



INITIATIVES

ALLEN | BEAUREGARD | CALCASIEU | CAMERON | JEFF DAVIS

Our Initiatives play a critical role in bridging service gaps in the community, particularly in education, income stability, health and basic needs. 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.

We are shifting our impact areas to more clearly define our ambitious goal of ensuring all can thrive, underlining our dedication to making a significant, positive change in the lives of those we serve.

EDUCATION → 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

ECONOMIC MOBILITY → 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

HEALTH → 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

BASIC NEEDS → 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 natural 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



Southwest Louisiana

UNITEDWAYS.WLA.ORG

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

2024-25 FUNDED PARTNER AGENCIES

United Way Southwest Louisiana uses a competitive grant process to allocate resources to community programs that support education, income stability, health and basic needs. Local organizations submit proposals, which trained community volunteers review. Funding is awarded to projects with the most significant impact, 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 ARC

Provides employment opportunities for citizens with developmental disabilities

BEAUREGARD COMMUNITY CONCERNS

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

BEAUREGARD COUNCIL ON AGING

Provides home-delivered meals and social services for the elderly

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF SWLA

Provides children with one-to-one relationships with adult mentors

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

BUSINESS & WORKFORCE RECOVERY SOLUTIONS

Comprehensive disaster recovery assistance for small businesses, non-profits and faith-based organizations

CALCASIEU COUNCIL ON AGING

Provides seniors with transportation and home-delivered meals

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SWLA

Provides basic needs assistance and disaster response

FAITH SHARE OUTREACH

Community resources for Cameron parish families

FAMILY AND 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

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

Provides shelter and 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

ONCE WAS

Provides veterans with holiday appropriate basic needs

PROJECT BUILD A FUTURE

Provides homebuyer counseling and financial education programs

SALVATION ARMY

Provides emergency assistance and an emergency shelter

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 YOUTH FOUNDATION

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

UNITED AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Client services for victims of human trafficking