



United Way of Greater Houston

IN HOUSTON, **WE STAND UNITED**

2009-2010 UNITED WAY GUIDE

**Do
something
about it.**



Houston. It's a can-do city with a spirit of neighbors helping neighbors, where we keep our community moving forward...the United Way!

We turn challenges into opportunities. We are there for every season and every stage of life. We are the place where everyone comes together to make sure no one is left out. We thrive on good ideas, hard work and inspired visions. We bring out the best in ourselves and celebrate the best in others. We are the safety net for a growing city and the ladder for those who need a way up. We answer the call, provide the help that transcends hopelessness, do the footwork and lay the groundwork for a positive future. We are the leader and trusted partner for a community that cares.

We are United Way of Greater Houston. We lend a hand, ignite hope and stand up for our community. As we come together to ***do something about it***, we ask you to join us. Now, more than ever, it matters.

More people are living one paycheck away from financial hardship.

1 in 3 families is worried about paying for groceries each month.

25% of children are on their own after school.

Thousands of families are still impacted by last year's hurricanes.

THESE ARE THE TIMES
**WHEN WE TAP OUR
CAN-DO SPIRIT
AND REACH OUT TO
HELP OUR NEIGHBORS**



Imagine your child sitting alone, unsupervised for hours, because you can't afford child care.

What can you do?

IN OUR COMMUNITY, **WE STAND UP FOR KIDS**

THE CHALLENGES: Children home alone after school with little or no adult supervision and nothing to engage them but TV or a video game / Easy access to drugs and alcohol / Struggling to keep up in school / Temptation to drop out of school / Limited access to health care / Limited opportunities for enriching experiences such as ball games, museums or field trips

DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT: Last year, United Way helped area children and youth develop to their full potential by providing mentoring and access to caring adults, parenting support, quality child care, help with schoolwork and developmental activities. United Way supported children and youth with mental health and substance abuse programs, access to nutrition services, medical care, child care and after-school activities.

THE UNITED WAY DIFFERENCE: More than 500,000 young people enriched with United Way services. / 82% of children and youth in United Way programs do better in school.

Character development • Child care • Health care and counseling •
Adoption and foster care • After-school care • Mentoring • Basic needs assistance



Parenting • Counseling • Health care • Basic needs assistance • Job skills
and case management • Community centers • Substance abuse prevention •
Neighborhood/asset development • Financial literacy and mentoring



It's the end of the month, and you don't have enough money left for groceries.

How will your family get by?

IN HOUSTON, **WE HELP FAMILIES THRIVE**

THE CHALLENGES: Thousands of working families live annually on less than \$35,000 / Increasing number of families feel the pain of a struggling economy / Difficulty paying for groceries at the end of the month / Limited access to health care

DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT: United Way helps keep families and neighborhoods strong. Some of the most important work involves teaching hardworking families the basics of financial literacy, helping them increase their earning potential, build savings and acquire assets. United Way helps area families deal with the stress of life with substance abuse counseling, parenting classes, wellness counseling and medical care, nutrition counseling and services at community centers.

THE UNITED WAY DIFFERENCE: More than 700,000 family members were helped last year. / More than 16,000 tax returns were prepared, free of charge, with over \$21 million in refunds returned to low-income families allowing them to pay for things like basic needs. / 86% of moms and dads in United Way programs improved their parenting skills.

One of your elderly family members needs help with the basics of daily life.

Who will you call?

WE BELIEVE **IN A LIFETIME OF INDEPENDENCE**

THE CHALLENGES: Projected increases in our aging population / Many seniors not living in close proximity to immediate family members / Seniors living in poverty or alone

DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT: Studies show that seniors live longer and more fulfilling lives in their own homes and it's more economical. Thanks to United Way, seniors in our community have access to help with the basics of daily life, home visits and medical care, transportation to doctors, companionship and activities, assistance with home repairs, nutritious meals and a robust support network. United Way mobilizes trained community representatives such as utility workers, peace officers and others in public service to keep a watchful eye out for signs of distress.

THE UNITED WAY DIFFERENCE: More than 70,000 seniors in our community were able to stay independent thanks to United Way services such as transportation, help with daily life and meals. / 83% of seniors in United Way programs were able to remain independent in their own homes.

