# **COMMUNITY INVESTMENT STRATEGY**



# 2024 - 2025



Southwest Louisiana

## 2024-2025 UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUIS

From strengthening local resilience to advancing healthy communities, youth opportunity and financia

## OUR MISSION IS POSITIV

## **ECONOMIC MOBILITY**

Individuals obtain good jobs and effectively manage their finances

## FINANCIAL EDUCATION ⊢

Families have the knowledge needed to maximize their income and assets to become financially stable.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF SWLA K-12 Economic Education FINANCIAL COUNSELING PROJECT BUILD A FUTURE Homebuyer Counseling

ADULT TRAINING

VOCATIONAL

**BEAUREGARD ARC** 

Vocational Program

ADULT EDUCATION

LITERACY COUNCIL OF SWLA

Adult Education & Literacy

PROJECT BUILD A FUTURE Blueprint Incentive Program

## →WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT⊢

Individuals have the training and skills needed to obtain family-sustaining employment.

JOB READINESS

UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA Cal-PRI (Calcasieu Prisoner Reentry Program)

Empowerment Through Employment

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SWLA Employment & ID Program

NEW COVENANT FAITH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Bethesda House

### +EARNINGS+

Families and individuals build savings and accumulate assets to support financial stability.

SAVINGS & ASSETS UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA Matched Savings Bank On SWLA

UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)

FINANCIAL STABILITY

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SWLA Emergency Rent, Mortgage & Utility Assistance BASIC NEEDS

Assisting people in times of need

CRISIS +

Assure the community is prepared for, responds to and recovers from disasters.

PREPARE UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA Strong Homes ABRAHAM'S TENT

Meals for the Needy

INTERVENTION UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA

United Against Child Hunger Power To Care (Entergy)

BOYS VILLAGE Group Care

DMM GOD INSPIRED MINISTRY HOLY GROUND Mind to Thrive

> THE SALVATION ARMY Emergency Shelter

RESPONSE UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA SWLA VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster) Emergency Food & Shelter Program (FEMA)

Employee Crisis Fund

RECOVERY

UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA Build Back the Block

THE ASSIST AGENCY Jeff Davis Emergency Assistance

BUSINESS DISASTER & RECOVERY SWLA Recovery Program

## → RESOURCES

Individuals and families have the resources to overcome a crisis.

INFORMATION UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA United for ALICE The Path Home

> ONCE WAS Service Saturday Meals of Remembrance

HELPLINE UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA 211 Resource Line

> SECOND HARVEST Food Distribution Program

> > THE SALVATION ARMY Emergency Services

## FUNDED UNITED WAY PARTNERS

United Way Southwest Louisiana distinguishes itself through a competitive grant process designed to allocate resources effectively to community programs that best align with our strategic goals. This process invites local nonprofits to submit proposals demonstrating how their programs directly support our identified needs in education, income stability, health and basic necessities. A unique aspect of this grant process is the involvement of community volunteers in the decision-making. These volunteers, who are thoroughly trained and deeply committed to improving the community, review proposals, evaluate program effectiveness and ensure that funding is awarded to those projects that will have the most significant impact. This volunteer-driven approach not only maximizes the positive outcomes of the investments but also fosters a stronger sense of community ownership and accountability in addressing local challenges.

## **UNITED WAY INITIATIVES**

United Way Southwest Louisiana's Initiatives are critically crucial for filling the gaps in community services that other programs are not adequately addressing. Through a deep understanding of the unique challenges facing our community, we identify areas where people are underserved and step in to provide essential support and resources. Focusing on critical areas such as education, income stability, health and basic needs, we tackle issues that are often overlooked or insufficiently covered by existing services. This approach ensures that those in need don't fall through the cracks, providing a safety net that helps individuals and families survive and thrive. United Way Southwest Louisiana's commitment to addressing these gaps showcases the dedication to fostering a community where no one is left behind, and everyone has access to the opportunities and support they need to succeed.

## SIANA COMMUNITY INVESTMENT STRATEGY

al security, United Way Southwest Louisiana is mobilizing communities to take action so all can thrive. /E COMMUNITY IMPACT.

## HFAITH

Families have access to healthcare and resources to improve their health

## **HEALTHY BEGINNINGS** +

Infants begin life through a healthy pregnancy and birth, primary and preventative care that supports early development, and a healthy and supportive home environment.

PRENATAL CARE

YOUNG CHILDREN

### SAFE HOME & COMMUNITY

Individuals live in environments that are safe, healthy, and free from crime and physical hazards.

#### PREVENTION

FAITH SHARE

Cameron Parish Healthy Living Outreach

Family & Youth Counseling Agency Children's Advocacy Center

Kav Dore Counseling Center Road to Wellness

Shelter FAMILY & YOUTH COUNSELING AGENCY Victim Advocacy

RECOVERY

BEAUREGARD COMMUNITY CONCERNS

June Jenkins Women & Childrens

UNITED AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING **Client Services** 

> OASIS **Emergency Shelter** Sexual Assault Program

+INDEPENDENCE +

Individuals and families choose healthy lifestyles.

#### **OBTAIN**

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SWLA Laundry/Shower Program

MAINTAIN BEAUREGARD COUNCIL ON AGING Congregate Meals

Transportation Home Delivered Meals

CALCASIEU COUNCIL ON AGING Home Delivered Meals Transportation

## HEALIHUAKF

Individuals and families have information and resources to connect to local health services.

PREVENTION UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA Human Trafficking

HEALTH LITERACY

ACCESS UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA 833.TXT.TEEN **CRISIS CHAT Online** SingleCare Prescription Discount

Program IBERIA COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Merryville Community Clinic

#### SUPPORIING HEALIHY CHOICES Individuals and families choose healthy lifestyles.

**RISKY BEHAVIOR** HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

**JEFF DAVIS CADA Communities Against Domestic** Violence

## EDUCATION: EARLY CHILDHOOD

Children enter school ready and are successful in primary school

## + EARLY CHILDHOOD +

Children are prepared for school and a life of learning. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

EARLY LEARNING

UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA Success By 6

STEPS PARENTAL/CAREGIVER SUPPOR

ST NICHOLAS CENTER FOR CHILDREN

## SCHOOL READINESS

Provide academic support so all children advance to the next grade level adequately prepared.

SUMMER LEARNING **BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF SWLA** Summer Mentorina

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** 

STRUCTURED ENRICHMENT UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA **Born Learning Trail** 

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF ACADIANA Project Learn

**ESSENTIALS** 

UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA WriteStart Project

## +EARLY GRADE READING PROFICIENCY+

Students read on grade level by the end of the third grade and have reading comprehension skills that provide a strong foundation for learning.

**READING AT HOME** UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA

Literacy Kits

SCHOOL SUPPORT COMMUNITY LITERACY

## ON:

Youth graduate secondary school and have the knowledge, skills and credentials to obtain familysustaining employment

## E SCHUUL IKANS

Youth successfully transition into middle school, gaining knowledge and skills they need for high school readiness.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

GIRL SCOUTS OF LA -PINES TO THE GULF **Girl Scout Leadership Experience** 

GIRLIE GIRLS MENTORING PROGRAM Mentoring Program

#### OL SUCCESS + HIGH SCHU

Young Adults graduate high school on time and are prepared for college or other post-secondary training, work and life.

YOUNG ADULT DEVELOPMENT

UNITED WAY SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA Summer of Service SWLA Youth Foundation **Unfiltered Facts** 

SUPPORT

SUPPORT

CAREER PATHWAYS

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