



## MISSION: CRUSH POVERTY

United Way of Erie County is a local social impact organization on a mission to crush poverty in our community.

We envision a collaborative community where **all students succeed** and **all families thrive**.

Through United Way, all of the children in Erie County can have a bright future and the opportunity to receive the education they need for success. This is a marathon, not a sprint.

United Way is committed to investing your dollars to level the playing field for low-income students and their families who face barriers to living a successful life. Simply put, breaking the cycle of poverty means breaking down these barriers. We believe all children should have equal opportunity to receive a quality education!

As a local organization, the **money raised** in our community **stays in** our community.

We're on a mission to crush poverty. Are you with us? That's **LIVING UNITED**.



**\$1,000 WEGMANS SHOPPING SPREE**

(THREE WINNERS)

## ★ GRAND PRIZES ★

As a thank you for donating just \$3/week or more, you could win BIG!

*Pledge deadline is April 4, 2024.*



**ERIE PHILHARMONIC SEASON TICKETS**

Enjoy a season ticket package for two to the Erie Philharmonic!



**SCOTT ENTERPRISES OVERNIGHT GETAWAY**

Enjoy activities for two at Splash Lagoon and Peek'n Peak! (depending on time of year)



**\$1,000 CITGO CASH CARD**

Presented by Country Fair



**\$1,000 RED LETTER GIFT CARD**

Card good at The Cork and Skunk and Goat Tavern



**\$500 SHERATON GIFT CARD**

Presented by Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel

## ★ STEP UP PRIZES ★

Increase your annual gift by just 50¢/week for a chance to win even more prizes!

*Full eligibility rules available online: [UnitedWayErie.org/Incentives](http://UnitedWayErie.org/Incentives)*



**ERIE PLAYHOUSE SEASON TICKETS**

Enjoy a season ticket package for two to the Erie Playhouse!



# OUR MISSION IS TO HELP THEM SUCCEED.

**ARE YOU IN?**

Thank you to our Incentive Prize Sponsors:



*The official registration and information of United Way of Erie County may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.*

**United Way of Erie County**



## STUDENT SUCCESS AND FAMILY STABILITY

Children from low-income households face many challenges that hold them back from learning in school. Your support helps break down and **remove learning barriers** so ALL children can be successful. Your support is helping to level the playing field for student success. Children are also affected by life that happens outside of school. Family stability directly impacts how a child learns and performs in school. Your support also provides critical resources to help families become and remain **stable**.

## INVESTMENT IN ACTION

United Way's work to address nonacademic barriers low-income students at public schools face is organized **into four Community School Model pillars**. Here's how **your investment** was leveraged in each pillar during the 2022-2023 school year.

### POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR WELLNESS AND LEARNING

Projects under this pillar aim to improve school readiness, school attendance, school safety and school culture. In addition, projects may increase access to health and wellness supports such as social and emotional learning (SEL), on-site physical and mental health, and basic needs access. Project examples include kindergarten registration events, attendance awareness and incentives, community closet inventory, end-of-year recognition, new family orientation and welcome packets.

**Students Served: 5,930**  
**Total Funding Amount: \$502,700**

### COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIPS

Projects under this pillar aim to position the school building as the neighborhood hub and leverage in-kind donation and time to support school sustainability needs. Projects included school beautification, school library upgrade and United Way's annual National Night Out events. National Night Out is held annually in early August and in 2022, events were held at or in partnership with all 16 community schools.

**Students Served: 1,474**  
**Total Funding Amount: \$33,689**

### AUTHENTIC FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Projects under this pillar aim to increase the number of families involved and invested in their student's success, including participation in school activities and events. In addition, projects may provide access to adult education, employment and other family stability resources at the school building. Project examples include ongoing family engagement events, literacy kits, establishing parent committees, family movie nights and regional field trips that include family participation.

**Students Served: 5,129**  
**Total Funding Amount: \$144,154**

### EXPANDED LEARNING TIMES AND ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Projects under this pillar aim to provide access to enrichment activities that emphasize real-world learning and community problem solving. Programming at school may include opportunities after school, on weekends and during the summer. Project examples include grade-level experiential field trips, summer programming, after-school programming coordination, standardized test incentives and care bags, and grade-level readiness kits.

**Students Served: 4,845**  
**Total Funding Amount: \$199,760**

*The above project examples are not all-inclusive of resource funding available at community schools.*



## BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

# TOTAL COMMUNITY INVESTMENT: \$3,745,052

### COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

We're stripping away nonacademic barriers to learn what low-income children face, from basic needs to trauma counseling to dental/vision health supports and much more.

**Outcome:**  
Students in Erie County achieve academic success.

**Total investment: \$2,911,838**

### IMAGINATION LIBRARY

We're providing FREE, high-quality, age- and developmentally appropriate books monthly to children from birth to their 5th birthday.

**Outcome:**  
Children in Erie County enter kindergarten ready to learn.

**Total investment: \$271,791**

*For a complete copy of our audited financial statement and tax return (form 990), please visit [www.unitedwayerie.org](http://www.unitedwayerie.org) or contact the finance department at (814) 456-2937.*

### 211 HELPLINE

We're connecting individuals and families to the help they need when they need it so that the home environment is stable and supported.

**Outcome:**  
Quick connection to help for anyone in Erie County.

**Total investment: \$114,235**

### OTHER STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS

We're making funds available to respond in times of emergencies and to priority community needs.

**Outcome:**  
The Erie County community is ready for the unexpected.

**Total investment: \$447,188**

## 2023-2024 FUNDED IMPACT PARTNERS

Achievement Center of LECOM Health

Booker T. Washington Center

Community School Enrichment Partners

Diehl Elementary School

East Middle School

Edison Elementary School

Elk Valley Elementary School

Erie Playhouse

Gannon University

Greater Erie Community Action Committee

Grover Cleveland Elementary School

Jefferson Elementary School

JoAnna Connell Elementary School

John F. Kennedy Center

Journey: Healing Together

Lincoln Elementary School

Hamot Health Foundation

Harding Elementary School

Iroquois Elementary School

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Center

McKinley Elementary School

Multicultural Community Resource Center

National Night Out Event Organizers

Perry Elementary School

Pfeiffer-Burleigh Elementary School

Strong Vincent Middle School

UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor

Union City Elementary School

Woodrow Wilson Middle School

## BY THE NUMBERS

Here are some examples of your investment in action. Unless otherwise noted, these statistics are from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

### COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

• 16 schools serving 8,618 students

• 6,916 visits to school community closets

• 214 after-school programs or services offered

• 679 student, staff and family engagement events held

• 2,223 volunteers

• More than 820 total services and resources (attendance, basic needs, holiday, physical and mental health, etc.) provided to community school students and families

### IMAGINATION LIBRARY

• 1,067,065 books mailed since program inception (CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!)

• 20,003 graduates

• 28,719 children served as of July 2023 (8,617 current enrollment)

### 211 HELPLINE

• **Contacts**

» Erie: 3,887

» NWP: 8,430

• **Referrals to assistance**

» Erie: 8,194

» NWP: 15,421

• **Services in database**

» Erie: 2,053

» NWP: 6,551

• **Top needs in Erie:**

» **Housing and Shelter: 34.1%**

» **Utilities: 29.8%**

» **Employment and Income: 12.4%**

*United Way's funding impact partners will be added to throughout the year as other partnerships are confirmed. This list is reflective of partnerships in place as of June 30, 2023.*