What is United Way of Rhode Island (UWRI)?

United Way of Rhode Island is a local organization dedicated to helping Rhode Islanders help themselves by connecting them with the resources and tools that not only improve their lives, but can change them. Together with our supporters and community partners, we help Rhode Islanders with everything from developing skills to secure better paying jobs, to obtaining housing and childcare, to accessing basic needs supports when times are tough, and improving educational opportunities for children and adults.

Why should I support United Way of Rhode Island?

UWRI is run by and for Rhode Islanders. We invest only in proven programs that deliver results with a focus on learning at all stages of life and access to basic supports. Your support for United Way of Rhode Island goes directly to fund critical programs and urgent services—not costly overhead. Our fundraising and administrative costs are covered by a permanent trust. Our supporters can be absolutely confident that dollars donated and hours volunteered go directly to help those who need it most. And, we welcome donors and supporters at all levels of giving and commitment.

What are the major focus areas for United Way of Rhode Island?

Understanding that people learn throughout their lives, we support a wide-range of programs in afterschool and summer learning, as well as workforce development and financial literacy. We also believe that people want to do better for themselves, and sometimes they need help doing that, so we help make connections to basic supports such as affordable housing, childcare, and financial assistance.

What are United Way of Rhode Island’s major accomplishments?

We have improved child care, expanded learning for school-age children, delivered safe and affordable housing, and provided access to life-changing workforce development programs that put people to work in better jobs. Each year, more than 15,000 people in our local communities received basic needs through programs funded by United Way of Rhode Island; we support free volunteer tax preparation centers across Rhode Island to help people claim the tax credits and refunds they’ve earned by working, which returned more than $23 million to the local economy; and more than 1,100 children participated in one of our Hasbro Summer Learning programs. United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island handles nearly 200,000 calls for help each year, connecting our neighbors to basic needs like housing, food, and child care.

What does it mean to LIVE UNITED?

LIVING UNITED means together, united, we can make a difference in the lives of all Rhode Islanders. You can LIVE UNITED by joining thousands of others to make a positive impact—right here, right now. By making a contribution to our Community Impact Fund you will help provide our friends, families, and neighbors with the building blocks of a good life.

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What is United Way of Rhode Island’s Community Impact Fund?

“Community Impact” means helping to make lasting changes in the community that will affect as many lives as possible. Contributions to our Community Impact Fund are invested to help people gain the skills they need to achieve financial stability and long-term employment, to access learning at all stages of life, and to help people connect with essential services during times of need.

Why should I make a gift to United Way of Rhode Island’s Community Impact Fund?

Our Community Impact Fund is the best investment you can make if you want to help as many people as possible and reduce need in Rhode Island. As a result of the generous and ongoing support of people like you, we have helped to make a difference in the lives of thousands of Rhode Islanders. United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island handles nearly 200,000 requests for help each year—your support could help make a critical connection for a neighbor, friend or relative.

Who benefits from United Way of Rhode Island?

From young children receiving early education and school-aged children participating in after school and summer learning programs, to adults seeking employment, and seniors looking for medical assistance and long-term care options, everyone in Rhode Island benefits from our work.

What is United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island?

Operated by UWRI, United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island is the information and referral center that connects people with critical human services. And, it’s available for free, 24-hours a day, 365 days a year, online and offline. Whether a parent needs high-quality childcare; a family needs financial assistance for rent or utilities; one of our neighbors is looking for job-training; or a senior needs help to pay for prescriptions and put food on the table, 2-1-1 is there to help connect people to critical resources.

How does supporting United Way of Rhode Island benefit my company and employees?

When you give to UWRI, you and your employees demonstrate your commitment to LIVING UNITED—Rhode Islanders helping Rhode Islanders lead the best lives possible for themselves and their families. Through UWRI, you’re able to connect your employees with the causes they care about most, which helps everyone have a role in changing lives and strengthening our community.

How can I support United Way of Rhode Island?

UWRI welcomes support from everyone. There are many options for giving, including: you may donate directly at www.LIVEUNITEDri.org, designate payroll deduction through your company’s workplace giving campaign, open a MyFund™ account, or include UWRI in your estate plans with a planned gift. No matter the size, every donation we receive helps improve the lives of our neighbors in need. There are many ways to support UWRI by volunteering your time and talents. You can commit your time to serve as a Campaign Leader in your workplace, volunteer during our annual Children’s Book Drive or Day of Action, or volunteer through one of our recurring volunteer opportunities.