICES

GOAL FOR PROGRAM

7

YEAR END TOTAL

32

SUCCESS STORY

One resident came to Ruth Ann's House after leaving an unsafe situation and needing stable housing. She was already working and had plans to take on a second job to save money and regain custody of her children.

While living at Ruth Ann's House, she received help with an urgent need—eyeglasses—so she could perform her new job successfully. She continued working two jobs, saved money, and eventually secured housing by sharing rent with a family member. She is now focused on saving for legal fees to regain custody of her children.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Programs like Ruth Ann's House provide safety and stability for women and children in crisis. By meeting emergency needs and offering support, the program helps families move toward independence and long-term success.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Housing instability can lead to unsafe living conditions and prevent families from moving forward. Ruth Ann's House offers stability and support so women and children can focus on rebuilding their lives.

WOOD COUNTY HIGHLIGHT

HOMEOWNER REPAIR PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Home Repair Program helps homeowners in Wood County make health and safety repairs at a cost they can afford. These repairs prevent serious problems, improve living conditions, and allow families to stay in their homes.

Habitat for Humanity of Wood County
Habitat for Humanity of Wood County provides decent and affordable housing to individuals and families in Wood County through our homeownership and home repair programs. This work is essential because safe, affordable housing strengthens families and builds stronger communities.

NUMBER OF HOMEOWNERS WHO SAID THEY WERE SATISFIED

GOAL FOR PROGRAM **5** | YEAR END TOTAL **3**

WHY THIS MATTERS

When homeowners are satisfied with repairs, it means the work is making a real difference. Safe homes help families feel secure, reduce stress, and improve quality of life. Habitat for Humanity plays a key role in ensuring that more residents in Wood County have homes that are safe and healthy.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Programs like the Homeowner Repair Program reduce housing insecurity and help families stay in their homes. By making repairs affordable, Habitat for Humanity of Wood County ensures that more residents can live in safe, healthy spaces. This strengthens neighborhoods and supports the overall well-being of the community.

SUCCESS STORY

One homeowner reached out for help because her roof was leaking every time it rained. She lives on a fixed income and could not afford to replace it. She was encouraged to call Habitat for Humanity of Wood County.

She said the Habitat team was very helpful. They answered her calls, helped with the paperwork, and made the process easy. When her project was approved, the repair happened quickly. The crew was professional, finished in one day, and left everything clean.

Now, she feels peace of mind when it rains. She shared that she is “whole-heartedly thankful” for the help and said everyone was wonderful to work with.

FINANCIAL SECURITY HIGHLIGHT

TOLEDO FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER NETWORK PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Toledo Financial Opportunity Center (FOC) Network promotes long-term economic stability for residents by providing financial coaching, credit counseling, employment coaching, and income supports counseling.

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

LISC is a major national nonprofit organization that provides capital, strategy, and expertise to help revitalize underinvested communities by investing in affordable housing, economic development, health, and education to create thriving places for people to live, work, and raise families. They act as an intermediary, connecting corporate, philanthropic, and government resources to local community partners.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ENGAGING IN FINANCIAL COACHING WHO DEMONSTRATE AN INCREASE IN FINANCIAL WELL-BEING

GOAL FOR PROGRAM	350	YEAR END TOTAL	403
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COMMUNITY IMPACT

Programs like the Toledo FOC Network help families secure steady employment, improve credit, and access resources that lead to lasting financial security. This strengthens households and creates more stable communities.

SUCCESS STORY

A single mother of four wanted to improve her financial situation and start a business. She began a t-shirt business but needed more income to support her family. With help from the FOC Network, she secured full-time employment as an

STNA, raising her monthly income from \$63 to \$776.

She also received rental assistance, worked with a financial coach to improve her credit score from 595 to 627, and resolved collection issues. These steps helped her reduce expenses, strengthen her financial stability, and move closer to her long-term goals.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY HIGHLIGHT

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PROGRAM

Toledo Day Nursery

Toledo Day Nursery (TDN) believes that it's responsibility is to positively impact children's futures. During their 150 years of operating as a nonprofit organization, TDN has served families in the community through early childhood education for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. This work is essential because quality early education helps children succeed in school and in life.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The early childhood years are the most important developmental stage of life. TDN's priority is to serve children and families who live in poverty. Through this program, they provide care and education that supports healthy growth and learning during these critical years.

