

# United Way's Community Impact Fund investing in education and health

Programs funded by UNITED WAY COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND

## EDUCATION PROGRAMS

**United Way Youth Venture** helps to empower young people by providing them all the tools necessary to create civic-minded organizations, clubs or businesses. Students interested in launching a team work with an adult Champion within each collaborating partner, identifying an ally (non-controlling adult mentor) to work through the application process, to help make their idea a tangible project benefiting the greater community. Success is measured not only by the number of teams launched, but also by measurement of personal and academic indicators before and during participation in the program.

Unlike traditional youth programming, UWYV does not have a clear point of exit, or end; as the programs is truly transformative in nature, and creates such investment and ownership on the part of leading participants that many youth continue to engage in the program, and support their venture after they graduate from high school.

A Venture can be any youth-created, youth-led organization designed to provide a positive lasting benefit in a school, neighborhood, or larger community. Participants are granted access to a variety of resources, including: skill-building workshops and trainings, grant and scholarship opportunities, media opportunities and up to \$1,000 in seed capital needed to launch their organizations.

In North Central Massachusetts, the program now touches over 3,000 students.

**Dolly Parton Imagination Library** – Did you know that studies show that on average in middle-income homes, there are 13 age-appropriate books per child? In low-income homes, there is ONE book per 300 children. Did you know that kindergarten preparedness directly improves 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading skills? And that better 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading levels improve graduation rates?

The Imagination Library is a preschool literacy program that provides children with new, FREE, age-appropriate book each month from birth until their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday, regardless of socioeconomic status. This program ensures that children have quality books in the home in their most developmental years. Any child living in Ayer, Shirley, Fitchburg, Leominster, Gardner, Winchendon or Templeton may sign up for the program. As of June 2013 over 1,200 children in these communities receive a book sent to their home - in their name - each month.

**21st Century Scholars Afterschool Program** – Helps students meet state and local standards in subjects such as reading and math. Increases student achievement in literacy, math, communication and problem-solving; assists with homework & helps develop effective habits for learning.

**Bridging the Gap** - Addresses multiple determinants of emerging anti-social behavior in first-time juvenile offenders and other youth at high risk. A 12-week comprehensive life-skills program offered in the Fitchburg and Gardner areas.

**Camp Lowe Scholarship Program** - Scholarship program to allow for 75 children to attend Camp Lowe for one week during the summer months. Camp Lowe operates during the summer months for 9 weeks.

**Community Partnerships** - Enhances school and community-based youth violence prevention programs. Provides knowledge to help understand the seriousness and long-term ramifications of violent behavior.

**Fitchburg Community Based After School Program Collaborative** – Programming addressing the prevention of youth violence, drug abuse and teen pregnancy. Geared to engage low-income children and youth with a collaboration of existing, successful programs.

**Fitchburg High School Plato Credit Recovery Program** – This program's unique approach addresses the need of students on the verge of dropping out of high school.

## Under the guidance of a licensed math teacher, an ELA teacher and a guidance counselor, students complete classes they need to graduate. This digital program is tailored to each registered student in the program.

**HOPE for Kids** - Afterschool program for low-income children in K-12 in Gardner and neighboring communities. Committed to a "whole child" approach HOPE works closely with families to bridge the gap between home and school.

**Literacy Volunteers** - Promotes and fosters literacy, teaching adults to read, write and speak English. One-to-one tutoring for adults who struggle with limited literacy skills, as well as students who cannot function due to lack of English language skills.

**Males Advocating Change** – MAC works to develop the peer leadership potential of young males in addressing the male culture of violence, and particularly sexual violence towards women and children. MAC works to engage middle school, high school, and college-age males throughout North Central Massachusetts in the primary prevention of sexual and dating violence, harassment, and bullying.

**Project Contact** - Provides a positive summer camp experience for those who would not otherwise have one! Provides breakfast and lunch to children who might not otherwise get healthy meals during the summer.

**Project Learn** - Designed to work with the "Power Hour" program to develop positive and effective study habits while addressing and decreasing behavioral problems during school hours through learning successful methods of information retention through a reward system.

**Power Hour** – Power Hour Afterschool program designed to engage youth in learning, encourage academic success and develop life-long learners.

