

WE SERVE ALICE



ALICE may be a relative or friend. You may be ALICE. As cashiers, waiters, child care providers, and other members of our essential workforce, **ALICE** earns just above the Federal Poverty Level but less than what it costs to make ends meet. These struggling households are forced to make impossible choices each day.

ALICE



31,606 (35%)
Charlotte County
households are ALICE

8,634 (10%)
Charlotte County
households are under the
Federal Poverty Level

45%
Charlotte
County
households

Under the ALICE threshold

- **47%** 65 and over households
- **82%** Single female-headed households with children
- **64%** Single male-headed households with children



- **Charlotte County** is one of **11 counties** in Florida that ranks high for both social vulnerability and for climate hazards (e.g., hurricanes).
- **Often working multiple jobs**, **ALICE** still can't access quality healthcare and other basics for themselves or their children.

UNITED we can help
ALICE RISE!

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT

Investing in the growth and success of families



Kids Thrive Collaboration between Drug Free Charlotte County and United Way Charlotte County, follows the Two-Generation (2Gen) approach. The focus is on both children and parents, promoting parent-child interactions, literacy skills, and family cohesion for long-term stability and success.

UWCC funds a Navigator Advocate at Kids Thrive

Community resources are leveraged through Women United community leaders and corporate partners to invest in Kids Thrive Families. Investment included \$18,592 in fresh vegetables, and essential items such as gift cards, home essentials, and hygiene provisions.

Kids Thrive Program: Obstacles and Outputs

Supporting Busy Parents

49 activities providing learning opportunities

Time Constraints Due to Multiple Jobs

36 visits providing learning opportunities

Inability to Join Group Activities

381 books distributed to children and families

Lisa, a grandmother involved with Circle of Parents, joined to help her daughter-in-law. "The program provided crucial support, resources, and community, benefiting her granddaughter's cognitive skills and confidence. Ongoing support from navigators, Women United, and community services offers essential items, education, and social engagement, breaking generational poverty."

Charlotte County Reads UWCC leads coalition with Charlotte County Public Schools, YMCA, Boys & Girls Club and community volunteers



Sharing the joy of reading to grow confidence in struggling readers through one-on-one reading mentoring.



UWCC funds Literacy Empowerment Volunteer Coordination at After-school programs



Reading Buddy Volunteer Program

 **49**

Reading Buddy Volunteers

23/24 school year

 **868**

Volunteer Hours

23/24 school year

 **72**

Students Matched

Goal 100 matched by June 2025.

 **74%**

Learning Gains Achieved

74% of students made significant strides

BE A READING BUDDY



Join us in inspiring students' love of reading! Your support as a Reading Buddy can make a world of difference in a student's life. Help us create a community of confident readers and make a lasting impact.



**Devoting just
one hour each
week can pave
the way for our
students' future
success.**

**Be a Reading
Buddy Volunteer**



CHARLOTTE COUNTY READS

(941) 627-3539

United at Work

Building Resilient Workplaces for
a Brighter Future



At United Way Charlotte County, we unite employers, employees, and community partners to foster resilience and collaboration in the workplace.

Consistent household income enhances financial stability, and productive workplaces benefit from retaining employees, reducing rehiring and retraining costs.

Together, we build confidence and security for everyone involved, creating a stronger, more vibrant community.

UAW Program Recap



162 Attended the 2023
United at Work Summit



20 Community Business Partners



4 Teach. Model. Coach Workshops



Budget Class New classes quarterly



GET HELP Charlotte County employee
financial assistance & community
resources

Voices of Transformation:

United at Work Cohorts on Changing Behaviors



Since I began my journey with the United at Work program, I have taken the time to LISTEN to my employees on their needs and wants and I am able to share the UWCC resources.



More cognizant of looking for ways to make employee (personal) goals happen.



I am currently working on being intentionally positive and meeting people where they are.



WHY INVEST IN ALICE THE BUSINESS CASE



Turnover is Costly:



\$1,500 for hourly employees



1.5 to 2x a person's salary



Intentionality Generates:



22% lower turnover rates



22% greater productivity



UNITED WAY
Charlotte County

United at Work

(941) 627-3539

Financial Empowerment

Bringing HELP and HOPE



Many families in Charlotte County face financial struggles. Season of Sharing and United at Work provide one-time emergency aid for rent, mortgage, and utilities. Year round, as a fiscal manager for both funds, UWCC collaborates with local agencies to offer critical assistance, restoring hope for families in need.

Season of Sharing

Oct 2023 to Sept 2024



512 households served
last fiscal year

45% of clients served
are employed

1 in 4 clients reside in
zip code 33952

households **566**

housing
assistance **\$517,737**

utility
assistance **\$72,483**

food, gas,
basic needs **\$221,274**



**TOTAL
INVESTED:
\$811,494**

United at Work

Nov 2022 to Sept 2024

This program is made possible by the following:



Financial Empowerment

(941) 627-3539



COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

*From **STORM** to **SUSTAINABILITY***

Hurricanes Helene & Milton



In 60 Days, HOPE Delivered After Two Devastating Storms

United Way Charlotte County responds in the aftermath of disasters to ensure our citizens are able to care for their homes, family and getting back to work as soon as possible.

Hurricanes Helene & Milton: (September 27, 2024 to December 31, 2024)



The generosity of individuals, corporations and foundations continue to ensure UWCC's capacity to serve those who need it most in disasters.

This recovery effort would not be possible without the generosity of these partners.

SEASON of SHARING
SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2009

Publix Super Markets Charities



United for VITA

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance



Tax Season 2024 (Tax Year 2023)

Through our VITA program, each interaction has been a beacon of light, illuminating pathways to empowerment and resilience.