**Nutritious meals • Social interaction • Help with daily living •
Support network • Home visits and care**



Basic needs • Independent life skills • Transportation • Employment/job skills
• Mental health services • Housing and emergency shelter • Job readiness •
Domestic violence services • Substance abuse counseling



You don't know how bad things can get until you have to start over from scratch. If life as you know it suddenly turns into a disaster...

Where would you turn?

IN HOUSTON **WE HELP OUR NEIGHBORS**

THE CHALLENGES: The unexpected loss of a job / The disruption of home life because of alcohol or substance abuse / Severe financial pressures that build over time, causing families and individuals to neglect health and forgo groceries / The nightmare of leaving home unexpectedly because of abuse / Facing natural disaster and its aftermath

DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT: Focusing on possibilities rather than problems, United Way is there when individuals face life's most daunting emergencies by providing assistance with food, shelter, utilities and life's basics until crisis situations are stabilized. We provide counseling and case workers for long-term recovery, substance abuse programs, life-skills building activities, job training and employer contacts that lead to better opportunities and a brighter future.

THE UNITED WAY DIFFERENCE: More than 650,000 individuals were helped last year after a natural disaster, violence, job loss and other family emergencies. / 69% of those in United Way programs gained the skills to reenter the workforce.



IN HOUSTON, UNITED WAY IS THE SINGLE MOST POWERFUL SOURCE OF HELP

We are a can-do city that gives people the tools necessary to build a better life. For more than 86 years, United Way has been our community's trusted leader and partner in:

- **Improving lives** ... *touching 1 of every 2 lives in our community*
- **Tackling key community social issues**
- **Making a lasting difference in the quality of life we all enjoy**

Here are the reasons we are unique in our capacity to help:

LEADERSHIP: Only United Way looks at the big picture in our community and brings together the stakeholders that bring about real change to tackle key community social issues. Businesses, corporations, social service agencies, government institutions, nonprofits, faith-based organizations and members of the community-at-large come together to find common solutions.

ACCOUNTABILITY: United Way leaders, donors and volunteers have the peace of mind that comes from knowing that this organization is financially sound, making the best use of resources and performing to the highest standards. Trained volunteers measure program investments against quality standards, make on-site visits, study issues and make investment decisions.

IMPACT: When you give the United Way, you can be sure that your donations help those who need it most, keep our social safety net strong, achieve measurable results and build a stronger future for all of us.

2-1-1 TEXAS/UNITED WAY HELPLINE

Need help? Dial 2-1-1.

A free helpline operated by United Way of Greater Houston
24 hours a day, 7 days a week in many languages.



More than 575,000 calls answered in 2008 and to date, 2009 call volume has increased significantly.

WE ALWAYS ANSWER THE CALL 2-1-1 TEXAS/UNITED WAY HELPLINE

2-1-1 Texas/United Way HELPLINE is the nation's largest call center of its kind. Our trained call center specialists answered more than **575,000 calls** last year, with understanding and expertise, finding real solutions as they worked the most comprehensive database of social services in the state. It is the place that always answers the call for help, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in many languages.

AGENCIES SUPPORTED BY THE UNITED WAY OF GREATER HOUSTON

Alliance for Multicultural Community Services
American Cancer Society
American Red Cross-Greater Houston Area Chapter
AVANCE, Inc. - Houston
AVDA (Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse)
Avondale House
BACODA-Bay Area Council on Drugs and Alcohol, Inc.
Bay Area Rehabilitation Center
Bay Area Turning Point, Inc.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Houston
Boy Scouts of America-Sam Houston Area Council
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston, Inc.
The Bridge Over Troubled Waters
Career and Recovery Resources, Inc.
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
Center for Hearing and Speech
The Center Serving Persons with Mental Retardation

Child Care Council of Greater Houston, Inc.
Chinese Community Center
Colorado Valley Transit, Inc.
Community Family Centers, Inc.
The Council on Alcohol and Drugs Houston
Crisis Intervention of Houston, Inc.
CROSSROADS: Community Partnership for Youth, Inc.
Denver Harbor Senior Citizens, Inc.
DePelchin Children's Center
Family Services of Greater Houston
FamilyTime Crisis and Counseling Center
Fifth Ward Enrichment Program, Inc.
Fort Bend County Women's Center, Inc.
Fort Bend Family Health Center, Inc.
Fort Bend Regional Council on Substance Abuse, Inc.
Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels
Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council
Good Neighbor Healthcare Center
Houston Area Urban League

