



BUILDING THRIVING COMMUNITIES

2023
ANNUAL REPORT



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Chief Financial Officer

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Senior Director of Talent

Bryant Rice
Chief Operating Officer



Dear Friends,



As we reflect on the past year, United Community extends its heartfelt gratitude to our community of supporters who have been the backbone of our mission to build thriving communities and vision to end multigenerational poverty. Your unwavering commitment and generosity have made it possible for us to

navigate the challenges posed by the ongoing pandemic and continue our vital work. Thank you!

The communities we serve are currently in a state of Covid recovery, and the impact is expected to persist for years to come. A staggering 85% of the families we support are living at or below the federal poverty line, and they are facing even greater hardships due to reductions in government aid. In these trying times, the demand for assistance is on the rise, underscoring the critical importance of your support.

Your contributions to United Community have a direct and meaningful impact on our local community. They empower us to provide essential services for families and children, creating pathways out of poverty. In the face of increasing challenges, your support becomes all the more crucial. Your commitment sustains our efforts to offer early childhood and youth education, address food insecurity, empower individuals and families, and promote equity.

The generosity of our supporters fuels United Community’s mission and vision, changing lives on a daily basis. Thank you for your continued support and for being an integral part of our journey to build a thriving community for everyone in our region. Together, we can make a lasting impact and create positive change.

With heartfelt thanks,

Tom Curcio

Tom Curcio
Chair, Board of Directors

In Remembrance



Jeanne Mitchler-Fiks

In January 2023, United Community lost our friend and colleague Jeanne Mitchler-Fiks who served United Community for 25 years.

Jeanne’s tenure at United Community began in 1997, when she joined the agency as Director of Social Services. Jeanne’s passion for her clients and their families was well known. She committed her life to helping people and her commitment to them and to the agency was ever-present. She loved reviewing updates on programs and initiatives and was usually one of the first to offer her praise and appreciation. She was proud of the great work being done at United Community. Jeanne and her positive spirit is greatly missed.



Nathaniel Wilson

In June 2023, United Community once again lost a valued friend and staunch supporter with the passing of our Board Governance Chair, Nathaniel Wilson.

In 2018 Nathaniel, affectionately known as “Nate”, served on United Community’s 50th anniversary committee and joined our Board. He believed that service to others was a sacred duty. Nate was a lifelong learner who believed in the power of education to transform lives. He knew that education was a gift that could never be taken away and that the pursuit of knowledge was a lifelong journey. He was a man of faith, a passionate and loving soul who lived his life with kindness, compassion, and grace. He will be deeply missed by everyone at United Community.

The Community We Serve

Geographic Area

The map at left shows the human services regions of Fairfax County. United Community primarily serves those living in Region 1.

For more than 50 years, United Community has dedicated efforts to serving the historically most impoverished area of Fairfax County, the Route 1 Corridor. Located in Southern Fairfax County and interspersed among some of the region's wealthiest communities, this locality continues to demonstrate the greatest levels of poverty in the county. Generations of residents in this area have faced multiple serious challenges.



Vulnerability Index Rating: **VERY HIGH**

- 2 of the 3 communities in Fairfax County with highest rates of poverty
- More than a **DECADE** lower life expectancy than Fairfax County average
- **13 percent** of children live in poverty in our primary service area
- More than **85 percent** of clients live at or below the federal poverty level (\$31,200 for a family of 4 in 2024)

#1 Hybla Valley ranked most diverse community in Virginia.

Who We Are

United Community is an over 50-year-old nonprofit offering an array of human services that lift families in Fairfax County out of poverty. We engage community voice and family participation to break the cycle of generational poverty. We provide 9 programs, support 2 initiatives, and operate in 7 locations.

Our mission is to build thriving communities and create equitable opportunities by providing supportive services and advancing community driven solutions.

Our vision is to end multigenerational poverty.

Total Number Impacted
12,965

Our Approach: Four Focus Areas



Providing Youth Education & Early Childhood Development

Engaging learning opportunities and life-changing support for families and children

- Early Learning Center
- Healthy Families
- Community Centers
- Community Schools



Empowering Individuals & Families

Connecting families with essential resources and supports to move from crisis to stability.

