United Way of Western Connecticut fights for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in Greater Danbury, Greater New Milford, and Stamford, with a focus on hard-working, struggling households that we call **ALICE®** (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed).

**GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.**
During difficult times, the human instinct is always to come together. But this past year, it was hard to come together when it was safer to social distance, and pervasive social and political issues seem to have driven many in our country even further apart.

At United Way of Western Connecticut, we are determined to find a way to turn things around, to truly **LIVE UNITED** by bringing people together to help the hardworking people we serve, those we call **ALICE** (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). We want to emerge from these trying times not just intact, but **STRONGER** than we were before.

The people hit hardest by this pandemic are the people we’ve been focused on for the past five years, hardworking ALICE individuals and families who live paycheck to paycheck.

This report describes all the ways we supported ALICE throughout the past year. Despite improvements in the economy since March of 2020, many still face endless days of juggling work and child care, empty shelves, or the possibility of eviction. To help ease their burdens we focus on:

- Getting affordable healthy food on their tables
- Providing safe and affordable child care
- Making it possible to start saving for the next emergency, and maybe even for a better future.

Perhaps one silver lining to all of this is a greater public attention focused on the needs of ALICE, our essential workers. That attention may wane as we ease back into normalcy. But, at United Way of Western Connecticut, we will stay the course. Because ALICE is who we fight for every day, we know that by making ALICE stronger, we make our communities STRONGER.

One of the bright spots this year has been our progress on Prosperity Digital Marketplace (see page 17), which we launched as a nonprofit subsidiary, with Kim Morgan, CEO, at the helm. Isabel Almeida stepped up to take over the day-to-day operations of the organization as President. Together with our Board Chair, Cheryl Bakewell, and with all our board and council members, we strive forward together.

Take the time to review our accomplishments for 2019-2020 and join us in building resiliency in our community and lifting up ALICE individuals and families. Your support has never been more needed and valued.
RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

When the economy shut down, we knew that our hardworking neighbors who live paycheck to paycheck would be hit the hardest. These are the people we call **ALICE®** (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). We delivered cash and food to their families in the first few weeks of the crisis, and mobilized volunteers to deliver resources to the homebound and those who lost jobs and wages.

Across the state, United Way of Western Connecticut was at the forefront of efforts to provide relief, implementing the technology that enabled people to download funds to their smartphones to buy groceries and other basic needs.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

3,400+ people across the state received $200 in cash assistance, totaling $680,00+, from local and statewide United Way COVID relief funds.

**FOOD ASSISTANCE**

640+ people were eligible for $20 of free, fresh produce and other discounts through June 2020 through our Healthy Savings program.

Nearly $50,000 of fresh produce was provided to struggling families through this program.

**VOLUNTEERS MOBILIZED**

95+ volunteers mobilized in Stamford and Danbury to deliver food and necessities to seniors, the homebound, and low-income families in need of food.

200+ calls made to Stamford seniors to make sure their needs were being met.

**CHILD CARE SUPPORT**

35 family child care providers receive support in obtaining Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans through Cora’s Kids. They also receive Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other supplies to reopen safely.

**INFORMATION PROVIDED**

3,000+ visitors to our COVID-19 Resource Page on our website.

Almost 400 food guides downloaded.
Childhood Success

ALL children deserve a brighter future, regardless of their family’s economic or social circumstances. United Way of Western Connecticut helps to provide a strong foundation for children’s early learning while supporting quality after-school and enrichment activities.

Everyone’s lives were disrupted by the challenges of COVID-19. But perhaps no one experienced the disruptions to daily life more acutely than children and their parents. With school and work schedules completely upended, children faced uncertainty and instability as their child care situations changed and their schooling became remote overnight. Parents scrambled to patch together work and care arrangements, while keeping everyone sane and safe.

United Way of Western Connecticut understood the importance of stabilizing child care and early education providers, so that once everyone went back to work, safe, quality care would be available. We also helped to shore up child care centers that lost income, while continuing to provide funding so children in low-income families could receive care and enrichment activities at an affordable price.

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<td>183 BENEFIT FROM THE ALICE ENRICHMENT FUND, WHICH PAYS $300 TOWARD THE COST OF AN ACTIVITY PER CHILD, PER YEAR FOR QUALIFYING FAMILIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>35 FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS RECEIVED SUPPORT DURING THE PANDEMIC</td>
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<td>2,700+ CHILDREN RECEIVE AFFORDABLE, QUALITY EARLY CARE OR AFTER-SCHOOL CARE</td>
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Childhood Success
In Southern Litchfield County, a single mother who is confined to a wheelchair is able to send her 10-year-old daughter, Rose, to clay, drawing, and pottery wheel classes with the help of funding from United Way of Western Connecticut. She writes that since attending this after-school program “I have seen big impacts in Rose’s work. Her new skills and methods have helped with her other studies and everyday life, too—such as planning her projects and working through until the end, with more confidence with each project.”

In Danbury, a struggling single mom with a preschooler and two school age children is able to send all three to a quality center, thanks to United Way funding. In addition to caring for her children when she is not working, the center connected the mother with other United Way resources, including Healthy Savings and the Giving Fund, which helped her repair her car so she had reliable transportation. The staff said all of these benefits allow her to “hold her head high for her family, not only for necessities such as food, rent, and electricity, but also leaves room to enjoy quality family time and experiences with her family that is essential for everyone’s well being.”

