

# REPORT

to the Community



# 2018

Improve Lives. Strengthen Our Community. Live United.

# 2018 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Every resident of Fairfield County deserves resources to help them with necessities of living and opportunities to learn how to improve their lives. Whether it is food and shelter, shielding from abuse, tools to break through academic barriers or help with addiction disease, United Way of Fairfield County is a resource for the community to help neighbors. We work with our partner agencies to ensure our **Bold Goals: Education, Financial Stability and Health** are being addressed in Fairfield County.

Our donors should know that their contributions are being pooled to address the most pressing needs in our community. They can also be confident United Way of Fairfield County is participating and encouraging communication and collaboration between service providers, funding resources and community leaders.

The United Way of Fairfield County is the community. Our report for 2018 portrays some of the accomplishments of our programs and partners. All possible thanks to the generous gifts of our donors. Thank you! Great things happen when we **LIVE UNITED!**

Scott Reed  
Executive Director  
United Way of Fairfield County

Luann Snyder  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
United Way of Fairfield County

**MISSION:** Improving lives through the caring power of our community.

**VISION:** We will focus our resources to achieve the greatest impact on community needs. We will accomplish our mission by convening, leading, educating and challenging community partners to develop sustainable and relevant programs that improve quality of life. We will inspire long-term change by acting upon measured results.

- VALUES:**
- To energize and inspire people to make a difference
  - To create human care action plans
  - To build partnerships
  - To increase community investment
  - To measure, communicate and learn from the impact of our efforts
  - To reflect the diversity of the communities we serve

# FAIRFIELD COUNTY'S AGENDA FOR CHANGE

## EDUCATION

### COMMUNITY BOLD GOALS

- Increase school readiness
- Increase positive familial engagement

### COMMUNITY IMPACT

- Young children, ages birth to 8 enter school prepared to succeed

### COMMUNITY BOLD GOALS

- Reduce non-academic barriers to success
- Increase academic achievement and career readiness for Youth

### COMMUNITY IMPACT

- Youth, ages 9 to 21, successfully transition to adulthood and independence

## INCOME

### COMMUNITY BOLD GOALS

- Individuals and families will achieve financial stability
- Increase community workforce skills & competencies
- Increase accessible, safe, permanent, affordable housing
- People in crisis have access to emergency food & shelter
- The community prepared to respond to disasters and emergencies

### COMMUNITY IMPACT

- Households are stable and have access to resources

## HEALTH

### COMMUNITY BOLD GOALS

- Elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities, have access to support services in order to complete independent activities of daily living
- Increase awareness, education and treatment for those in need of addiction and mental health services
- People who seek care, get care
- People maintain healthy nutrition and physical fitness

### COMMUNITY IMPACT

- Individuals and families are mentally and physically healthy and have access to services

United Way of Fairfield County is committed to working with our many partners in the community and collaborates to make data driven decisions that help us achieve established Bold Goals. In addition, we have assembled a team of over 45 community volunteers that assist with reviewing partner applications for funding as well as ensuring that annual impact is achieved.

This report includes data collected in the areas of Education, Income and Health that documents our progress toward Bold Goals over the last year. Advancing the common good reflects an ongoing commitment to this effort. Our Bold Goals enable us to achieve measurable, sustainable results that will improve lives in our community and create lasting change that strengthens us all.



# 2018 ACCOMPLISH

## UNITED WAY PROGRAMS



**10,639 FREE BOOKS**

sent to children under age 5

**Over 900 CHILDREN**

receive a free book each month

United Way of Fairfield County manages the Imagination Library program, which helps preschool children build their own library, encourages parents to read with their children and increases awareness of the importance of early literacy. With the support of local sponsors and grants the Imagination Library sends a free, new, age-appropriate book each month to enrolled children until they turn 5 and graduate from the program.

