United Way of New York City Fast Facts

New York City’s Challenges

- NYC is the city of opportunity, where many people come to build their lives. We ride the subway together, go to the same bagel shops, grab coffee at our corner bodegas. But our paths diverge at different points in the day.
- 40% of New Yorkers are not self-sufficient. * That means 2.5 million of our neighbors can’t cover the basics—food, housing, transportation, childcare, healthcare, and taxes.
- 1.4 million New Yorkers don’t know where their next meal will come from, and nearly 3 million regularly have trouble affording healthy food.
- 4 out of 5 households in NYC are struggling to make ends meet even though they have at least one working adult.
- 6 out of 10 children in NYC can’t read on grade-level. Children not reading on grade-level by third grade are 74% more likely to drop out of high school—often falling into or remaining in poverty.

*Self-sufficiency is the ability for someone to have enough income to cover their basic needs-food, rent, childcare, healthcare, taxes, and transportation.

Who is United Way of New York City?

- We are the problem solvers, the hand-raisers, and the game changers.
- We are a nonprofit organization based in New York City that works in the poorest communities across the boroughs to ensure that no New Yorker is ever one paycheck away from hunger and homelessness.
- We work to create a city in which children and families can dare to dream and build a future for themselves.
- Because when everyone has a chance to succeed, our city succeeds too.

What Does United Way of New York City Do?

- United Way of New York City fights for the self-sufficiency of every low-income New Yorker.
- We go after our community’s toughest challenges and create new solutions to old problems like:
  - Breaking the cycle of poverty for our most-vulnerable neighbors through our two-generation approach, working with children and families simultaneously to improve education and literacy rates for students, while also empowering the abilities of parents and caregivers to build more stable homes.
  - Finding an effective, efficient, way for consumers of food pantries to access food supports, while maintaining their dignity through the use of the Plentiful App.
- We win by helping families shift from barely surviving to thriving.
How Does United Way of New York City Do It?

- We mobilize the best ideas, relevant data, internal and external experts, and resources—from money to manpower—to create new solutions to old problems that help families move farther, faster toward self-sufficiency.
- Because of our unique position we maximize impact by coordinating and aligning organizations, companies, local government, and New Yorkers to help families eliminate tough choices and live better while making ends meet.
- We focus on families, neighborhoods, and communities as a whole rather than just individual beneficiaries because we understand that there is not one support, resource, or benefit alone that can move families toward self-sufficiency.

Our Programs

- **ReadNYC** is United Way of New York City’s signature collective impact program that is helping low-income families as a whole move from barely surviving to thriving.
  - The program is built on UWNYC’s belief that getting a solid, quality education as a child is key to becoming a self-sufficient adult and caregiver.
  - For a child to get this type of education, they need strong schools, teachers, principals, parents, and neighborhoods.
  - To empower children and communities, ReadNYC brings together corporations, government, philanthropy, and individuals to set an implement a comprehensive strategy that’s improving literacy rates and stabilizing homes.

- **EducateNYC** is United Way of New York City’s community schools initiative, offering the supports and services needed to remove barriers and help students succeed.
  - In 2017, more than 20,000 students at 45 Attendance Improvement and Dropout Prevention (AIDP) initiative schools were served.
  - EducateNYC works with the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) and the NYCDOE Office of Community Schools to strengthen school and community-based organization (CBO) partnerships.
  - These partnerships allow EducateNYC to provide increased attention to attendance improvement and implement an array of student and family services.

- **FeedNYC** works to strengthen the capacity of emergency food providers to distribute healthy, fresh food to underserved neighborhoods across New York City.
  - FeedNYC addresses the nearly 3 million New Yorkers who regularly have trouble affording healthy food and the 1.4 million New Yorkers who don’t know where their next meal will come from.

- **BenefitsAccessNYC** connects families with critical assistance essential to becoming self-sufficient, including benefits such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), emergency food and shelter, healthcare assistance, transportation support, financial empowerment, and job readiness opportunities to help New Yorkers move from surviving to thriving.
  - The Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP), funded by Congress through FEMA since 1983, provides supplementary funds for food and equipment through UWNYC for existing emergency food providers, such as food pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters.
  - Food Support Connections (FSC) is just one of the many ways we are preserving the stability of struggling New Yorkers. This program provides screening, application, and enrollment assistance services for the hardest-to-reach low-income individuals and families across all five boroughs of New York City.
The Impact of an Investment with United Way of New York City

- More than 800 students, 230 parents, 55 teachers, and 12 principals were impacted through ReadNYC
- More than 600 K-2nd grade students each received 3 hours of additional learning time per day
- Nearly 230 ReadNYC parents made progress toward self-sufficiency through financial empowerment and community referral programs
- Supported nearly 20,000 elementary, middle, and high school students and their families to improve school attendance and prevent dropout through EducateNYC
- Distributed nearly 300,000 pounds of fresh, local produce to 48 emergency food providers
- Served 3.4 million meals and distributed nearly $7 million across 360 emergency food providers
- Helped more than 2,500 NYC families receive emergency cash assistance to prevent eviction and loss of utility services
- Enrolled nearly 11,000 households in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Connected more than 60,000 households to essential benefits to help them along the path to self-sufficiency

What Can Your Dollars Do?

One Time Gifts

$100 Helps prevent chronic absenteeism for six (6) students, keeping them in school and supporting their families to build a strong educational foundation for success.

$250 Provides two (2) ReadNYC families with resources to become financially empowered through financial aid and tax preparation services.

$500 Helps 25 ReadNYC children and their families get one year’s worth of the books and tools they need to foster and grow a love of reading together.

$1,000 Supports 10 ReadNYC students with an engaging, digital literacy tutoring program for one year.

$2,500 Provides four (4) ReadNYC students with dedicated personal literacy tutoring—helping them meet critical reading benchmarks.

$5,000 Empower five (5) parents with access to critical supports, including social workers, workshops, counselling, and referrals to essential benefits.

$10,000 Sends five (5) children to Once Upon a Summer an exciting 7-week learning program that helps to increase reading levels and fights summer learning loss.
**Per Paycheck**
*per paycheck figures are based on a bi-monthly payroll schedule*

**$10** Helps prevent chronic absenteeism for 14 students, keeping them in school and supporting their families to build a strong educational foundation for success.

**$25** Helps 30 ReadNYC children and their families get one year’s worth of the books and tools they need to foster and grow a love of reading together.

**$50** Provides 600 meals to hungry students to nourish their growing minds.

**$100** Provides four (4) ReadNYC students with dedicated personal literacy tutoring—helping them meet critical reading benchmarks.

**$200** Supports two (2) full classrooms of students with an engaging, digital literacy tutoring program for one year.