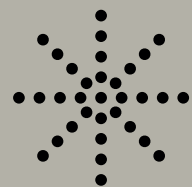


ANNUAL IMPACT



REPORT



United Way of Aiken County

2024 Collective Impact Report

Community Impact Report Overview:

The United Way of Aiken County impacts the lives of real people everyday through the generosity of YOUR donations! Through a network of 30 partner agencies and 45 Critical Need Programs, United Way of Aiken County and its partners serve over 150,000 people in Aiken County. Critical Needs programs range from assistance to elderly, children, victims of abuse, help with vocational training, addiction counseling, afterschool programs and many other services. These critical needs programs fall into the four critical need areas: Education, Health, Income and Assistance In Crisis. We greatly appreciate the support that you as donors provide that enable us to continue to provide these services to our community.

A Message From Our Chair:



Now more than ever I understand the value of community. This past year reminds us that we are an unexpected moment away from needing a helping hand. As we weathered a hurricane we relied on each other. Whether it was to help with debris clean up, get food, share power, get gas, get water, or find new shelter. We all learned what it meant to be neighbors helping neighbors. Forced to put down all the distractions in our lives and just survive. It is a blessing to be part of a community that came together and continues to come together.

Fortunately, most of our lives have returned to normal, but not everyone is as fortunate. Some individuals in Aiken County have been or continue to be in "survival" mode. Their crisis or challenge may be intermittent or have profound lifelong impact. There are so many wonderful non-profits in Aiken providing grace, compassion, empathy, and a passion to assist those in need. Thank you for your support as a community member, volunteers, donors, and partners. This support provides meals, medical care, shelter, education, crisis intervention, and so much more. As Board Chair I encourage all of us to continue to love our neighbors and continue to fight for health, education, and financial stability of every person in our community for this is how we truly Live United.

HELPING OTHERS FIND HAPPINESS

While the year brought many unique challenges, The United Way of Aiken County was successful in our initiatives.

Critical Need Funding

Each year our partner agencies submit funding requests for the critical need programs they run. These applications are thoroughly vetted by our Care Councils, who then recommend funding which is approved by our Executive Committee and Board of Directors. In 2024 United Way of Aiken County provided over \$1.3 Million in funding to 45 critical need programs that serve our community.

45

Critical Need Programs supported by United Way of Aiken County

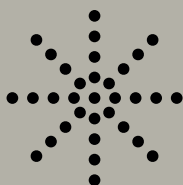
+150,000

People helped each year in Aiken County

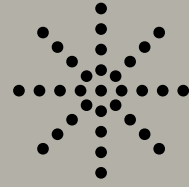
30

Partner agencies allocated to

	Projects	Details	Outcome
900+	Success By Six	To promote and increase reading skills to the children in Aiken county.	More than 900 children registered for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.
600+	Be A Bunny	To provide Easter baskets to seniors in our community.	Over 600 baskets worth of goods were collected and distributed to seniors.
64	Project Vision Day of Caring	Home repairs for partner agencies and elderly citizens in Aiken County.	64 Clients assisted with over 6,000 volunteer hours.



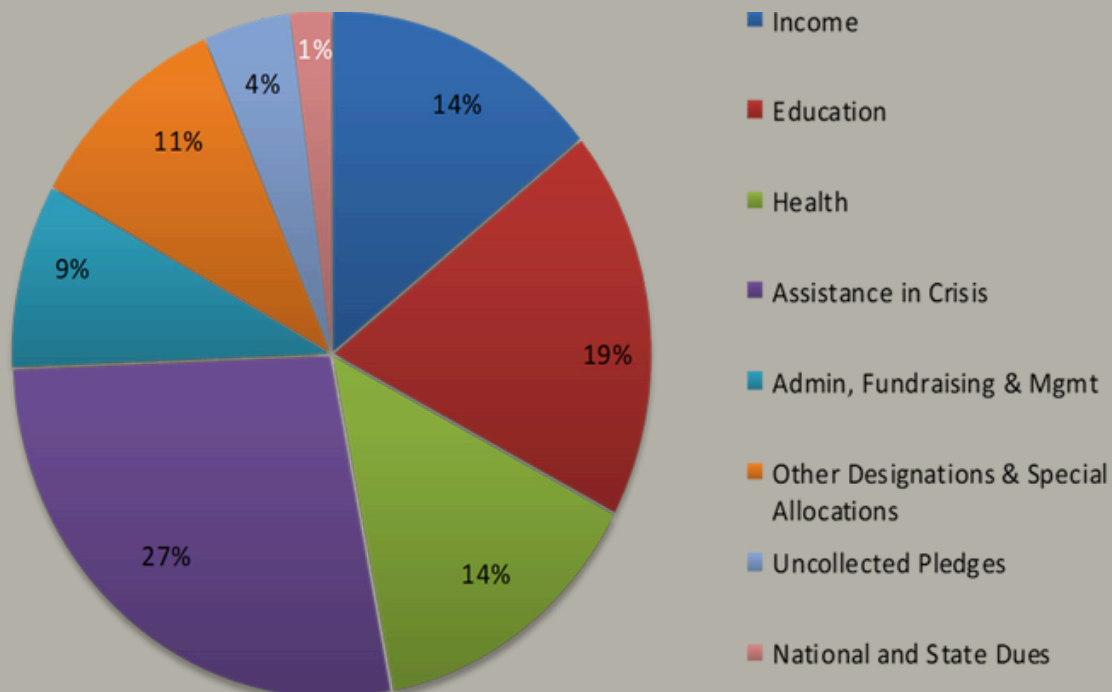
THE YEAR IN REVIEW



2024 brought a big surprise in the form of Hurricane Helene. Helene not only tested the structure of building and homes in our county. She also tested our character. Thanks to help from our partner agencies and volunteers throughout our community we banded together as a community to help those in need. From water and food distribution to soaps, toiletries and even generators our community answered the call.



Where Does the \$\$ Go?



Partner Agencies and Critical Need Programs

United Way of Aiken County has 30 Partner Agencies who administer 45 Critical Need Programs in Aiken County. These programs each fit into one of our 4 service Areas: Education, Income, Health and Assistance in Crisis.





CRITICAL NEED FUNDING

Education \$345,910.50

Income \$289,664.22

Health \$409,591.74

**Assistance
In Crisis** \$466,854.30

**FUNDING
TOTAL:** \$1,512,020.76

WE'D LIKE TO THANK ALL OUR DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

At United Way of Aiken County, we work year after year to create lasting change in the lives of our neighbors. Our mission is rooted in strengthening our community every day by meeting basic needs, advancing education, and ensuring access to critical health and human services. Because of the continued generosity of our donors and partners, we're able to respond not just to ongoing challenges, but also to moments of crisis. Hurricane Helene was one of those moments.

When the storm struck, no corner of Aiken County was spared. Downed trees, widespread power outages, water shortages, and communication blackouts left many of our neighbors in urgent need. But once again, our community rose to the occasion.

We immediately launched the Hurricane Helene Relief Fund, and thanks to the outpouring of support from individuals, businesses, and community partners, we were able to respond quickly and effectively. Even as many were facing their own storm damage, they gave of their time, resources, and compassion.

Together, we organized cleanup crews, distributed generators, provided gift cards to struggling families, and helped restore a sense of stability when it was needed most. We also forged new partnerships with volunteers and local leaders who stepped up in inspiring ways.

The response to Hurricane Helene was a powerful reminder of what makes Aiken County so special: when one of us struggles, all of us show up.

Your continued support makes our work possible. Not only in times of crisis, but every day. We are grateful that you recognize the need and continue to help us improve lives in Aiken County.