**FEEDING OUR FUTURE**

**OVER 7,400 BAGS OF FOOD**

sent home with children for the weekend

**826 CHILDREN**

receive a bag each month

UWFC saw a unique opportunity to serve those in need and make sure our county's most vulnerable, its children, aren't without food over the weekend. Registered students at local elementary schools received a package of food to take home on the last Friday of every month. The package includes a variety of choices to get the student through the weekend and usually weighs about eight pounds. It is our hope and expectation that these meals are helping young students grow and return to school, after the weekend, ready to learn. Participating Schools: Amanda Clearcreek Primary, Berne Union Elementary, and Lancaster Elementary Schools.

# IMENTS



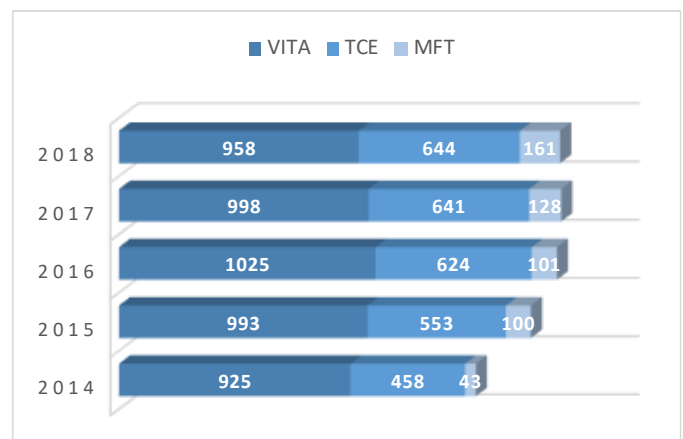
## FREE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

United Way continues to provide no-cost, high-quality, professional development trainings for educators in Fairfield County. Topics covered were required certifications (CPR and 1st Aid, Communicable Disease Prevention, Child Abuse Prevention), as well as Social/Emotional Development topics including Challenging Behaviors, Trauma Informed Care, and Movement Based Learning. Topics were also Step up to Quality approved.

## FREE TAX PREPARATION

The **VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)** program provides free tax preparation to any individual or family earning less than \$55,000. Since 2007, UWFC has served over 9,600 tax clients helping clients claim over \$15 million in refunds. The **TAX COUNSELING FOR THE ELDERLY (TCE)** program provides free tax preparation to any individual over age 60. Beginning in 2012, UWFC serves over 500 elderly clients each year.

MyFreeTaxes.com is a website allowing any individual or family earning less than \$66,000 to file taxes at no cost.



# EDUCATION

## Fairfield County's Bold Goals in Education are:

### Child Development:

- Increase school readiness
- Increase positive familial engagement

### Youth Development:

- Reduce non-academic barriers to success
- Increase academic achievement and career readiness for youth

## Project WISE

One of our students has shown remarkable growth this year, in both her academics as well as her confidence and work ethic.

She started the school year with F's in English, Math, Science, Health, and French and dozens of missing assignments.

We strongly suggested that she join a full period of WISE, but because she enjoyed her electives so much, she threw her full effort taking every bit of help she could during the shortened E/I period of WISE.

She developed routines and strong habits that allowed her to focus in the classroom, organize her materials effectively, and stay on top of upcoming projects.

This student thrives in WISE and currently has one of the highest GPAs of all WISE students, with all A's and high B's and no missing assignments.

Because she has internalized these good habits, I have faith that she will continue her strong work ethic into high school and continue to show how capable she is at success in school and beyond.

Project WISE is an educational program designed to improve organizational skills, study skills, the rate of work completion, and self-esteem of at-risk, regular education students (non-special ed. students) who are struggling to maintain their grades. This program is located in the Pickerington Public Schools Junior High Schools.

# BOLD GOALS EDUCATION

## BOLD GOAL

### INCREASE SCHOOL READINESS

Increase the number of high school seniors having a trusted adult at home and at school in which they can confide.

**81%**

of children in Big Brothers Big Sisters increased in confidence while in the program.

## BOLD GOAL

### REDUCE NON-ACADEMIC BARRIERS TO SUCCESS

Increase participation in meaningful activities and increase good decision-making skills.