- Family Achievement Program
- Stepping Stones
- Progreso Literacy and Citizenship Center



Addressing Food Insecurity

Providing access to healthy food for thousands.

- Food Pantry
- Homebound Food Delivery



Creating Equity

Engaging community voice to build trust and create systemic change.

- Opportunity Neighborhood
- COMMUNITY+

Milestones

United Community's Food Pantry — Renovated and Re-Opened for Choice Shopping!

In June 2023, United Community's food pantry returned to a choice shopping experience for clients. The re-opening was the end result of months of volunteer-led renovation and expansion projects at the pantry to rehab the space. This would not have been possible without our community of donors, corporate partners, and volunteers, who contributed the resources that allowed us to renovate and expand the pantry space to create a safe and welcoming environment for our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. Thank you to everyone who supported this critical project. Staff and clients alike are thrilled to return to the choice shopping pantry experience!

United Community is grateful to the donors and volunteers who made the expansion and improvement of the food pantry possible through their support of the Renovation Fund.

416 families served weekly by food program

\$34,064 was contributed by 74 generous individuals and companies

63 hearty volunteers contributed 200+ hours of their time, valued at \$6,360



Special thanks to Emeritus Board Chair Joe Conti and the entire Emeritus Board for their leadership and support for launching the Renovation Fund, as well as Rich Meier who dedicated a tremendous amount of his personal time acting as project manager and skilled handyman.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Rhona Alexander
David & Nancy Barbour
Michael & Niki Bennett
Sherri Berthrong
Celia Boertlein
Blair & Rebecca Bostick
Lois Bowman
Norma Brodsky
James & Melody Buckley
Margaret Cartier & Nathan Drost
Joseph & Marie Canny
Joseph & Dorothy Conti
Andrea & Paul Corsillo
Joan Darrah & Lynne Kennedy
Steve Eichler
Robert & Claudia Faherty
David FitzGerald & Elaine Kolish
Barbara Gartley
Margaret Gault
Patricia Goode
Rita Kay Green
Michael & Neil Greene
John & Kathleen Harris
Janet Hawkins & David Wormser
Beth Hershner
Michael Holland
Ann Hughitt & John Leisner
Joanne Priest Jackley
Wayne Johns & Joe Schubert

John Johnson & Cynthia White Johnson
Joseph Johnson
Gale Kabat
Kathleen Kelly
Douglas & Eileen Kennett
Annette Kilian
Gail Lee Kropf & Anthony Morris
Richard & Alice Lacquement
Kathy LaSauce & G.D. Richardson
Jamie Lewis
Stephen & Donna Mahan
William & Irene Manning
Claride Mayo
Susan McAnney
Patrick & Maureen McCarty
William McGeehan
Robert Kuletz & Maureen McGuire-Kuletz
Mary Ellen Mehler
Stephen Mitchell & Sidoux Magruder Mitchell
Maria Mlynar & Brian Toth
John & Marjorie Morris
Christine Morrison & Robert Varela
Peter & Lucinda Mosley
Janice Newman
Thomas & Christel Payne
Loretta Powell
Paxton Helms & Mary Quillian Helms
David & Gail Richmond
Karen Schaller

Kristine Sedey
Linda Senese
James & Lynne Sherald
James & Lorraine Shine
Anne & Richard Simpson
Michael & Karen Smith
David Smith
Carole Stover
Wendel & Diane Swan
Ron & Diane Tollefson
John Tolleris
Pauline Wade
Phyllis Waslo
David Winkler
Patricia Zarwel

VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Alpha Kappa Aloha Sorority, Inc.
Lambda Kappa Omega Chapter
Balfour Beatty
Burke & Herbert Bank
CareFirst
Centri
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Hilton
Lafayette Federal Credit Union
MGM National Harbor
Microsoft



United Community's SPARKS Summer Camp: A Transformative Journey for Local Youth

Each summer, local children enjoy free and fun activities through United Community's SPARKS Summer Camp. In the summer of 2022, sixty elementary-aged kids and 15 teen-aged counselors in training experienced

all the joy, adventure, and friendship that summer camp can provide.

