GIVE.
ADVOCATE.
VOLUNTEER.

HEROES
WANTED

Volunteer Toolkit

United Way of Utah County
UnitedWayUC.org
HEROES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Last year, 6,396 volunteers from United Way of Utah County transformed our community through 32,420 hours of service. In this menu, you will find a range of rewarding, hands-on volunteer experiences that match personal passions and corporate visions.

Help create a community of productive, engaged citizens by volunteering your time and resources.

YOU can be a hero:

1. ONE TIME
2. IN OFFICE
3. ONGOING
These signature volunteer experiences are ideal for corporate teams, individuals, or families. Each was specifically created to maximize impact during a limited time.

**DAY OF CARING (SEPTEMBER)**
Join with over 1,000 volunteers from companies in your community to provide thousands of hours of service in one day. Choose from a variety of one-day, hands-on experiences supporting our local schools and nonprofit partners.

**BUILD A BOOKSHELF (YEAR-ROUND)**
A love of reading begins in the home and at an early age. Volunteers can help ensure all children have access to books by making bookshelves that will be filled with books and placed in key locations throughout the community.

**BLOCKS AND TANGRAMS (YEAR-ROUND)**
Help children learn spatial awareness skills, counting, and planning techniques. Build wooden blocks or tangram sets to be delivered to children in the community.

**SUPPORT A SCHOOL (YEAR-ROUND)**
Partner with a local elementary school to paint playground games, provide activities in the classroom, and other needed projects.

**PLAN A FAMILY EVENT (YEAR-ROUND)**
Throughout the year we host family events where over 100 families participate in educational stations. Each station teaches fun ways to encourage learning through play. Become an activity station leader or plan your own educational station using your interests and expertise.

**COMMUNITY RESCUE CREW (YEAR-ROUND)**
Needs can arise in the community at anytime. Make a difference by volunteering to be part of the projects that are most needed in the moment, such as landscaping, renovation, and design projects.
When you give your **TIME** to United Way, you are giving to the people in your community.

When you give **DONATIONS**, United Way will channel them to the people that need it most.

**EDUCATION**
- school readiness
- early-grade literacy
- successful transition to middle school

**INCOME**
- increase knowledge and skills
- help families in emergencies
- decrease debt

**HEALTH**
- healthy beginnings
- safe environment
- access to healthcare
These rewarding experiences are convenient and make a big difference in the lives of children and families in need. They are also great ways to build team unity in your office as you work together toward a common goal.

**EARLY READER BOOK DRIVE (YEAR-ROUND)**
Many low-income families have very few books in their home. Encourage a love of reading that puts young children on a path for school success by running a book drive. Donate new or gently used books in the office or online, or buy books for your own family through Scholastic Book and a portion of your purchase will be donated to our book program.

**SCHOOL AND TUTORING SUPPLY DRIVE (YEAR-ROUND)**
Too many families can’t afford the basic school supplies most children take for granted. By running a drive, you’ll give students in need the supplies to succeed.

**COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER (YEAR-ROUND)**
Connect expectant families with the resources that foster healthy child development. This event distributes clothing, books, baby supplies, and important information about brain development, early literacy, and community resources to parents.

**INFORMATION HELP LINE UPDATING (SUMMER)**
2-1-1 is an information help line that provides accurate information about community resources. Use the computers at your business or at United Way to ensure new community resources are made available to those who are reaching out for help.

**LEARNING ACTIVITY PACKETS (YEAR-ROUND)**
Encourage learning in your community. Put together educational activities to be used in our play groups, home visits, and parenting classes. Learning activity packets require cutting, coloring, and gluing.

**SUB FOR SANTA (WINTER)**
Make sure every child in your community has something to look forward to this Christmas. Sponsors give each child two items of new clothing, two new toys, and one new book. Experience the joy of giving first hand as you deliver the gifts right to the family. Last year, Sub for Santa provided 5,000 children with much-needed assistance.
YOU GET TO ASSIST FAMILIES IN MAKING FINANCIAL DECISIONS AND PURSUING THEIR FINANCIAL GOALS, GIVING THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET OUT OF POVERTY.

-GARY GARRETT, NU SKIN

HOW TO BECOME A HERO:

1. Work with United Way Staff to choose a project that fits your company vision for community involvement.

2. Assign a member of your company to be the service project coordinator who we can work with to organize your project or event.

3. Contact Lovette at lovettem@unitedwayuc.org or Chelsea at chelseag@unitedwayuc.org to learn additional project information such as associated project costs, volunteer capacity, and availability.

4. United Way Staff will work with your project coordinator to work out details, plans, and execute your project or event.

5. Enjoy a fulfilling and unifying volunteer experience!
Volunteer for a few months or more. Ongoing involvement is the best way to see the impact you’re making. Any of these opportunities can be geared towards individuals or corporate teams.

**TAX PREPARER (FALL + WINTER)**
An estimated 20-25% of taxpayers that qualify for the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit don’t file for it. This means that millions of federal dollars intended to help the lowest-income taxpayers go unclaimed. Last year, tax preparers helped refund $3.5 million, and for every hour a volunteer gave, $1,000 was returned to the community. Volunteers receive IRS training and then provide assistance throughout tax season.

**LITERACY TUTOR (SCHOOL YEAR)**
One out of five 3rd grade students in our community are below their grade reading level. Children who consistently fall behind their reading level often struggle throughout their academic and professional career. Help a child in your local elementary school discover the joy of learning by reading with them and tutoring on a weekly basis.

**MARKETING, PHOTOGRAPHY OR DESIGN SPECIALIST (YEAR-ROUND)**
We can only help the people who know we are here! Help United Way and our programs improve our online presence. Use your expertise to improve social media sites or bring your camera to one of our events and capture volunteers in action.

**COMPUTER LITERACY TUTOR (YEAR-ROUND)**
The South Franklin Community Center provides computer access to one of Utah County’s greatest need communities. Volunteers help residents learn important computer skills necessary to thrive in the workforce. Spanish language skills are appreciated.

**SPONSOR A GRADE-LEVEL IN A TITLE I SCHOOL (YEAR-ROUND)**
Purchase one dollar books through our Scholastic account for every child to get a new book each month. The goal is for every child to have their own Library of 9 books in their home by the end of the school year. This typically costs $60-$120 per grade-level each month.
VISION
UNITED WAY ENVISIONS A WORLD WHERE ALL INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES ACHIEVE THEIR HUMAN POTENTIAL THROUGH EDUCATION, INCOME STABILITY, AND HEALTHY LIVES.

UNITED WAY
LEADS AND MOBILIZES THE CARING POWER OF INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP PEOPLE MEASURABLY IMPROVE THEIR LIVES.

United Way of Utah County
148 North 100 West
Provo, Utah
801-691-5355