COVID-19’s impact on our lives will take years to overcome. But it’s a fact that the most vulnerable — including low-income ethnic and racial minorities, the youngest and oldest in under-resourced communities, and anyone who was barely getting by before — are struggling more than ever.

The pandemic not only exacerbated economic challenges, it also deepened inequities that impact financial stability, economic mobility and quality of life. More than 225 million jobs have been lost globally, with U.S. job losses especially impacting women, people of color, and low-wage workers, as well as small businesses. COVID pushed 97 million more people into poverty in a single year, says the World Bank.

Experts agree that damage done to vulnerable communities won’t be reversed quickly. That’s why United Way goes beyond responding to immediate needs. We’re helping people recover. We’re reimagining more equitable communities, and we’re a vital force in rebuilding resilient communities where everyone can thrive.

Nowhere is that more important than in financial stability and economic mobility. Across the world, United Way works in 1,100 communities to help people increase economic mobility. We’re helping people in crisis pay essential bills, and connecting them with local resources for job training. We’re working with employers and educators to create pipelines for jobs that lead to economic mobility. We’re offering job training, financial coaching and education. And we’re connecting people to food, housing, mental health services, and other available local resources.

With the help of our partners—including 45,000 companies across the globe—we’re offering hope and help where it’s needed the most. Every year, United Way impacts 48 million people. Most recently, our work in financial stability has helped:

- Almost 1.3 million people access affordable housing, financial products and services
- 472,231 people get job-skills training for career opportunities
- 40% of people served by United Way programs increase their wages

As the world’s largest privately funded nonprofit, United Way is at work in 95% of the U.S. and across 37 countries and territories. We take community-building seriously, but we do it with a global reach and hyper-local focus. We help people invest in local solutions, bringing people together — though charitable giving, volunteerism or public policy advocacy — to make life better for our neighbors.

Together, we can Live United.