



GAIN and SUSTAIN ASSETS

INCREASE INCOME

BUILD SAVINGS



stronghome
FINANCIAL STABILITY

Five building blocks to financial stability

FAMILY SUSTAINING EMPLOYMENT

A full-time job that pays minimum wage cannot even cover basic housing costs in western Connecticut. Providing support to help individuals learn new skills, retain employment and advance their careers helps ensure a brighter future.

UWWC supports a range of programs that provide job training, literacy skills, and job support for those with disabilities.

INCOME SUPPORTS

For those whose income will not rise, support meeting basic needs within the limits of that income is crucial.

UWWC supports basic needs programs to help families who are on the brink of survival. Services funded range from emergency services, soup kitchens and clothing distribution to legal aid and information on public assistance.



211 Navigator allows web visitors to quickly learn whether they might be able to get help to pay for things like food, health insurance, and child care. 24 state and federal programs are linked to the program.

SAVINGS AND ASSETS

By improving a family's ability to save, you open the doors to a future of possibilities. Over 18% of households with an annual income of \$30,000 or less are 'unbanked', with another 20% 'underbanked'. Financial literacy and sound credit are vital for a more secure future.

We also increase people's access to Earned Income Tax Credits through promotion of VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) centers to help families get the tax credits they deserve.

MANAGEABLE EXPENSES

When households spend more than 30% of their income on housing, they may not have enough income for other necessities, such as food, clothing, medical care, transportation, utilities or emergencies, especially households with limited incomes. United Way works with programs that teach financial literacy skills.



FamilyWise reduces the cost of medicine for children, families and

individuals with no prescription drug coverage. United Way distributes discount drug cards to help families manage their health care expenses, saving money for other needs.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The lack of affordable housing is the top concern cited in Stamford's Community Needs Assessment. In fact, the Stamford/Norwalk area remains the third costliest rental market in the nation.

United Way has been a leader in funding programs that range from homeless services to home ownership.

- Project Homeless Connect
- Key Rings security deposit program
- Housing Resource Center
- Foreclosure Prevention Initiative
- Fairfield County Collaborative for Affordable Housing

A strong home starts with financial stability. United Way strengthens communities by identifying and tackling the underlying causes of the most serious social issues facing our local neighbors. One of the most critical is the financial instability of low-to-moderate income families.



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