Your Impact on our Friends and Neighbors in Need

### Health 37.09% of community impact funding

- Access to Healthcare Services
- Mental Health
- Prevention/Treatment Programs



#### **Aaron**

Aaron sought counseling at our partner agency after experiencing a significant amount of trauma. He disclosed that he had been abused by a family member for many years, and his mother committed suicide when he was 6 years old. After his brave disclosure, he was able to access intensive trauma therapy. After a few months, he no longer had symptoms of PTSD. This United Way funded program and the support he found have given him a chance at healing and a happier life.

### **Jasmine**

At only 14 years old, Jasmine lost her father to suicide and mother to Huntington's disease in the same year. United Way funding made it possible for her to have a court-appointed volunteer advocate, who visited Jasmine every two weeks to talk about school and life. Her advocate provided Jasmine with a stable support system and resource, helping her apply to college and attend for free. Thanks to United Way funding and her advocate's dedication, Jasmine will start college next fall in her dream program.

### **Jack**

Suffering from Bipolar Disorder, PTSD, and an Opioid use disorder for over 25 years, Jack had been in and out of jail for the majority of his adult life. Our partner agency was able to offer him therapy while he was in jail and developed a treatment plan to follow upon his release. Due to this support, he has maintained his sobriety for over 8 months, held full-time employment, and repaired family relationships. Jack continues to attend recovery support meetings and is a leader for others in recovery.



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Education 16.23% of community impact funding

Child & Youth Success

### **Emily**

Emily was stressed and bullied at school, leading to depression and thoughts of self-harm. She had not told anyone until she attended a United Way funded program about home and school stress by one of our partner agencies. After the program, she left a note for the instructor. Emily asked for help. She now sees a counselor and remains an active participant with our partner agency. Thanks to United Way, Emily is empowered to lead a healthier and happier life.

### **Teen Mentors**

Our partner agency participates in the Sea Research Foundation's STEM Mentoring Program, which gives kids the opportunity to participate in weekly mentoring activities alongside a volunteer adult or peer mentor. This year, the teen peer mentors attended a leadership academy in Connecticut, giving them the opportunity to fly for the first time and stay in a college dorm. Because of United Way funding, these teenagers are able to have transformative educational enrichment experiences in Tennessee and beyond.



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## Self-Sufficiency 46.68% of community impact funding

- Basic/Special Needs
- Crisis & Disaster Assistance
- Housing Support
- Transportation



### **Robert**

Robert was only 52 years old when he was out of work due to sudden onset kidney disease. He was too weak to drive. Too weak to shop or cook. United Way funding allowed a partner agency to deliver groceries and frozen meals to Robert as he fought his illness, always making sure he had enough. Five years later he sadly lost his battle with kidney disease, but thanks to United Way donors we can know he was not forgotten. He lived the rest of his life with dignity.

### **Delores**

Like many seniors in our community, Delores and her husband didn't plan to take care of their 3 great-grandchildren during their retirement. After their bills, they only have \$200 a month to buy groceries. Their retirement check lasts less than 2 weeks, the financial stress overwhelming. United Way funding allows our partner agency to supply them with food whenever things get tight. When there's no food in the cupboard, they know where to get help.

### Mrs. Jones

As a widow living in subsidized senior housing, 82 year old Mrs. Jones felt isolated from her community. She was unable to drive and found it difficult to find reliable transportation. United Way funding allows a partner agency to offer door-to-door transportation to necessary appointments. Volunteer drivers take Mrs. Jones to medical and dental appointments, the bank, and even to the grocery store. Not only does this program provide essential transportation, but Mrs. Jones says she has met some of the best people she's ever seen.



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## **Self-Sufficiency**



#### Ms. Smith

No heating and air. Missing, torn, and ripped flooring. Leaking refrigerator. These are only a few of the health and safety concerns of a Blount County widow's house. Due to Ms. Smith's fixed income, she was hopeless to make these repairs on her own. United Way funding allowed our partner agency to make her house a home again. They fixed her house from the foundation up. She now has air conditioning and heating, new flooring, a new refrigerator, and most importantly, a safe place to live – all because of our United Way donors.

### Ellen

People with disabilities often don't have the same opportunities to socialize with their peers and community. When Ellen began at our partner agency, she was shy and hesitant of new experiences. She limited her participation in activities with friends and family due to fear of the unknown. After time at the agency and their wonderful support, she has become outspoken and confident. Ellen is now thriving with independence and has become an advocate for those around her — all because of United Way donors.

### Misti

A single mother of two young children, Misti couldn't find permanent housing for her family. She had an eviction, a title loan, and a poor credit score. Her landlord sold her rental house out from under her. Her family moved from emergency shelter to transitional housing due to the support from our partner agency's program. She secured full-time employment in addition to taking budgeting courses, credit repair, and paying off debt. Thanks to United Way funding, her family could access the services they needed for a promising future.