A FEW PROGRAM METRICS

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO PASS AGES AND STAGES SOCIAL EMOTIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE WITHIN 45 DAYS FOLLOWING THE CHILD'S ENROLLMENT

GOAL FOR PROGRAM

90

YEAR END TOTAL

96

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO MEET OR EXCEED DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES AS MEASURED BY THE AGES AND STAGES QUESTIONNAIRE WITHIN 45 DAYS TIMELINE FOLLOWING THE CHILD'S ENROLLMENT

GOAL FOR PROGRAM

96

YEAR END TOTAL

100



COMMUNITY IMPACT

Programs like Early Care and Education reduce barriers for families living in poverty and help children reach important developmental milestones. By providing education and resources, Toledo Day Nursery ensures that every child has the opportunity to succeed. This strengthens families and builds a healthier, more connected community.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Early education builds the foundation for a child's future. Meeting developmental milestones means children are learning the skills they need to thrive. Toledo Day Nursery plays a key role in making sure children in the community have the best start possible, especially those from families with limited resources.

SUCCESS STORY

Toledo Day Nursery launched an initiative to support families during the holiday season by offering free tuition, diapers, formula, and other resources. This effort removed financial barriers and allowed parents

to engage more fully in their children's education.

With stress reduced, parents became more involved in classrooms and participated in training sessions on positive discipline. This created a strong "school family" where teachers and parents worked together to support children's development.

The program showed how providing comprehensive support helps children thrive and strengthens the entire community.

COMMUNITY ANALYTICS AND RESEARCH

Community Analytics & Research exists to do more than produce data outputs. Our work strengthens understanding of the organization's impact, clarifies methodology, and elevates how data informs programs, partnerships, and community decision-making. We operate as a full analytics and research unit connecting systems, evaluation, and narrative so insight is not only produced, but trusted, understood, and used.

WHY THIS MODEL MATTERS

This department is positioned to integrate systems, evaluation, and narrative development under a single governance model that increases usability while protecting credibility. The structure ensures each initiative has a true execution lead while maintaining consistency, quality, and organizational alignment through direct oversight. That combination is what lets the department move quickly and hold up under scrutiny. Ultimately, this model supports what the organization needs most from analytics and research: not just outputs, but trust—internally, externally, and in the community.

NONPROFIT LANDSCAPE STUDY

In 2018, the Center for Nonprofit Resources conducted a comprehensive study examining the nonprofit landscape across our region, documenting significant growth in the number of nonprofit organizations between 2000 and the early 2010s. Building on this foundational work, United Way's Community Analytics and Research department updated and expanded the study in 2024 to reflect current conditions and emerging trends across the sector. This updated analysis provides funders, nonprofit leaders, and community stakeholders with a clearer understanding of nonprofit capacity, financial health, and service alignment, ensuring decisions are informed by current data as community needs continue to evolve. A subsequent update is planned for mid 2026 to maintain a timely and relevant view of the nonprofit ecosystem.

The study analyzes newly filed IRS Form 990 data to track:

- Changes in the number of nonprofit organizations over time
- Financial health, including revenues, assets, and charitable contributions
- The distribution of nonprofits by primary service area, such as health, education, housing, and other mission driven categories

ALICE®

Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed

Every day, hardworking people keep our schools, businesses, and communities running—contributing their time and talent to make life better for us all. Yet for many households, rising costs put financial security out of reach. That’s why United Way of Greater Toledo has partnered with United For ALICE to support families and workers called ALICE® (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). These households have income above the poverty line, but can’t afford the basics and often don’t qualify for public assistance. Together, we can make Northwest Ohio a community where every individual and family has the resources to meet their needs today and build solid ground for tomorrow.

United for ALICE was established by United Way of Northern New Jersey in 2009, to bring to light a segment of the population that was forgotten. The ALICE designation was coined to give a name to a group that was above the federal poverty line but doesn’t earn enough to cover all their monthly expenses. United Way and 211 work diligently to support ALICE so all can thrive.



39%

of Ohio households can't afford basic needs.

17% live below the federal poverty line.
Another 23% are ALICE.

Scan the QR Code to watch “I am ALICE” to learn more about what ALICE looks like and how United Way 211 supports ALICE in the community.



SUCCESS PLANNING

At the Art Tatum Zone

OUR WHY?

We're on a mission to revolutionize education and uplift families—one child, one block, one future at a time. The Success Planning initiative, developed and researched by the Harvard Graduate School of Education, is coming to Toledo's Junction neighborhood, where need is high—but hope is stronger. In a community where the median income is \$15,004, only 38% of adults hold a high school diploma, and 82% of children live in poverty, we know the odds—but we refuse to accept them. Success Planning breaks barriers by linking students and families to local support systems and a network of volunteer mentors. Together, we provide academic, social, emotional, and practical support to help families gain momentum and overcome the deep-rooted challenges of generational poverty.

WHAT MAKES SUCCESS PLANNING UNIQUE?