In Stamford, a United Way funded child care center provided the support and resources a family needed when their son, George, was born with Down Syndrome. The family was confused and grieving, but the first thing the center personnel said to the parents was “Congratulations, you have a beautiful baby boy!” The parents smiled and said that no one had said that to them. The staff established a bond of trust and showed the mother how to feed the baby and how to encourage the child’s development at home. George thrived, and the center is now helping him to prepare for entrance to the Stamford Public Schools. The child care staff said, “Our goal was to show the family what a wonderful baby they had and to help them enjoy him.”

Helping struggling families provide a strong learning foundation for their children
Food Security

ALL people should have access to healthy food, no matter what their income. From the youngest child to those who are aging on a budget, everyone should be able nourish their bodies to keep them strong and to lead a vital, fulfilling life.

This year’s pandemic created a food crisis for almost everyone who lives on a tight budget. But children, who were eating a lot of meals in schools before they closed, and the elderly, who were afraid to go out to grocery stores, were perhaps most affected.

We worked with community partners in Stamford as part of the Stamford Together initiative to help get food and necessities to the elderly in that community. We worked with Hillside Food Outreach in Danbury, providing volunteers and funds to get food to the homebound and quarantined. We also worked with Boehringer Ingelheim, Sodexo, and the Danbury Public Schools to get food to low-income families at Danbury’s public housing complexes. And in New Milford, we worked with Camella’s Cupboard, the Senior Center, and the New Milford Food Bank to help meet demand.

The food pantries that are members of our Danbury and Stamford Food Collaboratives were inundated with additional requests, so we provided more than $45,000 in mini-grants to help them serve additional clients.

The expansion of our own Healthy Savings program meant that 640 households were able to receive fresh produce at the grocery store. At the height of the pandemic, we doubled the value of produce normally provided, so that members of this program could receive $20 of free, fresh produce weekly. Beginning in June 2020, they are receiving up to $10 in free produce for every $10 they purchase, and can save as much on $150 monthly on produce and other healthy food items.

IMPACT

$50,000+
worth of free, fresh produce
distributed through healthy savings

95+
volunteers mobilized
to distribute food
during the pandemic

$45,000+
in mini-grants made
to food pantries
across our region
Latesha struggles to provide healthy food, despite working hard

Latesha and her husband have two children in elementary school. They both work—Latesha works full time as a client manager at an accounting management company, and her husband works in the grocery industry. His hours vary and are unpredictable, but he typically works 20 to 30 hours per week.

Despite working hard, Latesha often depends on food pantries to feed their children. She said she has learned to make paying rent the number one priority in her budget, sometimes leaving her a little short on money for food. This was especially true when her husband was laid off of work for a period of time.

“It was so stressful,” she said. “I often broke down and cried. I explained to the teachers and my boss that we had to take two days off for our mental health.”

“I filled penny rolls and pawned jewelry to come up with the rent,” she says. Last year, her husband had to make a visit to the hospital emergency room, and they are still paying off the bill.

When COVID-19 closed her children’s school and her offices, Latesha found herself trying to juggle the demands of her job—conference calls, deadlines, communicating with clients—while also helping her children with their daily coursework, and assisting her kids when they had a meltdown or conflicts with each other.

She uses United Way of Western Connecticut’s Healthy Savings program to help her receive discounts on groceries, providing her with up to $10 in free produce for every $20 she purchases, in addition to discounts on other healthy foods. She also uses United Way’s ALICE Enrichment Fund to pay for out-of-school activities for her children.

Latesha and her husband count on United Way of Western Connecticut’s programs to make their lives just a little easier during a very stressful time.
The precarious economic situation of ALICE workers was laid bare by the COVID-19 pandemic. Without any savings, they struggled to pay bills, buy food, and pay their rents or mortgages when they lost jobs or wages. At United Way of Western Connecticut, we don’t want this to happen again.

Our ALICE Saves program brings together two key strategies for greater financial stability: matched savings and budget coaching. Through SaverLife, people who save at least $20 per month can earn $10 in matched savings over 6 months, and, most important, get in the savings habit. TrustPlus provides free budget coaching to ALICE Saves participants on issues such as household budgeting, managing loans and debt, handling financial emergencies, and avoiding payday loans.

We also fund budget coaching through agency partners who provide guidance to people who need to get back on their feet after a divorce, domestic violence, or abuse situations.

People who simply find themselves unemployed or underemployed and needing new skills or a new career can also get help.

Free tax preparation services like Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and MyFreeTaxes save ALICE on tax preparation fees, while ensuring that they get the maximum legal refund and benefit from the Earned Income Tax Credit and other credits and deductions they qualify for.

Finally, the annual Giving Fund can be a life saver for those who find themselves needing a helping hand due to illness, job loss, or other unforeseen life situations. We distributed funds to 34 people in Greater Danbury last year during the holiday season, to help them get through an emergency.
Every year, at the start of the holiday season, we reach out to social service agencies and nonprofits to collect anonymous stories of clients in dire need due to difficult life situations—people who just need some short-term financial help to get them through a crisis. These become our Giving Fund stories. Publicized in the Danbury News-Times, the Giving Fund gives residents in greater Danbury an opportunity to help their neighbors in need during the holidays.