Activities focused on educational enrichment, improving social and emotional learning, and team building. Campers from both Creekside Community Center and Sacramento Neighborhood Center enjoyed weekly field trips, excursions to the pool, hands-on STEAM activities, and visits from other nonprofits providing fun learning lessons.

Highlights of the summer include field trips to Smithsonian National Zoo, Wolf Trap's Theater-in-the-Woods, Sky Zone, and Pirates Cove, a visit from the Children's Science Center, and an "Apple Juice and Paint Event". The summer was topped off with an end of camp celebration immediately following a full week at Calleva Adventure Camp where campers experienced white water rafting, snorkeling, and rock climbing.

"All of our campers had an amazing time at SPARKS Camp. There is nothing like seeing their faces light up as they make discoveries and friendships and enjoy the activities that makes the summer months so special. We are especially grateful to the donors and supporters who contributed to United Community to make our camp program a success."

– Tam Cobbs,
Director of Community
Empowerment

Jose and Rosa's Journey to Stability

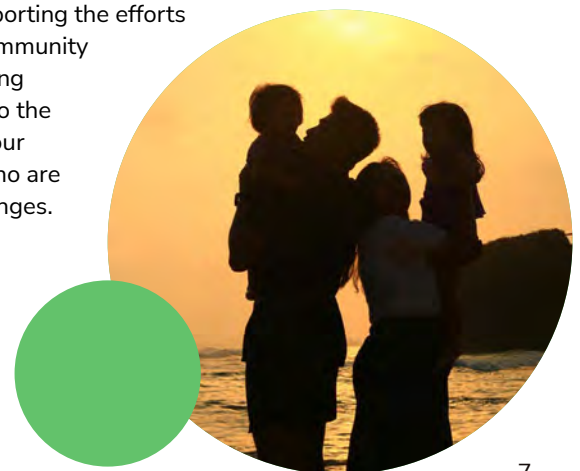
Jose and Rosa are a local couple with a 2-year-old and a newborn. They first came to United Community seeking rental assistance. Both parents were working and able to cover their household expenses until the birth of their infant when Rosa had to stop working to care for their new baby. With only Jose working, they started falling behind financially and experienced difficulty paying bills. They found themselves in crisis - short of their full rent payment and recipients of an eviction notice.

They were assigned a United Community case manager to work with them to help find both short and long-term solutions. They contributed as much as they could towards their rent and United Community was able to make up the rest to prevent them from being evicted.

With newfound stability, their case manager further helped them apply for a daycare subsidy. Their children were placed in the United Community Early Learning Center, where both children are now thriving. Rosa was able to return to work and Jose found an additional

part-time job to increase his paid work time to 51 hours a week. The family now has a plan and is equipped to meet their future and ongoing expenses.

Jose and Rosa are on the path to stability, creating a brighter future for their family. Their story is evidence of the transformative change that is possible through supporting the efforts of United Community and channeling resources into the potential of our neighbors who are facing challenges.



Volunteers

Volunteer Spotlight: Super Star Driver

United Community is incredibly grateful to our super star driver, Robbie Mosely, the hero behind our food donation pick-ups! Robbie has been with us since July 2021, and we couldn't be more grateful for his dedication and hard work.

Robbie's selflessness and commitment to making a difference in the lives of others is truly inspiring. We are honored to have him as part of our team and look forward to continuing to work alongside him in our mission to build thriving communities.



"Helping is priority. Considering the blessings of my life, it provided an opportunity to serve and assist others in a direct way and it's humbling to participate in a collective effort of addressing the needs of others."

– Robbie Mosely

"Love this donor outreach. Great presentation!"

Celebrating Our Supporters: Launch of the Donor Appreciation Series

United Community proudly introduced the Donor Appreciation Series to honor our most loyal donors. Held in our new administrative offices, these intimate gatherings provided a unique opportunity to celebrate and connect with the individuals who support our mission.

Over ten sessions, we welcomed over 100 supporters. Each event was a heartfelt occasion, allowing us to personally thank our supporters and share updates on the impactful progress their contributions have made possible. These small, casual settings facilitated meaningful conversations and offered our donors a closer look at the positive changes they are driving in the community. The new series was well received by attendees.

"Very well done. I don't attend these kinds of functions and am glad I did."

