# **Life-Changing Impact**

At United Way for Greater Austin, we recognize the pressing need to break the relentless cycle of economic disparity that grips our community.



# How We Make an Impact

#### High-quality early care and education

Ninety percent of all brain development happens in the first five years of life. Studies have shown that a child's experiences during those early years literally build the architecture of their brain. At United Way for Greater Austin, we know that nurturing our youngest is the key to unlocking a future of equality and prosperity. Our innovative programs that provide wrap-around support for students, teachers, and caregivers advance a vision of a Central Texas where every family can thrive.

#### Easy access to pivotal resources

Sometimes a single phone call can make the difference between keeping a job or putting healthy, nourishing food on a family's table.

United Way provides easy access to essential resources that can be a lifeline for families struggling to make ends meet. Connection to timely and accurate services and information is more than just assistance; it's a tangible expression of our community's solidarity. We're not just meeting basic needs—we're restoring dignity and weaving a wide and important network of support.

#### **OUR CURRENT REALITY**

## 1 in 5





local households are considered low-income

### 3 in 5









children from families with low income are not school-ready when they enter Kindergarten

### 1 in 4







local children under 6 live in households with low income

# 1 in 8













local adults report poor physical health

### 1 in 3







local families worry about their ability to meet their basic needs, including food







# **What We Know Works**

**Coalitions:** We create and nurture lasting coalitions, igniting collective impact with community members and nonprofit partners. Our coalitions amplify the impact beyond what any one organization can do alone.

Services and support: We offer direct services when we're in the best position to do so and invest in nonprofits doing impactful and aligned work. Our essential services and programs are always equitable and ready to make an immediate and long-term impact.

Advocacy: We work hand-in-hand with our coalitions and communities to influence public policy across various governmental levels, amplifying the voices of those most impacted by our mission so everyone can thrive in dignity and security.

**Data:** We collect and analyze data at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels of our community, informing research-based insights to make decisions that resonate with and uplift the lives they touch.



### Our Initiatives

### **Kindergarten readiness**

- Austin/Travis County Success By 6 Coalition
- Early Matters Greater Austin
- Pre-K Partnerships
- Shared Services Alliance for Early Learning
- Williamson County Success By 6 Coalition

#### Literacy by the third grade

- Greater Austin Reading Coalition
- Little Libraries
- · Barbershop Books

#### **Needs of today**

- 2-1-1 helpline
- Addressing Cancer Together
- · Behavioral health navigation
- Bright by Text
- · Community Health Connect
- ConnectATX
- · Family-based child care
- Food Access Initiative
- Home visiting
- Pathways Community HUB

### **Prosperity for tomorrow**

- 2-Gen Coalition
- Best Place for Working Parents®
- Parenting Students Project

**Give.** Provide access to life-changing resources.

Advocate. Use your voice to build a community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

Volunteer. Support fellow Texans with your time and talents.

#### Join our movement.