This past year, we were particularly touched by a story submitted by Bethel Social Services about Mary Rose, a senior citizen living on her own and battling cancer. Her retirement funds were dwindling quickly as she spent money on medical co-payments and deductibles, gas to get to doctors’ appointments, and expensive nutritional shakes. Megan Alworth-Khazadian, the Director of Bethel Social Services, described Mary Rose as a “sweetheart,” and a helpful, positive person despite dealing with the symptoms of her disease and treatments, including muscle loss, fatigue, and nausea.

Mary Rose had no money left for basics like clothes or home repairs. She wrote us a kind note that said: “You cannot imagine the extent of my happiness to be the recipient of such a generous gift! I put the money toward a much-needed water heater, a tank of oil, and an insurance premium. Your generosity will not be overlooked and I wanted to say thank you.”

Megan Alworth-Kazadian, Bethel’s Director of Social Services said, “United Way has been my biggest support since I began my job here. The resources you provide to our community have a great impact on the recipients.”

Through the Giving Fund, and in all the work we do, we are honored to connect people in need with those who have the resources to help them.
Volunteerism

ALL community members should have the opportunity to contribute to their cities and towns in a hands-on way. At United Way of Western Connecticut, we always work hard to provide meaningful volunteer opportunities to employees at local companies and all area residents. But this past spring and summer, we had to respond quickly as community needs for food became urgent and safety concerns became paramount.

Our year in volunteerism began in the “normal” way with an innovative and fun STEM Fair in Stamford, the traditional Stuff the Gazebo event in Southern Litchfield County (now called Operation Thanksgiving), and the creation and distribution of Winter Care Kits and Martin Luther King Day Literacy Kits in greater Danbury.

But when spring of 2020 brought the pandemic, we had to pivot our volunteer efforts. We responded quickly to community needs for home deliveries of groceries and other necessities, worked with partners to address the greater need for food in families whose children were now home all day and missing school meals, and collected more food for local pantries, whose shelves became bare as families lost jobs and wages.

Sadly, this past year saw the need for us to sunset our highly successful Youth Volunteer Corps. After 10 years of encouraging community service in young people across our region, YVC operations ended in March of 2020 due to the relocation of our exceptional coordinator, Morgan Browne, and the need to redirect funds to more urgent programs.
Turning on a dime when the pandemic hit required nimble and safe volunteer mobilization

**In Stamford,** staff from the Cradle to Career initiative were redeployed to work on Stamford Together, the city's 5-prong response effort to the pandemic. They registered and deployed City of Stamford volunteers to assist with the delivery of meals and other immediate needs to seniors and quarantined residents. They also helped to place volunteers in food pantries, since many of those volunteers were over the age of 60.

**In Greater Danbury,** we worked with the Danbury Public Schools, Boehringer Ingelheim, and Sodexo to deploy 60+ volunteers to deliver meals donated from Boehringer Ingelheim’s cafeteria to low-income housing sites in the city. The meals were greatly appreciated by families who usually depend on school meals to help feed their children. We also recruited and deployed volunteers to work with Hillside Food Outreach to meet an exponential increase in demand for home delivery of groceries.

**In Southern Litchfield County,** before the pandemic hit, Kimberly Clark employees had been collecting items for our Community Baby Shower. When the event had to be canceled we quickly pivoted and donated Kimberly Clark’s 41 cases of Huggies diapers, 30 cases of Huggies wipes, and 20 cases of Cottonelle bath tissue to our Cora’s Kids Licensed Child Care providers. UPS pitched in to transport the items. Staff also helped to coordinate food relief efforts with town social service agencies and local partners.
United Way of Western Connecticut provides backbone support to Stamford Cradle to Career (SC2C). SC2C is a member of the StriveTogether national non-profit network of nearly 70 communities that have adopted the collective impact model. A community-wide partnership with more than 60 active members, it aligns resources to measurably improve the lives of Stamford children.

Despite the unexpected challenges of the past year, SC2C was able to:
• Obtain a grant to pilot the Sparkler app, which provides a mobile platform for parents to track and support their young child’s learning and development.
• Bring together after-school program providers and Stamford Public School staff to provide after-school and summer programming to support literacy for approximately 65 students.
• Pilot School Climate and Restorative Practices trainings, to emphasize supportive relationships for better student outcomes. Eleven trainings were held with 561 attendees.
• Launch a Bridge to College program to help Stamford high school graduating seniors navigate the complexities of financial aid applications, meeting deadlines, and registering for classes to ensure that first-generation and low-income college students complete the last steps necessary to make it to college during the summer after their senior year.

During the COVID-19 crisis, SC2C worked with the City of Stamford and Stamford Public Schools to assist with coordinating volunteer food delivery, open a child care center for hospital workers, and provide books for children. SC2C has also become a guiding voice in critical conversations about ending institutional and systemic racism in Stamford and beyond.

All of SC2C’s work is accomplished in partnership with the more than 60 organizations that are members of this collaborative.

We believe that ALL Stamford children deserve equity and excellence in education, from cradle to career.

