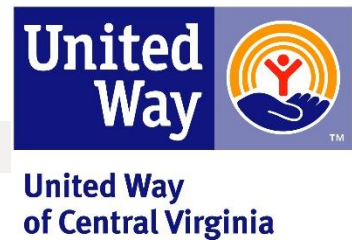


Frequently Asked Questions



What is the United Way of Central Virginia?

Established locally in 1921, the United Way of Central Virginia (UWCV) serves the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell and the city of Lynchburg. We are a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) agency that brings people and communities together to advance the common good. We partner with local nonprofits, businesses, government, and social service agencies to address our community's most pressing needs.

What impact does United Way of Central Virginia have in our community?

UWCV is working to advance Education, Income, Health, and Basic Human Needs in our community by supporting programs, services, and collaborations. We are improving opportunities for our youth to succeed in school. We work to stabilize families through programs that reduce hunger, improve housing stability, and reduce domestic violence. We are improving health care accessibility for individuals of all ages to improve health and wellness.

How much is used for “overhead”?

Our administrative and fundraising costs, including staff salaries, represent approximately 15 percent, however, when you give to UWCV **100% of your gift** goes directly to our partner agency programs due to the generosity of our Corporate Keystone partners. These are local companies who choose to direct their corporate gifts to cover all administrative and fundraising expenses!

What if I want to designate my gift to another non-profit or partner agency through the United Way Campaign?

You may designate your gift to any 501c3 organization through the United Way campaign. Additionally, if you designate to any of our 25 Partner Agencies, United Way absorbs all costs with the allocation of that gift (e.g. postage, accounting, etc.) so you can be assured that 100% of your gift goes directly to that agency. You give a dollar; they get a dollar!

What is the General Fund?

The United Way General Fund is the **most powerful way** to invest your contribution and influence the condition of all. How? Your investment is combined with the investments of other generous individuals and companies to support the best package of human service programs available in the region. Experienced volunteers work together to understand the most pressing needs in the community and invest in the best programs to solve those issues. Every program funded through the General Fund is monitored, evaluated, and measured for effectiveness. This way, UWCV can validate that your investment gets results and makes a difference. Additionally, many of our partner agencies leverage the

funds they receive from United Way to fulfill matching requirements for federal grants, which are often difficult to secure. Your gift, in many cases, has double the impact. This really is the best way to give!

Does my contribution leave the community?

The dollars raised through the annual campaign stay in Central Virginia – the counties of Appomattox, Amherst, Bedford, and Campbell and the City of Lynchburg. The only funds that leave our community are dollars that donors have specifically designated to other United Ways or to agencies in other communities.

How do I know the money I invest in the community through United Way of Central Virginia will be spent efficiently? Shouldn't I just give my donation directly to the non-profit I want to support?

With the increased number of programs trying to address the needs of our community, it can be very confusing to decide where to give your donation. At UWCV more than 80 experienced volunteers on the allocations committee ensure that your dollars are invested in quality programs and innovative initiatives that get results. These dedicated volunteers continually monitor and evaluate each funded program for effectiveness and measure the results achieved. This process consists of an annual application requiring outcomes, impact and measurable results, agency visits, and a thorough evaluation of agency effectiveness and sustainability. This way, UWCV can validate that your investment gets results and is making a difference and not being used on inappropriate expenditures.

What is the relationship between our local United Way and United Way Worldwide?

Our United Way is a local organization governed by community volunteers who determine all policies, procedures, and decisions. We are completely autonomous from United Way Worldwide.