**Sexual Assault Youth Education (SAYE) Program** - Provides age and culturally appropriate education/ prevention services designed to change social norms within communities to reduce the perpetration of sexual assault across the life span.

**Transition to Independent Living (TIL) Services** - Assists older adolescents and young adults to take charge of their lives and reach their fullest potential. Youth have the opportunity to learn crucial skills necessary to function and compete in the adult world.

**Strengthening Families Collaborative** - Provides support to at-risk families throughout the region through collaboration with Strengthening Families Alliance (15 collaborative partners including CAFS).

**Teen Center** - Provides services to the middle & high school youth by offering opportunities that will help develop their social & leadership skills through structured activities, homework help, classes, volunteerism and involvement in the community.

**Youth Program** - Provides services to youth (12 years) offering recreational activities that enhance academic and social development in a safe, supportive and supervised environment.

## HEALTH PROGRAMS

**Action Health Services** - Provides substance abuse counseling, personal addiction identification, while working through the stages of addition and rehabilitation in order to provide the outcome of relapse.

**BWR Community Based Domestic Violence** - Serves the needs of victims/survivors of domestic violence and their children. Provides a 24 hour hotline, 90 day emergency shelter, crisis intervention, high risk assessment, individual counseling, support groups, advocates in six District Courts. Addresses domestic violence at all levels: crisis intervention, support, prevention and education.

**Companion/Escort Volunteer Program** - Services to elders and disabled adults to enable them to continue living independently in their homes through a range of services, including: companionship, escort to and from medical appointments, shopping assistance, respite for caregivers, S.H.I.N.E. (serving Health Information Needs of Elders) referrals, and telephone reassurance.

**Medical Transportation** - Coordinated travel arrangements to & from out of town medical appointments for elderly & disabled individuals in rural areas.

**Summer Fun Program** - Provides breakfast and lunch for income-eligible kids 0-18, as well as educational, craft and recreational programs with a mentoring component for children 13 and up - during the summer months.

## BASIC NEEDS/OTHER PROGRAMS

**Hunger Heroes Food Packaging** - Nutritious meals are packaged for local food pantries.

**Aralia Shelter** - A confidential emergency shelter for victims of domestic abuse and their children who are in imminent danger of physical harm.

**Basic Life Skills & Emergency Assistance** - Provides emergency material assistance (food, clothing, shelter) to individuals and families in need.

**CARE AIDS Services Food Resource Program** - A multi-service program that provides a Food Resource Program for individuals living with HIV/AIDS in the area.

**Comprehensive Emergency Assistance** - Provides emergency assistance for those in need. Helps with food assistance, rental/mortgage, utility assistance, emergency disaster services, camp experiences, seasonal assistance, referrals, clothing and furniture.

**Emergency Assistance** - Serves low-income clients, addressing issues of poverty, such as hunger/ malnutrition, along with immediate crisis, such as rental eviction, house foreclosure and utility terminations. Provides for basic human needs.

**Fellowship Table Program** - Provides a free nutritious, balanced meal for individuals in need in a safe environment. Predominately addressing hunger and malnutrition, this meal site also serves as an outlet for isolated individuals to share a common meal, socializing with others in a hospitable location.

**GVNA Food Pantry** - Provides food and nutritional stability to 3,633 individuals in need in a safe environment. Predominately addressing hunger and malnutrition, this meal site also serves as an outlet for isolated individuals to share a common meal, socializing with others in a hospitable location.

**Homeless Outreach** - Provides homeless outreach to North Central Massachusetts.

**Leona E. Fleming Food Pantry** - Provides food to families and individuals who have no food and no resources to obtain food. Provides food on a regular basis to households in need.

**Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry** - A food pantry provides groceries and referrals to people in need.

**MIHN Family Shelter** - Provides safe and clean housing in a congregate setting, addressing the needs of up to eight families. Through volunteer and staff network, helps each family transition back to permanent housing through case management and benefit assistance.

**Center Food Pantry** - Provides hot meals to displaced families living in Leominster motels in addition to providing fresh ethnic foods to individuals who cannot otherwise provide food for themselves or their family.

**Money Management Program** - This program provides services to ensure financial stability and security for elders and younger disabled adults in the community through either Bill Payer volunteers or Representative Payee staff.

**United Way Volunteer Center** - It is the volunteer center for North Central Massachusetts. It connects volunteers with opportunities and resources to address important community issues.