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Bridge to College Helps Stamford Students Overcome Obstacles to College Enrollment

In the summer of 2019, Stamford Cradle to Career launched an innovative program to ensure that graduating Stamford seniors who intended to go to college in the fall actually got there. Its purpose is to address a phenomenon called “summer melt” — when students fall by the wayside during the summer, never register for classes, and never make it to college.

“Summer melt’ is most likely to happen with students who are the first in their families to go to college, or who are new to this country. The obstacles can be just too overwhelming. The complexities of completing financial aid forms, meeting deadlines, submitting required paperwork, and selecting and registering for classes can be too difficult to navigate on your own. In the past, as many as 37% of Stamford high school seniors who intended to attend Norwalk Community College did not matriculate in the fall.

“Even the most prepared families can find the college entrance process daunting,” said Bridget Fox, President of Stamford Cradle to Career. “But if your family is new to this country, or your parents never attended college, the hurdles can be high indeed. This program gives students the assistance they need at a crucial juncture—the months leading up to college enrollment in the fall after their high school senior year.”

Bridge to College sends text messages to hundreds of recent graduates from Stamford high schools, with reminders about key steps and deadlines in the college enrollment process. Counselors work more intensely with about 80 students, offering one-on-one meetings to keep students on track.

The program is supported by Synchrony, Stamford Public Schools, and the Stamford Public Education Foundation, as well as by an anonymous donor.

“The step in the process that I needed the most help with was FASFA. If it wasn’t for the help, I would not have been able to attend school this fall,” explained one Stamford High School Class of 2019 graduate and a current Norwalk Community College student.

Another student from last year’s program said, “Bridge to College should continue to help the students who need help going to college and helping them choose the right path. The most helpful part of the program was Ms. Andrena (a counselor). She took the time to help me, and she was extremely patient.”
DanburyWORKS is a city-wide collaborative linking services across the community to break down barriers to economic engagement and lasting change in the city of Danbury.

United Way of Western Connecticut provides backbone support to DanburyWORKS, a community group working to improve equity and the quality of life in Danbury. Funded by the Boston Federal Reserve's Working Cities Challenge Grant, DanburyWORKS has a goal of reducing the poverty rate by 5% within immigrant communities and communities of color in Danbury within 10 years.

DanburyWORKS links services across the community to make it easier for households in need to access the tools necessary to build a better life for their families, and a stronger economic force for our city. Members include local organizations, businesses, social service agencies, government officials, educational institutions, and residents—all of whom are committed to making change by reducing economic barriers to immigrants and people of color.

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82 people attended ESL classes with free child care.

400 people attended the party on the patio.
Accomplishments over the past year include:

Gathering 400 families at the Party on the Patio on August 22, 2019. This event at the Danbury Police Station provided back to school supplies and backpacks to 400 families. Fifteen Danbury community organizations gave out information and supplies.

Joining forces with the Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce to support Race and Equity trainings for Connecticut Young Professionals, both in Danbury and across the state.

Hosting three Neighbor Nights. After the pandemic led to all virtual gatherings, DanburyWORKS partnered with the Danbury Public Schools to host three virtual Neighbor Nights on the topic “Dismantling Racism in the City of Danbury.” The Neighbor Nights have been attended by more than 100 community members, including State Senator Julie Kushner, the Attorney General, the Executive Director of CT Against Gun Violence, and the Superintendent of the Danbury Public Schools.

Working with the Complete Count committee in Danbury and the Federal Census Bureau to host a joint call to help demystify some of the concerns that community members had around filling out the U.S. Census. The goal was to help reach the community in downtown Danbury that has been identified as a hard to count census tract.

Conducting ESL classes with free child care. Four community organizations partnered on this project, which was funded by a CDBG grant from the City of Danbury: Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut, Danbury Library, Families Network of Western Connecticut, and Grassroots Academy.

Laying the groundwork with Amazon to host informational sessions about obtaining employment at their new distribution facility in Danbury, in partnership with the American Job Center and the CT Department of Labor.
The nonprofit subsidiary Prosperity Digital Marketplace, LLC, was formed to build a digital platform to connect ALICE to social services and other resources that can improve their lives. It will also link businesses and donors directly to people who are struggling financially.

Prosperi-Key will launch in June 2021 in Connecticut, New York, and Ohio. 

Prosperi-Key will:

• Provide income verification to determine if a household is ALICE, using a standardized formula developed by United Way of Northern New Jersey and Rutgers. **No such tool currently exists, and it will be invaluable in assessing and qualifying households for benefits and programs.**

• Provide a one stop site for ALICE households to find resources for educational and vocational training, health resources (healthy food access, prescription discounts, health screenings, etc.), and other resources they are eligible for in their community. A flex-fund payment system is being developed similar to the one used successfully by the Connecticut United Ways COVID-19 Response Fund and the ALICE Emergency Fund.

• Offer a **marketplace** where businesses and donors can provide services and discounts to ALICE households in their communities (for example, in-kind dental services).

We’re proud to be leading with this innovative solution, which has gained national attention and support, and we are excited to be breaking new ground in the ways hardworking, struggling families can find solutions to the very real challenges they face every day.