Houston Area Women's Center
Innovative Alternatives, Inc.
Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston
Jewish Community Center of Houston
Jewish Family Service
Julia C. Hester House, Inc.
Legacy Community Health Services, Inc.
The Lighthouse of Houston
Literacy Advance of Houston, Inc.
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Lone Star Legal Aid
Mental Health America of Greater Houston
Montgomery County Women's Center
Montrose Counseling Center
Multicultural Education and Counseling Through the Arts (MECA)
Neighborhood Centers Inc.
The Salvation Army
San Jose Clinic

Santa Maria Hostel, Inc.
SEARCH Homeless Services
Sheltering Arms Senior Services
Spaulding for Children
Star of Hope Mission
Target Hunger
United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Houston
University Speech, Language & Hearing Clinic
Volunteers of America Texas
Wellsprings, Inc.
Wesley Community Center, Inc.
The Women's Home
Y.M.C.A. of the Greater Houston Area

United Way Service Centers

Bay Area Service Center
Fort Bend County Service Center
Montgomery County Service Center
Waller County Service Center

The can-do city needs exceptional people at the forefront.

Will you join us?

WHERE WE LIVE, **LEADERS STAND UP FOR OUR COMMUNITY**

It is no coincidence that around the nation, Houston has become synonymous with a can-do spirit, hard work, innovative solutions and the compassion and wisdom of its leaders. Because of their strong support, United Way continues to lead our community through good times and bad, making sure the social services and quality of life remain high for everyone, both now and in the future.

LEADERSHIP GIVING: United Way's leadership contributors are some of the most generous and compassionate individuals in the nation. They share a special vision for the community, a variety of exciting interests and a network of exceptional colleagues.

We are grateful to those dedicated men and women who so faithfully donate their time, talents and resources to United Way of Greater Houston and who choose to make a profound difference in individual lives and the quality of life we all enjoy.

We invite you to join them.



LEADERSHIP GIVING

Leadership contributors not only help shape the future of our community, they also set a powerful example for others to follow. You reap the rewards of meeting some of the most dynamic individuals in the area and have the chance to build a new network with people who share your vision for Houston. If you're ready to have an even greater impact, there's a United Way leadership giving group that fits your goals perfectly.

YOUNG LEADERS:

Emerging leaders, age 45 and under, who make a personal gift of \$1,000 or more, enjoy the opportunity to connect with peers and prominent corporate professionals.

WOMEN'S INITIATIVE:

Community-minded women of influence who generously support the United Way with personal gifts of \$2,500 or more and have the chance to expand their personal and professional networks.

CHAIRMAN'S CLUB:

Committed donors whose gifts of \$1,000 to \$4,999 enjoy special recognition and events designed to expand their community awareness.

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE:

Generous donors who are expanding their philanthropic horizons with gifts ranging from \$5,000 to \$9,999 explore new avenues for community engagement and recognition.

ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY:

Philanthropists whose gifts of \$10,000 or more demonstrate their significant commitment to community change and leave a lasting legacy for those who follow in their generous footsteps.

DIAMOND DONORS: United Way of Greater Houston deeply appreciates the caring and support of its long-time donors. These dedicated and committed individuals have helped United Way *do something about it* through their gifts over the past 25 years.



United Way of Greater Houston

50 Waugh Drive
Houston, TX 77007
713-685-2300
www.unitedwayhouston.org

IN OUR COMMUNITY, WE COME TOGETHER **TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT AND WE NEED YOU TO JOIN US**

Now, as never before, the people in the Greater Houston area are facing the challenges of their lives. Rocked by natural disasters, a struggling economy, illnesses and life changes that are beyond their control, many are hurting and need help. If you believe that every child in Houston should have a chance, that strong families and neighborhoods are the backbone of our community, that our seniors deserve help to stay independent, that everyone deserves a hand up when disasters strike, then please join us.

When you give to United Way of Greater Houston, you make a profound difference in individual lives and in the quality of life we all enjoy. Please make a decision to *do something about it*. Give generously ... the United Way.

FOR CHILDREN
FOR FAMILIES
FOR SENIORS
FOR LIVES
FOR HOUSTON