**United Way of North Central Massachusetts**  
Phone: 978-345-1577 • Fax: 978-345-7683  
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# United Way of North Central Massachusetts 2015 Annual Report

Fiscal Year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

## Dear Friends of United Way,

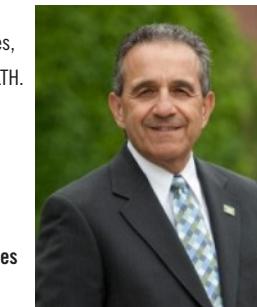
It has been a gratifying experience serving as your United Way Board Chair... as we work together to create opportunities for a better life for all in North Central Massachusetts.

What I have learned over the past three years as your Chair—is that this region is incredibly generous. Whether it is with money or time. So thank you for living united.

The work of United Way is so important. Through its programs and initiatives, it is making a real difference in the areas of EDUCATION, INCOME and HEALTH. We truly believe these are the building blocks for a great quality of life.

Just a few of the highlights include:

- Dolly Parton Imagination Library is helping over 1,600 children learn how to read. Study after study shows that strong reading skills improves success in school and graduation rates.
- United Way Youth Venture is truly a movement that has taken on a life of its own with nearly 9,000 students touched by the initiative. The program is creating an army of 'changemakers' who are addressing a host of community issues while developing critical life skills.
- While we are working on preventing problems from happening, we are keenly aware of the pressing basic needs in our community. Through our unique Heroes Against Hunger program—that packages meals by utilizing volunteers—we just surpassed 250,000 meals that have been distributed to 13 local food pantries.
- We also continued to provide much-needed food and utility assistance through our Supplemental Basic Needs Fund.



The goal is to be proactive by addressing immediate needs while implementing programs that address the underlying causes of community challenges.

We realize that it takes everyone in the community working together to create a brighter future. That is why we work to harness the collective power of thousands of volunteers, donors, businesses, and partner nonprofit agencies so we can help children achieve their potential, promote financial stability and independence and improve people's health.

Because so many LIVE UNITED, we were able to create opportunities for a better life for thousands who call North Central Massachusetts home.

## LIVE UNITED,

*Bob*

Robert V. Antonucci,  
Chair of United Way of North Central Massachusetts

## Highlights from the year:

- **United Way of North Central Massachusetts** made \$2.75 million in grants and distributions to important programs and services.
- **United Way's Community Impact Fund** made 35 grants to local programs, which provided over 145,000 services in the area of health, education and income.
- **United Way's Supplemental Basic Needs Fund** delivered food and heating assistance as additional needs were identified throughout the year. This past year, \$55,000 in grants for utility assistance were made. In addition, \$35,000 of grants were made for food assistance.
- **United Way's Emergency Shelter Fund** provided shelter to homeless individuals during extreme winter events. Over 570 nights of lodging were provided.
- **United Way Youth Venture**, which inspires and invests in teams of young people to launch their own lasting social ventures. The program is in 8 school systems and has reached over 9,000 students in the past year.
- **United Way 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of Caring** was a huge success.
  - 48 agencies submitted 66 volunteer projects.
  - 500+ volunteers from 16 companies participated.
  - 2,000+ students from 7 area schools
- **United Way Volunteer Center** generated over 14,000 hours of community volunteer service.
- **United Way Volunteer Center** was certified as a Service Enterprise by Points of Light, the world's largest organization dedicated to volunteer service. UWNCM is the fourth organization in Massachusetts to receive the certification, which is based on strict best practices requirements.
- **The United Way of North Central Mass.** leads all United Ways in New England for the number of meals packaged through its **Heroes Against Hunger** events. 256,620 meals have been packaged since the first event in 2013. Four events were held during the year.
- **Dolly Parton Imagination Library** is helping kids learn to read. It is a preschool literacy program that provides children with a new, FREE, age-appropriate book each month from birth until their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. The program is sending books to over 2,000 children every month.
- **Mass 2-1-1** is a free information and referral service that connects residents to health and human services in the community.
- **FamilyWize** affords prescription discounts to local residents who are uninsured or underinsured, saving residents over \$1 million since the program was launched locally.
- We also held our **Energy Forum** in partnership with Utilit. It provides important information to the nonprofit community on the various heating assistance programs.