United Way of Western Connecticut has invested $1 million to build Prosperi-Key and is actively fundraising for an additional $3 million to launch the entire platform. To date, significant financial support is being provided by Synchrony and AXA XL. The platform will eventually generate revenue for United Ways participating as hubs across the country.
Looking Ahead

As our communities struggle to come back from the pandemic and strive for a world where there is equity and opportunity for all, United Way of Western Connecticut commits to demonstrating leadership and innovation. Please join us in our work!

**COVID-19 Resiliency Grants**

Nonprofits in our 15-town footprint continue to serve an increasing number of clients who have been affected by the health and economic consequences of the pandemic. These nonprofits have heroically risen to the challenge, despite often not being able to serve clients face-to-face, hold fundraisers, or rely on volunteers. In response to their needs, United Way has issued a Request For Proposals (RFP) that will provide nonprofits with up to $20,000 to address increased demand and/or help them reorganize in ways that allow them to work better in a post-pandemic world. Our communities need strong nonprofits to serve the vulnerable. These grants represent our commitment to keeping a durable safety net in Western Connecticut.

**Expansion of the Healthy Savings Program**

During the pandemic, we realized that the Healthy Savings Program we launched in 2019 was a great way to get food to struggling families when emergencies arose. With the flip of a switch, we were able to increase the food benefit to program participants during the height of the pandemic, allowing them to obtain up to $20 of free, fresh produce at the grocery store each week. Since the launch of the program, we have put more than $88,000 of fresh produce on the tables of lower-income families. Our goal is to expand this program to 1,200 households by the end of 2021.

**A Continuing Commitment to Racial Equity and Inclusion**

Since the death of George Floyd in May of 2020, calls for racial justice have resounded across our nation. Among our initiatives, Stamford Cradle to Career has partnered with Stamford Stands Against Racism to provide informative, educational presentations and discussions to raise awareness about equity issues in that city. United Way of Western Connecticut is committed to expanding awareness about race issues across all of our communities, while also taking a look inward to ensure that our boards, councils, and staff reflect diversity and practice inclusion.
Harold Spratt
Harold Spratt’s involvement with United Way of Western Connecticut over the course of 50 years changed many lives for the better, especially the lives of children. Through donations during his lifetime exceeding $3 million, he enabled the launch of important initiatives, such as Imagination Library, which provided free books to more than 10,000 children over 10 years, and Strong Heart Healthy Children, which funded three regional programs to combat childhood obesity. In 2017, a generous donation from Harold funded the highly successful Cora’s Kids initiative, named after Harold’s wife. This initiative has greatly increased the accessibility and affordability of quality child care in Greater Danbury. In 2018, Harold joined United Way’s Legacy society by making a generous bequest to our organization in his will. Harold passed away in June of 2019 at the age of 90, leaving a legacy of philanthropy that will have ripple effects for years to come.
**Jerry Murphy**

Jerry Murphy was described by all as a “true patriot.” He served in the US Navy during the Vietnam War and in the following decades. His military awards included the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, and the Legion of Merit. Upon his retirement from the Navy, he moved with his wife Susan to Brookfield, where he served as First Selectman from 2003 to 2007 and was involved in many community service activities, including the Brookfield Lions Club and the Brookfield VFW.

Jerry was a decades-long volunteer with United Way of Western Connecticut. He served for many years on the Northern Fairfield County Community Council, where his contributions were greatly valued and appreciated. He will be greatly missed. We are thankful that his family remembered our organization upon his passing.

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**Agnes Briggs**

Agnes Briggs was a talented artist who worked during World War II in the advertising department of a Los Angeles department store. The contemporary Ridgefield home that she and her husband, Robert Fawcett, designed and built became a salon visited by some of the most interesting people of their day. After Mr. Fawcett died, Agnes married Austin Briggs and moved to Paris. After his passing she returned to Connecticut. She had a gift for friendship and a zest for life. Mrs. Briggs died at the age of 93. We are very grateful to her for remembering United Way of Western Connecticut in her will.

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**Ernest T. Moorey**

Ernest Moorey was a Redding resident who passed away in May of 2020 at the age of 105. Ernest was a Lieutenant in the United States Navy, serving during World War II. He was truly proud to serve his country and be called a veteran. He held a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in Mechanical Engineering. All who knew him were captivated by his ability to share his memories and stories. But the greatest story Ernie would ever tell was his own love story. He married Josephine Kreiner Moorey in May of 1952. The energy and love between them could light up any room. Ernie and Josie enjoyed 64 years of marriage. Some of their favorite hobbies were travelling, gardening, and enjoying the great outdoors. We are most grateful that Mr. Moorey remembered United Way of Western Connecticut in his will.
**CORPORATE PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS**

**THANK YOU** to all our corporate partners who support United Way through a workplace campaign, special event, or corporate gift.

Listed below are our corporate partners in descending order of donation. **Bolded** corporations are those that generously made a corporate gift and/or matched their employees’ contribution during the campaign year of 2019-2020.

