UNITED WAY
of Erie County

# 2026 United Way of Erie County

*Workplace Campaign*

# Local *dollars*.

# Local *impact*.

# Local *future*.

# The Big Idea

A ***stronger tomorrow*** starts with strong students and stable families.

When students have what they need, they can focus on learning.

When families are stable, students are stronger.

When our community works together, ***schools become hubs of support***.

# What Are Community Schools?

United Way Community Schools bring resources into school buildings to remove non-academic barriers to learning.

# The Heart of the Work

**Community Schools** are the heart of your local United Way's work.

The largest portion of our energy, effort, and funding is focused on United Way Community Schools.

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***Because when barriers are removed, students have a better chance to succeed in school and in life.***

UNITED WAY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

**Real student from our Community Schools**

# Your Gift in Action: Community Schools

**17**
**United Way Community Schools**

**4**
**School Districts**

**11,200+**
**Students Served**

**20**
**Community School Directors embedded in schools**

# A Day Made Stronger

## Every school day, students walk in with more weight on their shoulders than just a backpack.

A student comes to school hungry.

A child cannot see the board.

A family needs help with rent or utilities, so they call the **211 Helpline**.

A parent wants to be involved but does not know where to start.

A student needs a safe place to belong after the final bell.

United Way helps schools say ***yes***.

*Real students from our Community Schools*

# One Student.
# One Barrier Removed.
# One Day Changed.

# The Support System Behind the Student

Community Schools work because they are built on ***partnership***.

### Student and Family

*Have basic life and school needs that are not being met.*

### School Team

*Schools identify needs.*

### United Way Community School Director

*Community School Directors coordinate support.*

PARTNERING for a STRONGER TOMORROW
UNITED WAY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

### Donors and Volunteers

*Businesses, donors, volunteers, and partners help deliver impact.*

### Business and Community Partners

*Community partners and businesses support UWEC efforts.*

That is what ***Partnering for a Stronger Tomorrow*** looks like.

# More Ways United Way Strengthens Families

United Way also supports families before, during, and beyond the school day.

211
PENNYSYLVANIA | NORTHWEST
FIND HELP 24/7

Connects individuals and families to help when they need it most. Over 4,400 calls were made last year to the 211 Helpline.

IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Sends free, high-quality books to children from birth to age five. 1,363,411+ books have been distributed through the Imagination Library! **100% funded by United Way of Erie County**.

Together, these programs ***strengthen family stability and early learning*** across Erie County.

# When a Family Gets Support, a Student Gets Stronger.

# Your Investment

## Local dollars responsibly invested back into Erie County.

In 2025-2026, United Way invested **more than $4.1 million** into programs that strengthen students, families, and our local future.

| UNITED WAY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS | IMAGINATION LIBRARY | 211 PENNSYLVANIA \| NORTHWEST FIND HELP 24/7 |
|---|---|---|
| **$3,723,725** | **$318,372** | **$114,500** |

Meaningful support. Responsible investment. ***Stronger tomorrow.***

# Choose Your Impact

There is a place for ***everyone*** in this work.

**Start a gift.**

**Continue your gift.**

**Increase your gift.**

**Invite a coworker to join you.**

UNITED WAY of Erie County

UNITED WAY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Together, we are

***Partnering for a***

***Stronger Tomorrow.***

**unitedwayerie.org/give-now/**

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# THANK YOU!