## CyberSmart

The CyberSmart Program is taught at upper elementary, middle and high school levels for classrooms and is offered throughout Fairfield County and its school system.

The program addresses the specific needs for improving students' use of 21st Century skills as they relate to; safe and secure technology use, online information, literacy skills, and ethical decision-making. Students receive one to three lessons depending on their age level with students at the upper grades receiving more information due to the increased reality of the number of issues they face and the level of freedom they have on the Internet and social media.

## Boy Scouts of Fairfield County

**1,326**

Scouts in  
Fairfield County

**2,726**

Service Hours

Cub Scouting, serving Fairfield County youth from first through fifth grade, is primarily a family-based program. In the Scouts BSA program, serving Fairfield County youth (male and female beginning in February 2019) the focus turns to youth taking responsibility for themselves. The "Troop" is led by a team of older youth, elected by their peers. This group runs the meetings and plans the activities and outings, with adult mentors serving as a safety net.

## BOLD GOAL

### INCREASE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND CAREER READINESS FOR YOUTH

Increase and maintain the percentage of high school seniors that graduate from high school.

### Project WISE Students

|                                  |       |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Improved Grades while in WISE    | 93%   |
| Increase in Grades Per Student   | 9.48% |
| WISE Students Graduating on Time | 95%   |

# INCOME

## Fairfield County's Bold Goals in Income are:

- Individuals and families will achieve financial stability
- Increase community workforce skills and competencies
- Increase accessible, safe, permanent, affordable housing
- People in crisis have access to emergency food and shelter
- The community prepared to respond to disasters and emergencies

Mt. Pleasant Elementary has gratefully had the opportunity to participate in the PB and Joy program for the last four years. During the 2018/2019 school year we have had the pleasure of sending home 160 brown bags each month! In a school where the majority of our students are on free and reduced lunch and face significant home life adversities these quick meals/food items mean so much. We have had many parents than the school for this program and let us know how much it helped their family when they were under financial stress. With their gratitude we often hear from parents that they wish we could offer the brown bags more often!

## Canal Winchester Human Services

We celebrated our first anniversary in our new warehouse location in October. We have established an easy, convenient system that seems to work well for all parties including staff, volunteers and clients.

Because of our new location and its logistics, we have developed positive partnerships with each of our local grocers and benefit from much of their excess, especially meat and bread.

Indirectly connected to our Food Pantry Program, we established a community garden for the benefit of the low-income seniors served through Market Day and clients of the Choice Pantry. This opportunity allowed our clients the ability to grow their own vegetables and excess produce was provided for pantry distribution.

Developing a community garden in partnership with our Food Pantry Program was a highlight of the year. Twenty individual built raised beds and of those, more than half were used by low-income seniors and/or food pantry clients. The rest were tended by local churches who donated the produce to the pantry.

As heart breaking as it sometimes is, we even have kids who are overjoyed on PB and Joy Day because they know they will have snacks over the weekend. There have been several times this school year where students have disclosed to a staff member that their last meal was a school lunch the previous day, and sometimes it's over the weekend. PB and Joy has been such a wonderful support to Mt. Pleasant students and our community. We look forward to continuing our collaborative effort with PB and Joy and United Way to provide assistance to the children of Lancaster. Mt Pleasant loves PB and Joy!

We appreciate everyone involved in making this program happen at our school.



# BOLD GOALS IN INCOME

## Bold Goal for ACCESS TO EMERGENCY FOOD

Agencies providing emergency food assistance will have the capacity to serve 100% of those who seek assistance.

**21,052**

Unduplicated individuals served at Food Pantries in Fairfield County funded by United Way

**183**

Domestic violence victims served in 2018 at The Lighthouse – a United Way funded agency.

### Lutheran Social Service's Emergency Shelter

| Outcomes  | Ohio's Performance Objectives | FC FY16 | FC FY17 | FC FY18 |
|---|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Homeless individuals move into permanent housing        | 30%                           | 31%     | 32%     | 27%     |
| Shelter clients employed at the time of exiting shelter | 15%                           | 57%     | 38%     | 45%     |

## Bold Goal for INCREASE SAFE HOUSING

Reduce homelessness through a comprehensive plan of coordinated services.