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<td>Verrill Dana LLP</td>
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<td>The Coca-Cola Company</td>
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GRANT FUNDERS

Albert and Helen Meserve Memorial Foundation
Anonymous (2)
Bank of America
Boehringer Ingelheim Cares Foundation
Charter Oak Communities
City of Danbury
City of Stamford
Collins Aerospace Helping Hand Fund
Community Fund of Darien
Connecticut Council for Philanthropy
Connecticut Office of Early Childhood
Connecticut Department of Housing
Fairfield County’s Community Foundation
Federal Reserve Bank of Boston - Working Cities Challenge
Genworth Foundation
George A. & Grace L. Long Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Co-Trustee
The Goodnow Fund
Grossman Family Foundation
Herbert and Nell Singer Foundation
IBM
JPMorgan Chase
Legg Mason
Lone Pine Foundation
New Canaan Community Foundation
New Milford Rotary Foundation
Newtown Savings Bank
The PCLB Foundation
Pitney Bowes Foundation
Richard Davoud Donchian Foundation
The Ridgefield Thrift Shop
St. John’s Community Foundation
Stamford Health Foundation
Stamford Public Schools
Stamford Rotary Trust Fund
StriveTogether
Synchrony Foundation
Town of Newtown
Tufts Health Plan Foundation
Western Connecticut State University
Youth Volunteer Corps
Listed below are our leadership donors for the 2019-2020 campaign year. These generous donors are leading the way to measurable, long-term change in the lives of our neighbors throughout Western Connecticut.

The Tocqueville Society recognizes Alexis de Tocqueville’s admiration for our country’s spirit of volunteer effort for the common good. Its members are recognized for the generous contribution of $10,000 or more in a regional membership roster and in the annual national registry.
GOLD
Annual Contribution
$5,000-$9,000
Anonymous (6)
David Acampora
Pablito Almira
Theresa Baker
Paul and Kimberly Bruce
Marilyn Dillman
Andrew Doherty
Robert Goldberg
Gary Goldring
Richard Goligoski
Ronald and Paula Herren
Abdallah and Priscilla Igram
Margaret Keane
Eric Knachel
Raymond and Ellen Kurkjy
James Lane
Robert and Loire Leavitt
Cynthia and Philip Merkle
Jonathan Mothner
Vaziyad Nagarwalla
Benjamin and Mo Li Perlman
Amy Reina
Tom Rosamilia and Karen Coblens
Peter and Kathy Sachs
Courtney Sachtleben
Adrian and Jenny Schwartz
John Teltsch
Addison Unangst
John Vidal

SILVER
Annual Contribution
$2,500-$4,999
Anonymous (10)
Raed and Arlene Ajami
Victor and Isabel Almeida
Martin and Mary Anderson
Lorene Bora
Aaron Brown
Eileen Cahill
Mark and Heather Catalano
Julia Cooper
Michael and Susanne DeMilt
Michael Dziczkowski
Robin Gallagher
Michael Gorton
Robert Grosso
Christopher Gaggerty
John Keller
Frank and Frances Kelly
James and Laura Kennedy
Daniel Kirberger
Helen Kobee
Timothy Kolber
Catherine Levatino
Kathleen Malone
Marie Mollo
Kevin and Kim Morgan
Christine Oliver
Michael Puleo
Kristen Putnam
Barbara Seith
Jane Stanton
Sean Sullivan
Chris Thompson
Debra Verbeke
Kathy Vogt
Ken and Rita Weinstein
Paul Whynott
Joseph Zale

continued on next page
**BRONZE**

*Annual Contribution*

$1,000-$2,499

Anonymous (42)
Tracey Alston
Willis Altman
Steven and Claudette Ames
Dave Anderson
Teresa Arnold
Zeid Ayer
Charles Balocca
Clayton Bannock
Michael Barber
Shannon Beatty
Charles Bennett
Jennifer Birdseye
Robert Bollinger
Mark Bolton
Eric Boyd
Eugene and Nancy Brandon
Alexander Brandonff
Tamara Brown
Gerald Buszta
Lindsey Cameron
Denise Canavan
Anthony Canonaco
Alan Chapple
Kevin Cocchiola
Peter and Marianne Coffin
Victor Cohn
Robert Comerford
Charles Cooks
Andrea Coreau
Karen Critelli
Mark Crowley
Nadine Devine
Luis Diez
F. T. DiGaetano
Greg Dubin
Annmarie Durkin
Les Edwards
Tom Eichenberger
Samuel and Marilyn Eisnitz
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Bruce Friedman
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Nicholas Gazetos and Melanie O'Brien
Michael and Dorothy Giersch
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Donald Gustafson
Liben Hailu
Nancy Hall
Robert Hengelbrok
John Hoffman
Mary-Ann Houser
Robert and Judith Hurwich
Penn Johnson
Robert Jones
Jennifer Kaplan
Denise Kaufman
Kevin Kearns
Margaux Kelley
Patrick Kelley
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Catherine Kortlandt
Amy Krah
Manu Krishnan
Frank Kunst
Janet Layton
Ronald and Jo-Ann Lee
Michael Lennon
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Marla Lewis
Mark Lieb
Senator Joseph and Hadassah Lieberman
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Margery Longstreet
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Peter Maher and Caren Nelson
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John and Susan Melillo
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Gary Miyashiro and Rose Tamura
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James Moran
John Morrison
Stuart Morrison
Joseph Morrissey
Christine Natale
P.K. Natrajian
Robert and Deborah Neiman
Stephen Nitz
John O'Connor
Mark Ortiz
Antimo Palmieri
Barbara Pels
Bernie Pfeifer
Emily Pogers
John and Julie Poklemba

