

**GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.** November 10, 2021

A word from our Campaign Chair, Brandon Tucker



With your help, United Way of Washtenaw County's new 2025 strategic plan will lay the groundwork for creating an equitable, thriving community where everyone reaches their full potential. [Share your Feedback!](#)

As generous supporters of United Way of Washtenaw County (UWWC), we believe it is important to keep you informed about how your hard earned money is invested in the local programs and services that are having a positive impact on your community. Your consistent support has been the backbone of UWWC and our ability to support initiatives that have changed so many lives in our community. You truly understand what it means to be committed to helping our community and have illustrated your commitment with your active support.

If you can give a little or a lot, this is your opportunity to make your impact. Every donation, large or small, takes us one step closer to our goal – a community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. When you donate to United Way, your contribution creates real change and a better life for your neighbors and friends.

Thank you to all of the United Way supporters who Give, Advocate and Volunteer. We couldn't do it without you. You really know what it means to LIVE UNITED.

[We still need your support! Visit uwgive.org to donate today!](#)

## LOCAL GRANTS AWARDED

### **\$440,000 Invested in November 2021**

Because of you contributing to the United Way, these organizations are able to do more in the community.

[Opportunity Fund](#) - \$200,000 invested in piloting a promising practice that mitigates or disrupts the impacts of racism, poverty, and trauma; enable an organization to more fully

express a commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI); and support delivery of high-quality services.

### **COVID-19 Recovery Fund \$240,000**

**invested** in providing one-time support to meet pandemic-related needs of **ALICE Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained and Employed** households -- those that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living-- and those experiencing poverty in Washtenaw County in our priority communities identified above. The goal of this fund is to support efforts that help people navigate returns to school and work amid COVID-19.



## YEAR END GIVING

### Year-End Giving Reminders:

- We are open to receive your gifts through year-end via mail, or by appointment (we are closed on 12/23, 12/24 and 12/31). Contact Susan Smith, VP of Development, at [ssmith@uwwashtenaw.org](mailto:ssmith@uwwashtenaw.org) to set up an appointment.
- It is the post mark date, not the check date that determines your tax year benefit
- Gifts may be made via cash, check, credit card, stock, mutual fund, IRA, or ACH bank withdrawal.
- For gifts of stock gifts please consider market timeline and deadlines, stock giving [instructions here.](#)
- Online giving is a great option for last minute year-end gifts and it is open 24/7 [at uwgive.org](http://uwgive.org)

## HELP SHAPE OUR FUTURE



### Help Us Reimagine and Build for the Future

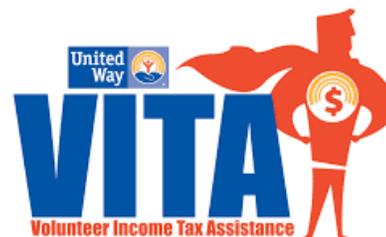
With your help, United Way of Washtenaw County's new 2025 strategic plan will lay the groundwork for creating an equitable, thriving community where everyone reaches their full potential. Thank you for sharing your time, thoughts and co-creating community solutions with us. - Pam Smith, President & CEO

[Share your Feedback!](#)

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### Become a VITA Volunteer

Join our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) volunteers today! Our community of over 80 volunteers work to complete federal and state tax returns for low to moderate income families. Volunteer to help clients save tens of thousands in costly tax preparation fees and put over \$1.4 million of refunds into the hands of those that need it most. No experience necessary - our comprehensive training process will give you the skills and knowledge necessary to prepare basic tax returns.



[Learn more and sign up today!](#)

## Volunteer Washtenaw Holiday Giving Guide Opportunities Available Now!

Are you looking to volunteer during the winter months and holiday season? Look no further! Volunteer Washtenaw has started curating our Holiday Volunteer Opportunities & Giving Guide. Stay tuned as there will be more to come!

[Visit VolunteerWashtenaw.org to learn more.](http://VolunteerWashtenaw.org)

## EVENTS

### Nonprofit Enterprise at Work's Road to Resilience

United Way Washtenaw County is a proud investor, awarding \$10,000 through our Opportunity Fund, in the pilot launch of Nonprofit Enterprise at Work's Road to Resilience program. This is a new, virtual, cohort learning community oriented at strengthening nonprofit leaders' understanding of best financial practices. This series will offer practical insight on budgeting, cash flow, communicating financial data, and more.

Applications are open Nov. 1-22.

[Learn more and apply today!](#)

### Adopt a Child - Dec. 16th, 2021

Labor and Management is sponsoring an Adopt A Child program this year to help provide gifts to those in need. The event will be held on December 16. Please contact Rella Bitner at [rbitner@uwwashtenaw.org](mailto:rbitner@uwwashtenaw.org) to find out how you can contribute and support this effort.

## ADVOCACY

### Take Action to Support Anti-Poverty Policies for Families

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) are two of the best tools we have to promote work, put money in the pockets of working people and reduce child poverty.

While the temporary expansions of the CTC and EITC are important and effective policies that mitigate the impacts of COVID, more long-lasting changes are needed. Allowing the temporary improvements to expire deprives families with low and moderate incomes of these important benefits just as they may be regaining a measure of financial security post-pandemic. Making the expansions to these credits permanent, along with other improvements, will provide ongoing income support to struggling families, and help rebuild a more equitable economy in the recovery and beyond.

[Take Action Now by emailing your elected official!](#)

**GIVE TODAY AT [UWGIVE.ORG](http://UWGIVE.ORG).**

STAY CONNECTED!