1209

served*

45% were aged 60+
We are committed to serving
our senior community



1111

accepted tax returns*

increase of **387** from previous year.
average Adjusted Gross Income \$26,599



\$70,125

Child Tax Credits



\$223,252

**Earned Income
Tax Credits**

**TOTAL ECONOMIC
IMPACT:**

\$1,375,259

**53% increase in economic impact
from tax season 2023**

volunteer with us



*Economic impact includes taxpayer savings, total refunds, and financial equivalent of volunteer hours.

Our strength is powered by GRACE and amazing volunteers

Volunteers and donors are vital to the success of this program creating a "Circle of HOPE" where acts of kindness lead to positive community change.

41

**volunteers
recruited, trained,
and deployed**



4,208 hours

1,768 hours Increase
from previous year!



\$140,926 in-kind value

Increase of \$63,334
from the previous year!



**1,528
phone
calls**

Ageless Engagement



United Way Charlotte County launched Ageless United to combat senior isolation and enhance the lives of older adults in the area. We aim to positively impact the senior community by promoting connected, enriched, and dignified livelihoods.

Ageless Engagement Impact: *April 2023 - March 2024*

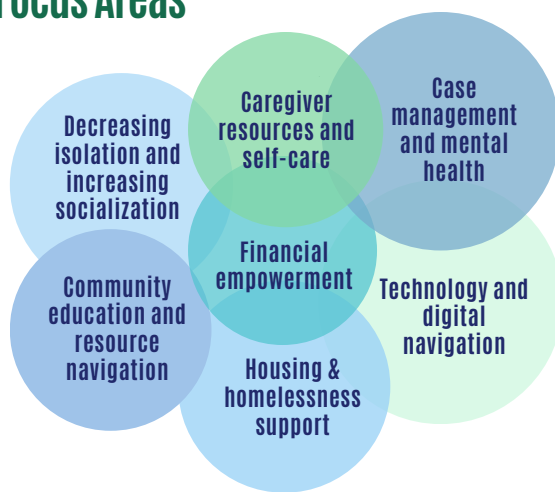
New Programs & Investments

- Friendship At Home (Senior Friendship Centers)
- Senior Engagement Program (Homeless Coalition)
- Savvy Caregiver Classes (Dubin Center)
- Hurricane Supply Drive for Seniors
- Shoeboxes for Seniors & Senior Socials
- Mobilizing Retirees to Volunteer
- 2nd Annual Festival of Wreaths

Future Developments

- Collaboration with FGCU Shady Rest Institute for Positive Aging
- Inaugural Ageless United Lunch
- Community Focus Groups
- Funding collaborative work increasing access to digital navigation teaching and resources

Focus Areas



Volunteer Engagement

6747

Volunteers Hours



\$226,627 Value



Join us as we mobilize our community to serve our ageless citizens while combatting isolation and promoting overall well-being.

volunteer with us



United is the Way

Together, we can make a difference!



Engage with our community in various ways! Scan the QR codes below to volunteer, donate, learn about our programs, or seek assistance. Your support is vital to our mission.

**Donate to
UWCC**

Support our mission
to empower the
community.



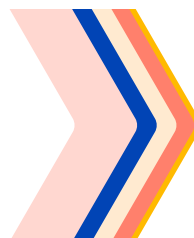
**United
at Work**



**Sponsor
with Us**



**Family
Empowerment**



**Volunteer
with Us**



**Ageless
United**



UNITED WAY
Charlotte County

UNITED IS THE WAY TO A STRONGER COMMUNITY

(941) 627-3539

United Way Charlotte County

Funded & Collaborative Partners

Combining local agencies, corporations, donors, and government to support our community, with investments benefiting thousands annually.



2024 - 2026 Board of County Commissioners & City of Punta Gorda Funded Partners

- **A.N.A.'s Friends** - Children's Needs
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast*** - One to One Mentoring
- **Boys & Girls Clubs of Charlotte County** - After School Program; Summer Brain Gain Camp
- **Center for Abuse and Rape Emergencies (C.A.R.E.)*** - Emergency shelter services
- **Children's Network of Southwest Florida** - Family Intensive Treatment Support; Family Stabilization
- **Drug Free Charlotte County** - Kids Thrive Literacy Project
- **Early Learning Coalition of Florida's Heartland*** - Child Care for Economically Disadvantaged
- **Florida Center for Early Childhood, Inc.** - Healthy Families, Early Childhood Therapy Services
- **Gilstad Literacy Foundation, Inc.*** - Charlotte County Imagination Library
- **Loveland Center, Inc.** - Charlotte County Adult Day Training
- **Pregnancy Solutions, Inc.** - Client Services
- **Senior Friendship Centers*** - Senior Nutrition, Friendship at Home
- **Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Sacred Heart Conference, Inc.*** - Fix-It Ministry
- **St. Vincent de Paul CARES** - Shelter
- **The Dubin Center** - Caregiver Education and Social Support
- **Valerie's House** - Grief Support Services, Peer to Peer Grief Support
- **Virginia B. Andes Volunteer Community Clinic** - Medical Clinic; Pharmacy Services
- **YMCA of Southwest Florida*** - Community Navigation for YMCA Literacy Volunteers, School Age Care

*Funded by both BOCC and COPG
Funding cycle from October 2024-September 2026

2024 - 2026 UWCC FUNDED PROGRAMS

Kids Thrive

- Drug Free Charlotte County

Charlotte County Reads

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Charlotte County
- YMCA of Southwest Florida, Inc.



Funded Partners & Programs

(941) 627-3539