**16**  
apartments

Provide Housing

**48**  
Individuals

## The Rutherford House

Is a permanent supportive housing project for homeless families with disabilities. They are eligible to receive housing in a historic rehabilitation project and receive case management services to address barriers that inhibit households from obtaining permanent housing. A Resident Services Program has been developed to guide residents on the path to achieving long-term housing stability, increased skills and income, and greater self-determination.

## Bold Goal for PREPARED TO RESPOND TO DISASTERS

Reducing losses from community disasters and family emergencies.

## Pickerington Food Pantry

*Karen was a single parent who worked a full-time job and raised two sons. In 2018, she suffered serious health issues and was unable to work. She lost her apartment and was forced to move in with a family member. Karen visited the pantry for several months to receive food, but after a full recovery she was able to obtain employment and get back out on her own. After not seeing Karen for a while, she visited the pantry to make a donation, as she said, "to pay back a little" for what she had received.*

# HEALTH

## Fairfield County's Bold Goals in Health are:

- Elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities, have access to support services in order to complete independent activities of daily living
- Increase awareness, education and treatment for those in need of addiction and mental health services
- People who seek care, get care
- People maintain healthy nutrition and physical fitness

## By the Way Free Medical Clinic

- In partnership with Mount Carmel Health, we began our Pre-Diabetic Screening-Prevention Program. To date, 12 individuals were screened, six were interested in the program and three have maintained continuous participation in the free classes held at the clinic location. Classes began last summer and go to April, 2019, for this cohort. They continue to reach their target goals, as established by program guidelines.
- A woman came to clinic for high blood pressure. This patient stated she had a history of high blood pressure but had not had her prescription filled in many months and was not taking her medication. She did not have a physician. At triage her blood pressure was dangerously elevated and the patient was seen immediately by our physician. She was sent directly to the emergency room. We continued to follow the patient's status and she suffered a cardiac event after admission to the hospital.
- In December, a man was brought to clinic by his friend. This patient had been homeless and several social concerns were noted by the BTW staff. The patient was triaged and sent directly to the emergency room for possible pneumonia. Additionally, we continue to work on acquiring needed documentation for to apply/receive benefits for his well-being/care.

# BOLD GOALS IN HEALTH

## Bold Goal for ACCESS TO CARE

Provide resources for free medical treatment.

| By the Way Clients completing referrals for additional care: |      |      |
|--|------|------|
| 2016   | 2017 | 2018 |
| 97%  | 94%  | 100% |

In fiscal year 2018, By The Way Clinic reported that **148** unduplicated people presented for free medical services. 599 prescriptions were dispensed to **103** patients totaling \$1,260 in medication assistance provided in the form of \$4.00 prescription cards.

## By the Way celebrated **10** years of service in Fairfield County

## Bold Goal for AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND TREATMENT FOR THOSE IN NEED OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Provide resources for needed mental & medical services.

**3,507**  
**16%**

Students were screened by New Horizon's Mental Health Services for symptoms of depression and/or suicide. of students screened tested positive and were referred for additional services.

## Bold Goal for SERVICES TO SENIORS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Supporting services that fosters independence for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

*Fairfield Center for disAbilities provided 4,635 hours of United Way funded care.*

88% said that the Samaritan Center prevented or delayed long-term facility placement.

*Participants in Adult Day Programs funded by United Way avoided long-term facility placement and remained in their home.*

**91% avoided hospitalization or a prolonged absence while attending Wesley Ridge Adult Day Services**

# UNITE TO FIGHT

## YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Because of your investment the United Way of Fairfield County granted over \$1.3 million to support 24 local agencies and over 30 programs. These programs are working to improve the lives of people in Fairfield County.