- **Scalable & Replicable:** We start small and build outward
- **Culturally Competent:** Rooted in community voice and trust
- **Volunteer-Powered:** we are all central to the solution
- **Fiscally Conservative:** Built on collaboration and existing infrastructure
- **Proven:** a successful model in communities throughout the country
- **Responsive:** real time data in school utilized to mobilize partners and support families

This initiative is more than education reform—it's community transformation. Whether it's preparing a kindergartner to learn or guiding a high school graduate toward career success, every connection counts for families to be successful.

WHY TOLEDO?

We were chosen because the urgent need in inner-city neighborhoods like Junction was a compelling case for reform. More compelling though, we are a community well situated for success because the collaborative power is already present across local organizations. This work cannot be accomplished alone.

MEET OUR CORE PARTNERS:

United Way of Greater Toledo - convening and connecting cross-sector allies through 211, community analytics, financial stability, and a powerful volunteer corps

Toledo Public Schools - providing data access and education alignment

Lucas Metropolitan Housing - supporting families where they live

The Art Tatum Zone - the trusted, on-the-ground, data-driven community backbone



UNITED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

PRESENTED BY STELLANTIS

2025 was the fourth year of the United for the Holidays program. This has become an important partnership in our community to provide food assistance for those in need of support throughout our area.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Islamic Food Bank
Grace Community Center
Brown Bag Food Project
BCS Food Pantry

\$78,250
Raised

IMPACT

- 710-Thanksgiving Food Boxes
- 1,000-Weekender Food Bags
- 260-Thanksgiving Coupon Vouchers for \$20
- 150-Thanksgiving Coupon Vouchers for \$40
- 100-Thanksgiving Care Packages for International Students
- Side dishes for Community Meals and Friendsgiving for St. Pauls Community Center and Sunshine Communities
- 150-Hot meals served at 211 to You at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library

\$11,050
Economic Impact
of Volunteer
Opportunities and
Hours

SPONSORS

Stellantis

FedEx

Sheetz

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield

Eastman & Smith

Juliet Solar

UToledo Health

SSOE

Columbia Gas

PBF Energy

Stu & Jojo Goldberg Donor Advised Fund



COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

Government Shutdown/SNAP Response

In the days surrounding the shutdown, United Way 211 saw food-related calls climb sharply, with requests for resources to food pantries, meal sites, and for grocery delivery. 211 is a reliable and trusted source of information and data to understand needs in real time.

BEHIND THE SCENES OUR TEAM MOBILIZED QUICKLY:

- Lucas County Commissioners host press conference to inform community of impending government shutdown and SNAP suspension
- United Way convenes community food and health leaders to develop communication action plan
- United Way hosts emergency information session with over 100 emergency food providing organizations
- United Way hosts informational webinar for public about how to provide help to neighbors with over 350 people in attendance
- Second press conference hosted with live updates on status of SNAP benefits and where to turn for help



FOOD RESOURCES PAGE

- 211 Database: Food Pantries
- Social Media Toolkit
- Volunteer Support
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Watch SNAP Update Seminars
- More Resources

COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

Code Blue/Cold Weather Response

On December 4, 2025, Toledo City Council passed O-572-25, an ordinance that authorized an \$80,000 expenditure to fund Code Blue. Code Blue is an initiative that activates warming centers when the temperature dips below 15 degrees. The money was donated to the Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board and transportation is provided through Ride United Transportation Access, a program of 211. 211 has been integral in providing resources to individuals who utilize the warming shelters.

“During the Warming Center nights, UW211 employees met a 26 year-old male who had been staying at the Toledo shelters over the last few months. He was always kind, welcoming, and willing to help out where he could, but had a difficult home life and spent a lot of time on the road between places. After some time and with the help of Neighborhood Properties, he was able to get into an apartment. Warming Center staff used local resources to help get him situated with some food and amenities in his new place. The next day, even though he had a warm place to sleep, the man walked 3 miles back to the Warming Center to help serve dinner.”

WARMING CENTER STATS

- 45-55 people per night on average
- 60 Ride United Transportation Access Rides provided by United Way
- 8 Days Open from January – February 2025
- 16 Days & Nights Open December 2025

Locations Served

- St. Paul’s United Methodist Church
- Leading Families Home

One night a family visited a warming location after a visit to the emergency room. EMS connected them to the warming shelter after they had to leave their home due to illness from gas fumes after their pilot light went out. Their house was eventually safe to return to, but in the interim, having a warm location to spend time was invaluable.



UNITED WAY
Greater Toledo



THANK YOU

All of this impact was made possible by the generosity of our donors and community supporters.