*continued on next page*
DONORS

BRONZE
Annual Contribution
$1,000-$2,499

Eugene Pollastro
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Eli and Maureen Reynolds
Catherine Riordan
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Edwin Savitsky
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Victoria Scofield
Peter Scotch
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Sara Shaldjian
Michael and Annie Shepherd
Kathleen Shoztic
Robert and Harriet Simon
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Timothy Smith
Paul-Erik Sorensen
Robert Stone
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Ronald Tardiff
James Teer
Dominick Tomanelli
John Tracey
Martin Vahsen
Cindy Vaupel
Daria Veccia
Oskar Vidis
David Ward
Lauren Whitney
Heidi Winslow
Robert and Christine Young
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Served During the 2019-20 Fiscal Year

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chair, through 
December 2019 
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Cheryl Bakewell, 
Chair, January 2020 
Bakewell & Mulhare LLC 

Michael Shepherd, 
Vice Chair, January 2020 
Genworth 

Eric Duenwald, 
Treasurer 
Synchrony 

Ken Weinstein 
Secretary, January 2020 
Newtown Savings Bank 

Tracey Alston 
Eversource 

Keith Betts 
Western CT State University 

Paul Bruce 
Union Savings Bank 

George Garrett 
Deloitte 

Steve Liker 
SLC Community Volunteer 

Kurosh L. Marjani * 
End of term December 2019 
Wofsey, Rosen, Kveskin & Kuriansky, LLP 

Aaron Meyer 
Stamford Community Volunteer 

Mark Ouellette 
Pitney Bowes 

Dawn Reshen-Doty 
Benay Enterprises, Inc. 

Antonio Santiago 
Naugatuck Valley Community College 

Chloe Tashjian-Soares 
Tash & CO. 

Kevin Walston 
Danbury Public Schools 

Natasha Williams 
N-Touch Strategies 

Candy Yeager 
Stamford Community Volunteer 

Lisa Zana 
Shipman & Goodwin LLP 

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NORTHERN FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMUNITY COUNCIL 
Keith Betts 
Mathew Cassavechia 
Gigi Christel 
Ron Herren 
Mary-Ann Houser 
Kim Karl 
Samantha LaBonne 
Gregg Manning 
Ralph McIntosh, Jr. 
Nelson Merchant 
Jerry Murphy 
MaryAnn Murtha 
Katie Pearson 
PJ Prunty 
Sandra L. Rankin 
Dawn Reshen-Doty 
Jeff Ryer 
Michael L. Stern 
Bob E. Williams 

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Cheryl Bakewell 
Jennifer Birdseye 
Barbara Dratch 
Evan Hack 
Steve Liker 
Alex Rafoss 
Tammy Reardon 
Katherine Webster-O’Keefe 
Amanda Wilson 

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Beulah Afoakwah-Abosi 
Thomas J. Berta 
Luis F. Diez 
Leslie Glenn 
Thomas Goggin 
Kimberly Greene 
Robin Guarnieri 
George Herring 
Carmen Hughes 

Jerred Jones 
Morgan Jensen 
Sally Kelman 
Valerie Lazzari 
Kurosh L. Marjani 
Laura Ozych 
Dave Pergola 
George Schott 
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John Vramo 
Sandy Weinberg 
Natasha Williams 
Dudley Williams 
Candy Yeager 
Lisa Zana 

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Eric Duenwald 
George Garrett 
Cindy Merkle 
Ken Weinstein 

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Paige Brewer 
Mariann Van Buren 
Keegan Drenosky 
Ann Durkin 
George Garrett 
Maureen Kwilosz 
Michael L. Stern 
Chloe Tashjian-Soares 

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Cheryl Bakewell 
Eric Duenwald 
George Garrett 
James Gareau 
Frank Kelly 

Cynthia Merkle 
Bob E. Williams
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NORTHERN FAIRFIELD COUNTY
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Vanessa Freitas
Kim Karl
Greg Manning
Nicole Manning
Meghan McCurry
Diane Minck
Patty Moses
Dawn Reshen-Doty
Sara Shaldjian

SOUTHERN LITCHFIELD COUNTY
Christine Blonski
Walter Coffey
Francis Corleone
Joan Conn
Lizz Czaika
Susan Denino
Jeanne Faure
Nancy Macklin
Mike Scofield

STAMFORD
Women’s Mentoring Network Youth Group

COVID-19 RESPONSE
FOOD DELIVERY WITH BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM AND SODEXO
Howard Adams
Lori & Lexi Amick
Helena Andrade
Wendy Aponte
Carole Bishop
Wilson Cardenas
Jessie Castro
Tracy Ciccone
Judy Coco
Ruth Dyer
Jacqueline Elam
Katharine El Hayak
Susan Foster
Lynne Given
Aaron Graham
John Grill
Jodi & Rick Henderson
Kathy Johnson
Teresa & Sam LaBarbera
Mary and Steve Levasseur
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Sophie Markind
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Kim McGettigan
Anne & Jim Meade
Christine Miller
Isabel Pasqualone
David Plaue
Wilson Rudinas
Alison Safford
Leia Selleck
Anne Shields
Christina Sweeney
Cristina & Sophia Taylor
Sophia Taylor
Jim Thorne
Valerie Trefny
Maria Tumang
Jennifer Warren
Tracey Warren
Renee Wheeler

