

United Way of Racine County

Frequently Asked Questions

How does United Way of Racine County help the community? United Way volunteers and staff help target the needs and pressing issues of our local community, work with public and private partners to achieve measurable results, and deliver effective solutions to local problems by investing campaign donor dollars.

Does United Way serve all of Racine County? Yes. United Way of Racine County raises dollars in and serves all of the families in Racine County.

How many United Way of Racine County donors are there? In 2007, approximately 12,000 people gave to our campaign.

How much of donations goes to help people? 87% of all the money we raise goes to help people. That compares favorably to the national standard for non-profit charities, since the Better Business Bureau has given a positive rating to those with up to 40% overhead.

What are United Way of Racine County's funding priorities? Our funding priorities reflect the community's greatest areas of concern, relative to a positive quality of life for everyone. In each area, we are defining the outcomes that we need to be a healthy community. United Way's three priority areas are: Success by 6[®], Caring for Kids, and Supporting Self-Sufficiency.

Does United Way have a paid staff? Our staff of nine works in administration, finance, marketing and resource development, communications, community investment, labor advisory, and support services. Staff work is multiplied many times over by the efforts of thousands of volunteers who contribute to all areas of our organization.

What if I want to give to just my favorite program? You are welcome to do that—some donors have familiar programs and want to support them. But remember—a donation which goes to “Where the Need is Greatest” (on pledge form) will do the most good for the community and best serve the needs of children and families in Racine County.

How much should I give? It's an individual decision. Many donors give 1% of their annual income. Some give \$5 a paycheck, \$10 or \$20 a week or much more. Giving \$1,000 or more a year qualifies you as a Beacon Circle leadership giver.

Your contribution helps create real change in the community.

When you donate \$1 a week:

- Children with disabilities are able to attend 2 ½ days at Camp Kinder through the Cerebral Palsy Agency
- A low income patient with high blood pressure is able to receive medication for one year at Health Care Network.

When you donate \$5 a week:

- 20 children who have witness domestic violence can receive safety training through Women's Resource Center
- You will provide diapers or formula for 10 babies and toddlers through the Salvation Army.

Do families pay for United Way services? Many programs, such as counseling, are offered on a sliding scale basis. Others, such as food programs, shelter sites and adult tutoring, are offered at no charge whatsoever.

Who helps with unusual problems? Help is available! Racine County's human services directory 211 is funded in part by United Way of Racine County. Just dial 2-1-1. This telephone line recently opened for answering human service questions, resource referrals and crisis intervention. The service is free and confidential 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Other questions on your mind? Call United Way at 262.632.5186 or ask us electronically at unitedway@unitedwayracine.org.