



Frequently Asked Questions

This guide is to help you answer FAQ – As a volunteer for the United Way, you can expect questions as they are a natural part of the process of asking people to contribute. Knowing the facts will help prepare you to address people's questions and concerns.

Should you encounter a questions that you are unable to answer, that is okay! Simply let the individual know you are a volunteer and you will find out the appropriate response. Get their contact information and tell them either you or United Way will reach out to them to answer their question(s).

What does the United Way do?

Since 1925, United Way, formerly known as the Community Chest, has been a last force in changing lives and creating a positive impact in the community.

Why Give to United Way?

Giving to the United Way is the most powerful way you can make your community stronger and better. By helping thousands of families and friends reach their full potential, you're helping to build a more educated, prosperous and healthy region. Your gift translates into real and measurable results that change lives and strengthen the community.

How is United Way different from other nonprofits?

United Way brings together powerful forces within the community to create a more educated, prosperous and healthy region. Our unique ability to work across the complex issues with community partners is unmatched. We bring together government, business, faith-based, nonprofits, labor, policymakers and community members to find solutions to some of our biggest challenges. We are not focused on one single issue but rather on the community as a whole. We help young children have a good start in life, help people in crisis get back on their feet and we help future problems.

Who Oversees the Operations of United Way?

A 15-member volunteer Board of Directors made of respected community and business members and philanthropists governs United Way of the Bradford Area, Inc. The Board sets policies and a strategic direction and is responsible for the overall governance and stewardship of the organization. The Executive Director manages day-to-day activities.

How Can I be Confident that my Donation is Well Managed?

We take our role as stewards of your money very seriously. We engage community volunteers to oversee our management and financial system to ensure that we are operating at the highest levels of professionalism and excellence.

United Way of the Bradford Area, Inc. is audited annually by an independent accounting firm and carefully reviewed by volunteers who serve on the United Way finance committee as well as the full Board of Directors. Our IRS 990 form is available online at guidestar.com for interested individuals to review.

Who Decides Which Programs United Way Funds?

Knowledgeable volunteers on the Board of Directors carefully screen and select the programs to be funded. After selection, these programs are rigorously monitored to ensure they produce the intended results. As part of this oversight, staff can visit the programs, review financial documents, analyze program reports and evaluate the outcomes on an annual basis.

I Don't Use Agency Services and I Don't Know People Who Do – Why Should I Give?

Everyone deserves the opportunity to have a good life, a quality education, enough income to support a family, enough food on their tables and good health. Hardships can occur when least expected and your contributions allow programs to be in place to help meet the needs of those individuals when they are most vulnerable. When the community wins, we all win.

I Already Give to Other Charities, Why Should I Give to United Way?

While most nonprofits focus on a single issue, United Way takes a broader approach – we find the needs in our community and address them by working with over 40 programs and initiatives to promote education, financial stability and health of each person in the communities we serve. In addition to this, when you give to United Way, your dollar goes further because when you give \$1, you are helping to support all of our programs who aid thousands of your community members, not just one.

My Spouse Gives at Work, Why Should I Also Give?

It is great that your spouse supports United Way! But know your gift is just as important because it helps to close the gap of unmet services in our area.

Is My United Way Gift Tax Deductible?

Yes – to receive tax deduction, you will need to itemize your deductions and provide the proper documentation when filing your income tax return. The IRS requires a receipt for each tax-deductible payment of \$250 or more.