United Way of North Central Massachusetts  
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**UNITED WAY OF NORTH CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS, INC**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**June 30, 2015 and June 30, 2014**

ASSETS	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 870,170	\$ 777,013
Certificate of Deposit	500,215	250,000
Accounts Receivable	59,438	25,555
Pledges Receivable, Net of Pledge Loss	888,249	1,154,124
Prepaid Expenses	18,640	20,598
Total Current Assets	<u>2,336,712</u>	<u>2,227,290</u>
<b>PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, NET</b>	<u>792,050</u>	<u>810,652</u>
<b>OTHER ASSETS</b>		
Long-term Investments	474,600	482,504
Insurance Receivable	61,110	58,202
Cash Value of Life Insurance	9,550	9,193
Total Other Assets	<u>545,260</u>	<u>549,899</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 3,674,022</u>	<u>\$ 3,587,841</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$ 23,684	\$ 38,601
Allocations Payable	876,865	848,397
Designations Payable	138,340	139,999
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1,038,889</u>	<u>1,026,997</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted Net Assets	1,139,107	1,184,620
Board Restricted	56,210	101,802
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	1,416,813	1,251,419
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	23,003	23,003
Total Net Assets	<u>2,635,133</u>	<u>2,560,844</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 3,674,022</u>	<u>\$ 3,587,841</u>

To obtain the entire audit or our IRS 990, please visit <http://www.uwncm.org>

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**June 30, 2015 and June 30, 2014**

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Temporarily Restricted</b>	<b>Permanently Restricted</b>	<b>2015 Total</b>	<b>2014 Total</b>
<b>PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>					
Contributions	\$ 2,894,472	\$ 318,878	\$	<u>3,213,350</u>	<u>\$ 3,064,084</u>
Less: Designations	(130,847)			(130,847)	(133,256)
Less: Uncollectible Amounts	(126,542)			(126,542)	(115,173)
Subtotal	<u>2,637,083</u>	<u>318,878</u>		<u>2,955,961</u>	<u>2,815,655</u>
<b>Program Funding</b>					
Management Fees	255,596			255,596	250,058
Designation from other United Ways	61,772			61,772	63,826
Contributions, Other	38,428			38,428	324,145
Administrative Fees	35,034			35,034	22,907
Interest Income	5,743	2,236		7,979	5,988
Donated Goods, Services, and Space	955			955	
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	156,938	(156,938)			
Special Events, Net	(3,269)	1,218		(2,051)	(4,238)
Total Program Funding	<u>551,197</u>	<u>(153,484)</u>		<u>397,713</u>	<u>662,686</u>
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<u>3,188,280</u>	<u>165,394</u>		<u>3,353,674</u>	<u>3,478,342</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Program Services					
Gross Funds Awarded/Distributed	1,189,260			1,189,260	1,243,072
(Less Donor Designations)	(108,690)			(108,690)	(110,349)
Donor Advised Distributions	1,098,416			1,098,416	1,032,985
Subtotal	<u>2,178,986</u>			<u>2,178,986</u>	<u>2,165,708</u>
Program Expenses					
Total Program Services	570,359			570,359	622,710
Supporting Services					
Organizational Administration	287,035			287,035	290,059
Fundraising	213,150			213,150	221,378
United Way of America Dues	24,753			24,573	27,974
Total Supporting Services	524,758			524,758	539,411
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u>3,274,103</u>			<u>3,274,103</u>	<u>3,327,829</u>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<u>(85,823)</u>	<u>165,394</u>		<u>79,571</u>	<u>150,512</u>
<b>OTHER INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS</b>					
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	(5,282)			(5,282)	66,512
Loss on Disposal of Assets					(389)
Change in Other Net Assets	(5,282)			(5,282)	66,126
<b>CHANGES IN NET ASSETS</b>	<u>(91,105)</u>	<u>165,394</u>		<u>74,289</u>	<u>216,638</u>
<b>NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>1,286,422</u>	<u>1,251,419</u>	<u>23,003</u>	<u>2,560,844</u>	<u>2,307,763</u>
<b>NET ASSETS, FROM ACQUISITION OF ATHOL AREA UNITED WAY</b>					36,443
<b>NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 1,195,317</u>	<u>\$ 1,416,813</u>	<u>\$ 23,003</u>	<u>\$ 2,635,133</u>	<u>\$ 2,560,844</u>