FOOD DELIVERY WITH HILLSIDE FOOD OUTREACH
Lexi Amick
Lori Amick
Carole Bishop
Nancy Carroll
Karen & John Dischinger
Katharine El Hayak
Todd Gordon
Jennifer & James Gravgaard
John Grill
Cecilia Hall
Richard Kalriess
MonaLiza Louzada
Toni Miraldi
Tom McCabe
Amy Mellinger
David Plaue
Christine Pudelko & Family
Laila Rudinas
Carolann Ruiz
Lisa Stumpf
Maria Tumang
Tracey Warren
Andrea Whitcher-Johnson
Chris & Frank Zarkowsky
Joe Zenevitch
Sian Watts

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Wendy Forster
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Corey Redlien
Mariella Rivedeneira
Rajalakshmi Sundararajan
Krysta Valentine

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Julie Poklemba
Norman Urquhart
William H. Valenti

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Lynn Fairfieldson
Maryann Houser
Patty Sghia
Phil Kallinkos

continued on next page
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UNITED WAY OF WESTERN CONNECTICUT
INITIATIVE VOLUNTEERS
EMERGENCY FOOD & SHELTER PROGRAM (EFSP)
UNITED WAY OF WESTERN CONNECTICUT
INITIATIVE VOLUNTEERS

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Joe Hickey
Mark Lingle
Nancy Schiffman

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Michael Stern
Sandra Rankin
Samantha LaBonne
Mary Ann Houser
Greg Manning
Ralph McIntosh
Nelson Merchant
Keith Betts
Ron Herren

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Evan Hack
Katherine Webster-O'Keefe
Amanda Wilson

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George Herring
Carmen Hughes
George Schott
Candy Yeager
Thomas Berta
Kimberly Greene

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Bill DeMichiel
John Rankin
Marcia Ghitnick
Cindy Mixcus

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Candy Yeager
Robert Eichler
Valerie Lazzari
Luis Diez

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SOUTHERN LITCHFIELD COUNTY
(trigger October 2019)
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Pete Bass
Al Coelho
Joyce Collins
Diane D’Isidori
Elaine Donahue
Cynthia Forbes
Evan Hack
Steve Liker
Anda Meirovic
Tammy Reardon
Bob Rush
Andrea Rush
Mike Scofield
Katherine Webster-O'Keefe

READY, SET, LET'S READ!
Maryellen Baker
Martha Bishop
Nancy Burger
Joan Bybee
Gigi Christel
Art Cilley
Judy Haskins-Conde
Gail Doyle
Carol Elkin
Kim Green
Sally Kile
Ann McClellan
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Peter Mulready
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Nancy Poliquin
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Karen Rozman
Barry Sobolewski
Bob Taborsak
Guy Wasko

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Mary-Ann Houser

SAVE OFFICE VOLUNTEER
Eleanor Gianfortune

STUFF THE GAZABO
Mike Scofield
Pete Bass
Nancy Macklin
Courtney Macklin
Tricia Gregory
Susan Denino
Christopher Cosgrove

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS
ALEXIS JOHNSON
SARAH ADAMS
JAMIE ADAMS
RITIKA AHMED
ROHAN AHMED
SARAH BARTA
JORDAN BIDO
FAITH BODNER
MADELINE BRINGMAN
emma bringman
Abigail Calame
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Samantha Cavalea
Dylan Cavalier
Timothy Chen
Val Chia
Molly Christel
Timothy Ciriello
Michael Cruz
Melina Cummings
Peter Dala
Sahil Dand
Charlie Doran
William Doran
Jack Dyson
Alexander Dzamko
Ella Egan
Our staff members take pride in making a difference in Western Connecticut every day. Below are the those staff who supported our work during the 2019-2020 Campaign Year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kim Morgan</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isabel Almeida</td>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Arlene Ajami</td>
<td>Chief Financial Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sofia Dupi</td>
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<td>Bridget Fox</td>
<td>President Stamford Cradle to Career &amp; Chief Impact Officer</td>
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<td>Vice President Community Impact</td>
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<td>Food Policy Manager</td>
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<td>Yvonne Mora</td>
<td>Benefits Specialist, Cora’s Kids &amp; Early Childhood Initiatives</td>
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<td>Early Childhood Initiative Manager</td>
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<td>Stacy Schulman</td>
<td>Director, Corporate Relations</td>
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<td>Victoria Scofield</td>
<td>Community Impact Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tashi-Iyana Shuler-Drakes</td>
<td>Project Associate, Stamford Cradle to Career</td>
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<td>Accounting Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barry Sobolewki</td>
<td>Director, Data Management and IT Systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2019-2020 REVENUE

$6,550,359

CAMPAIGN REVENUE
CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS
INVESTMENTS, IN-KIND AND OTHER

2019-2020 EXPENSES

$5,853,976

COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS
COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAMS AND SHARED SERVICES
SUPPORTING SERVICES

For our complete audited financial statements and Form 990, please visit www.uwwesternct.org/financials.
Our Mission:
To Improve the Lives of Hard-Working, Struggling Households by Mobilizing the Resources of Local Communities to Create Lasting Change.
United to help hard-working, struggling families

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.