



UNITED WAY: YOUR PARTNER IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE

GET INVOLVED

At United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut, we have a bold vision for the future - Onward860 - uniting our region and forging a new path. We will end poverty in all its forms by deepening our impact in child literacy, housing, wages and life expectancy.

VOLUNTEER
AS A GROUP
OR INDIVIDUAL

WHY UNITED WAY?

We are experts in creating unique and meaningful volunteer opportunities that encourage team building and collaboration, while helping employees connect with the communities in which they work. While we may be a local organization invested in central and northeastern Connecticut, we have access to a powerful global network, making it easy to create consistency across your markets. United Way is committed to connecting people with philanthropic ways to make a difference. **Join us today!**

THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS

United Way 860Cares projects connect people and workplaces from all over the region that care about creating opportunities for children and families to succeed in school, work and life. Get involved in helping some of the most important issues facing our community today by organizing a volunteer event for you or your team.



United Way of Central and
Northeastern Connecticut

GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

2024 - 2025

**UNITED WAY
DAYS OF CARING**

ONGOING

Lend your skills and talents by volunteering your time at a United Way-supported initiative. United Way will coordinate projects with our trusted community partners for a workplace group of volunteers. Examples include park clean-up, landscaping, painting, food pantries and more.



9/11 DAYS OF SERVICE

SEPTEMBER

9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance – Recognizing that 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance takes place during National Preparedness Month, volunteers assemble emergency preparedness kits for members of our community.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR
DAY OF SERVICE**

JANUARY

January 17 is a National Day of Service, when millions of volunteers across the country will come together to honor Dr. King's legacy and ensure that his work continues in the 21st Century.

INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

**JUMPSTART'S
READ FOR THE RECORD**

OCTOBER 24

Annually, United Way joins in this global movement and mobilizes volunteers to read the same book on the same day to classrooms of students.



**READ ACROSS
AMERICA DAY**

MARCH 6

During *Read Across America Day*, volunteers will read aloud to a classroom of students. Join us as we celebrate diversity while helping local children develop a love of reading.



**NATIONAL
VOLUNTEER MONTH**

APRIL

April is National Volunteer Month! Join us by investing in your community through volunteering with your workplace, a group or individually.



**UNITED WAY
DAY OF ACTION**

JUNE 21

Each year on and around June 21, United Way joins a worldwide movement to engage groups and individuals to make a community a better place through service, collaboration and impact.

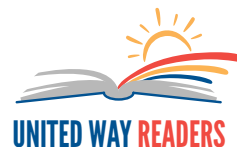
**DAY
-OF-
ACTION**

ONGOING INDIVIDUAL OPPORTUNITIES

UNITED WAY READERS

ONGOING

United Way Readers matches a caring volunteer with a student who struggles with their reading. Volunteers will be paired one-on-one with students to read together weekly throughout the academic year with the ultimate goal of improving the child's literacy skills.



VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

JANUARY - APRIL

The VITA campaign offers free tax preparation and filing for eligible families. Volunteers will commit to four hours a week throughout the tax season, helping hardworking families claim every tax credit and refund they have earned.



COMMUNITY SUPPLY DRIVES

UNITED WAY *STUFF THE BUS*

JULY - SEPTEMBER

United Way is proudly partnering with The Village for Families & Children and Hartford Public Schools to stock local classrooms with school supplies. Your donated supplies and funds will support local school programs dedicated to advancing children academically.



SEASON OF GIVING WINTER DRIVE

NOVEMBER - JANUARY

Help collect new winter clothing and healthy food for local children and families. Collected supplies will be delivered to children and families in the greater Hartford area.



AT THE WORKPLACE PROJECTS AND TEAM BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

United Way partners with workplaces to offer employees the opportunity to make a difference without leaving the office by bringing projects to you. These projects offer a valuable team building opportunity while making an impact for local individuals, children and families. The United We Care kits listed below can be done from the safety of a volunteer's home or workplace. Costs are associated with these projects. Select from any of the following project offerings and team building enhancements:

Literacy Kits (Grades K-4)

Volunteers create props, games and/or activities to accompany books that help to deepen reading experiences for local children and build home libraries. Completed kits are donated to children enrolled in United Way-supported education programs.

Time commitment: Volunteers assemble two kits per hour on average.

Literacy Kits (Grades 5-8)

Volunteers create kits that will include grade appropriate books, toiletries and products for older students. Completed kits are donated to children enrolled in United Way-supported education programs.

Time commitment: Volunteers assemble two kits per hour on average.

Emergency Preparedness Kits

Volunteers build Family Emergency Preparedness Kits with supplies (e.g., non-perishable snacks, flashlight, whistle, first-aid kit, wipes) and learn how to create and practice a disaster preparedness plan. The kits will focus on risk prevention and awareness.

Time commitment: Volunteers assemble 8-10 kits per hour on average.

STEM Kits

Volunteers build or assemble kits that focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Kits will include a NEW STEM-themed book, experiment supplies and instructions, as well as other resources.

Outreach Kits

Volunteers assemble kits used by shelter partners to help with homeless outreach. Kits include items like healthy snacks, socks, gloves, hats and toiletry items. Completed kits are donated to people in United Way-supported emergency shelter programs.

Time commitment: Volunteers assemble eight to ten kits per hour on average.

SEASONAL OFFERINGS

Back to School Kits

Volunteers assemble kits that include a backpack, school supplies, information on the importance of regular school attendance and free enrichment programs and an inspirational note or bookmark made by the volunteer. Completed kits benefit children enrolled in United Way-supported school programs.

Time commitment: Volunteers assemble five to eight kits per hour on average.

Summer Supply Kits

Volunteers assemble kits that help children stay healthy and on track academically over the summer. Kits include healthy snacks and meal options, books and summer learning activities. Completed kits are donated to children in United Way-supported school programs.

Time commitment: Volunteers assemble eight to ten kits per hour on average.

Family Necessities Kits

Family Necessities Kits include essential items that help children achieve academic milestones and stock homes with essential items that keep people healthy.

Time commitment: *Volunteers can assemble 4-5 kits per hour on average.*

Price is customizable based on Sponsor requests or needs. Price is subject to change to reflect added supplies.

NOTE: For projects with more than 250 kits, only the following options are available: literacy and outreach.

Contact Phil Blonski at pblonski@unitedwayinc.org to learn more about how United Way can partner with you to meet your employee engagement goals.



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TEAM BUILDING ENHANCEMENTS AND ONE-TIME VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

TEAM BUILDING ENHANCEMENTS

In addition to facilitating a kit project on-site at your workplace, United Way can add team building enhancements that provide employees with a deeper opportunity to connect with one another while making an impact. Team building enhancements includes:

- **Educational Awareness Activities** related to financial stability, education and food insecurity;
- **Team Building Activities** that encourage communication and collaboration;
- **Making Choices** activity prompts participants to make tough choices on childcare, housing, transportation and career based on the monthly budget of a family living below the ALICE Household Survival Budget;
- **Food for Thought** A remote challenge that offers a real-life, week-long food budget that demonstrates the importance of access to affordable and healthy food;
- **Competition** to help spark group engagement; and,
- an **Impact Speaker**, where United Way staff arranges for a speaker to come on-site to your project and explain the impact of the activity.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

TRAVELERS



OTIS



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ONWARD860 >>>



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