### UNITED WAY PARTNER AGENCIES

#### EDUCATION

Children are entering school prepared to succeed. Youth are successfully transitioning to adulthood and independence.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters**

**Boy Scouts of America  
Simon Kenton Council**

**Girl Scouts of  
Ohio's Heartland**

**Harcum House**

**Maywood Mission**

**Mid-Ohio Psychological  
Services**

**Pickerington Schools'  
Project W.I.S.E.**

**Robert K. Fox Family Y**

**The Recovery Center**

#### INCOME

Households are stable and have access to resources, including food and shelter, in times of crisis.

**American Red Cross**

**Canal Winchester Human  
Services**

**Foundation Dinners**

**Fairfield County 2-1-1  
Information & Referral**

**Lancaster-Fairfield  
Community Action**

**Lutheran Social Services**

**PCMA Food Pantry of  
Pickerington**

**TeenWorks**

**The Lighthouse**

#### HEALTH

Individuals and families are mentally and physically healthy and have access to services and healthy choices.

**By the Way  
Free Medical Clinic**

**FairHope Hospice**

**Fairfield Center for disAbilities  
& Cerebral Palsy**

**Harcum House**

**New Horizons Mental  
Health Services**

**Robert K. Fox Family Y**

**Salvation Army**

**Wesley Ridge**



# VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

Each one of us can make a difference. The following contribute their time and talents and assist in determining how United Way dollars are Invested to improve lives in our community.

## Education Impact Council

Michael Ashton  
Ohio University

Toni Ashton  
ADAMH Board

Lisa Boley  
Fairfield County  
Board of Developmental Disabilities

Dana Bower  
Massage Therapy of Ohio

Nicole Davis  
Ohio Christian University

Kim Devitt  
Lancaster Fairfield Community Action  
Head Start

Donna Fox-Moore  
Family Adult and Children First Council

Suzie Lynch  
Fairfield County Job & Family Services

Donna McCance  
Lancaster City Schools

Becky Schaade  
Fairfield County District Library

Adam VanDyke  
Fairfield Medical Center

Steve Wigton  
Lancaster City Schools

## Income Impact Council

Peter Anson  
Lancaster Fire Department

Shelley Carter  
Community Volunteer

Eric Croft  
Fairfield National Bank

Jodi Fuhr  
Fairfield County JFS

Kristin Gordon-Hock  
Wolinetz & Horvath, LLC

David Rauch  
Babcock & Wilcox

Julie Schmeltzer  
Standing Stone National Bank

Matt Thompson  
Fairfield Medical Center

Kelli Tucker  
Babcock and Wilcox

Randall Ullom  
City of Lancaster

## Health Impact Council

Liz Brendsel  
Fairfield Medical Center

Lisa Clark  
Guidestones

Helen Harding  
Fairfield Medical Center

Norah Ginty  
Community Volunteer

Josh Goodwin  
Southeast Ohio Legal Services

Krista Humphries  
Fairfield County Job & Family Services

Robin Harris  
Community Volunteer

Jeff Regoli  
AEP

Dr. Robin Rhodes  
Fairfield Medical Center

Matt Roberts  
Ohio University

Jennifer Sitterley-Baum  
Sitterley, Vandervoort and Davis Ltd

Mikaela Tussing  
Fairfield County Juvenile Court

Lisa Strohl  
Standing Stone National Bank

Steven Wellstead  
City of Lancaster

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Commercial Vehicle Group

Lancaster City Schools

Krile Communications

Lancaster Fire Department

Lancaster Fairfield Community Action Head Start

Krile Communications

Vonnie McDonald State Farm

Fairfield County Human Resources

Fairfield Federal Savings and Loan

Nationwide

Fairfield County Prosecutor

NiSource

## UNITED WAY STAFF

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Deb Silvia

Beth Craft

Andrea Spires

Katie Arent

Barbara Sanford

Sheila Jacobs

CEO

Director of Finance and Administration

Resource Development and Event Manager

Director of Community Impact

Administrative Assistant

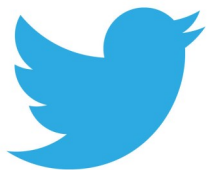
Tax Program Specialist

Tax Program Specialist

# GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER. LIVE UNITED



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