The success of this series underscored the deep connection we have with our supporters. We are immensely grateful for their generosity and look forward to continuing this tradition of appreciation.

To all our donors, thank you for being the heart of United Community. Your support makes our mission possible and inspires us to reach new heights.

"I would like see hundreds of people exposed to this information."



Corporate Partnership Highlights

A Dynamic Partnership for Hunger Relief and Community Impact

United Community is so grateful to have begun an impactful partnership with MGM National Harbor, welcoming them as a new Annual Corporate Partner in the spring of 2023. MGM National Harbor is committed to making a difference in crucial areas such as hunger relief, education, workforce development, and diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives where its employees live and work.

Zeroing in on the very apparent hunger need in United Community's service area, MGM National Harbor jumped into action, quickly becoming a Gold Sponsor of the food pantry renovation campaign. MGM National Harbor doubled down on its impact by awarding United Community an additional gift to support food distribution efforts and further provide hunger relief.

Team members from MGM National Harbor also enthusiastically volunteered their time and effort to support the renovation and expansion of the food pantry. They took up their brushes and spent an afternoon painting the pantry, creating a welcoming space that will better serve the needs of Northern Virginia's most vulnerable.

Thank you, MGM National Harbor, for your partnership and for promoting a culture of community and giving back!



Deloitte

Joining Forces with Deloitte to Support Children in Need

In June of 2023, United Community teamed up with Deloitte to help local children in need as a part of Deloitte's annual Day of Impact. Over 150 employees across three Deloitte offices in the DMV pitched in to complete projects to support the children and families United Community serves.

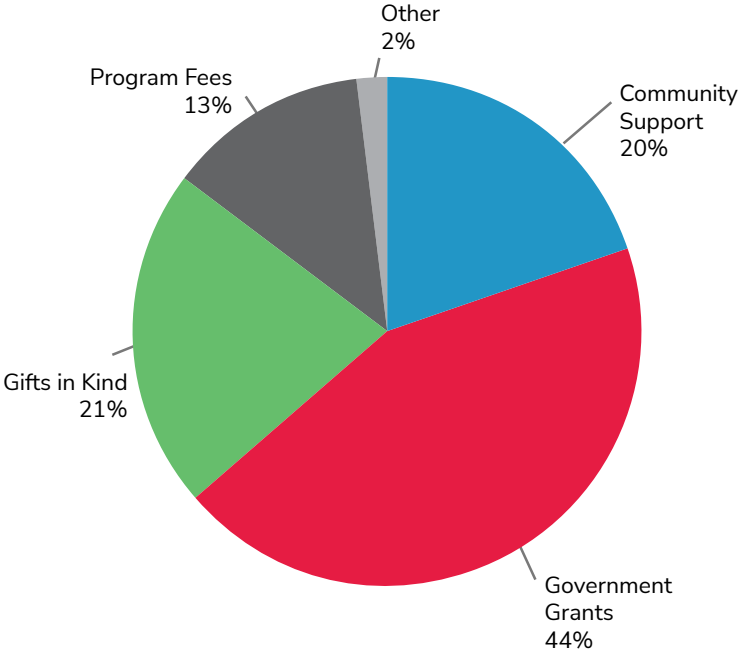
Deloitte supported the assembly of over 550 backpacks for the upcoming school year and 1,000+ healthy snack packs for kids. Deloitte volunteers spent the day filling backpacks with school supplies and creating back to school cards for kids, while another group of volunteers assembled robust weekend snack kits for children. The backpacks were distributed to local children who are reached by several different United Community programs. The weekend snack packs were provided to all of the children participating in United Community's SPARKS summer camp program at our two community centers. Deloitte provided enough snack packs to ensure every child in camp received a weekend snack kit every weekend of summer break. Thank you, Deloitte, for your commitment to supporting local communities!



Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Highlights

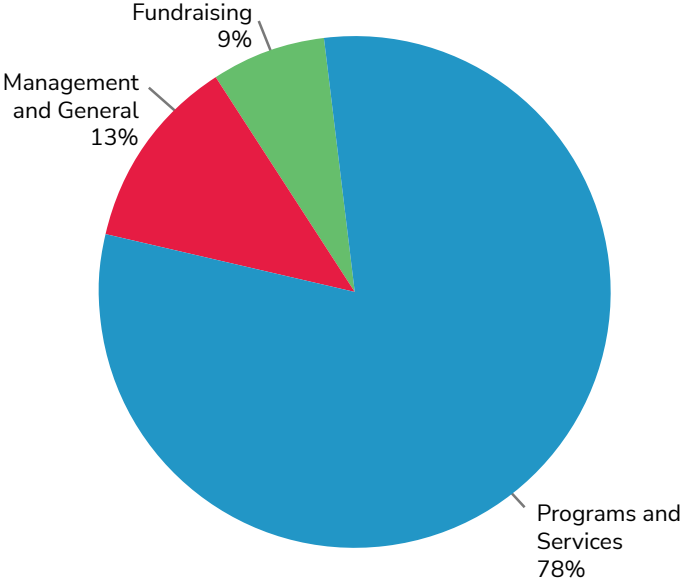
Operating Revenues

Community Support	\$1,689,245
Government Grants	\$3,725,119
Gifts In Kind	\$1,829,425
Program Fees	\$1,078,493
Other	\$153,908
Total Operating Revenue	\$8,476,190



Operating Expenses

Programs and Services	\$6,949,206
Management and General	\$1,027,215
Fundraising	\$612,419
Total Operating Expenses	\$8,588,840



United Community is grateful for all our supporters who make our mission to build thriving communities and vision to end multigenerational poverty possible

PUBLIC PARTNERS



COMMUNITIES OF FAITH SUPPORT

Aldersgate United Methodist
Belle View Baptist Church
Bethany Lutheran Church
Calvary Presbyterian Church
Epiphany Lutheran Church of Mount Vernon
Good Shepherd Catholic Church
Heritage Presbyterian Church
Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church
Mount Vernon Unitarian Church

Mount Vernon United Methodist Church
St. Luke Serbian Orthodox Church
Religious Society of Friends
St. Louis Catholic Church
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
St. Martin De Porres Episcopal Church
Third Baptist Church
Washington Community Church
Wesley United Methodist Church

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

AAUW, Mount Vernon Branch
Alexandria South Rotary
Belle Haven Women's Club
Cool Aspies
Hollin Meadows Elementary School
Daughters of the American Revolution,
Kate Waller Barrett Chapter

Kiwanis Club of Mount Vernon
MOMS Club of Alexandria - South
Montessori School of Alexandria
Mount Vernon Evening Lions Club
Mount Vernon Yacht Club, Inc.
Mount Vernon Council #5998 Knights of Columbus,
Mt. Vernon Columbus Club, Inc.



CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Anthem HealthKeepers Plus
AT&T
Battelle
The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia
Dominion Energy
Edward R. Kengla Foundation, Inc.
Harry & Zoe Poole Foundation
General Dynamics Mission Systems Inc.
The Herb Block Foundation
Ivakota Association, Inc.
Maximus Foundation

Meyer Foundation
The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
MVB Bank
Northern Virginia Health Foundation
Olshesky Design Group, LLC
Philip L. Graham Fund
TJX Foundation
United Way of the National Capital Area
Virginia Early Childhood Foundation
Virginia Literacy Foundation

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

Your support makes our mission and vision possible.



SHARE

Grow your impact by being a voice for United Community. Share our mission to build thriving communities with your friends, neighbors, and colleagues. Invite them to visit our website, sign-up for our newsletter, or follow us on social!

VOLUNTEER

Join our community of volunteers who are critical to delivering our mission. We welcome individuals, corporate groups, and community organizations to volunteer with us! Visit unitedcommunity.org/volunteer to learn how you can get involved.

DONATE

Your donation can transform a life. Your gift will address food security, provide education, empower individuals and families, and create equity in our communities. Visit unitedcommunity.org/ways-to-give to explore ways to give and make a donation today.

ENGAGE

Engage with us wherever you are! Follow us on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram. Visit our website unitedcommunity.org to subscribe to our newsletter to stay up-to-date. Email us at info@unitedcommunity.org at anytime with questions, to share feedback, or to learn more ways to engage with us!



Together we can build thriving communities.



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