This year brought about some of the most dramatic change our community has ever seen. As our lives, businesses and communities were turned upside-down, we remembered how much we rely on each other, how much we count on systems and services that provide help and perhaps most importantly, how important it is to Live United.

At United Way of Whatcom County, we have never been more proud to serve our community by raising money to fund many local nonprofits providing critical services for our friends and neighbors who are struggling.

As the pandemic unfolded, we were so inspired by how our partner agencies responded, quickly transforming their services, rethinking their programs and delivery models, and stepping up to meet growing demands during times of crisis. They are truly heroes among us.

And so are you. Our supporters. Our donors. Our volunteers. So many of you recognized the needs in our community and gave what you could.

This year, we have seen examples of generosity that brought grateful tears to our eyes: People who continued to donate despite losing jobs and income. Businesses that gave to our Emergency Recovery Fund even as they struggled to remain open. Retirees who passed along stimulus checks to help others less fortunate. Nonprofits that offered their programs and services to their own displaced employees.

If we haven’t said it enough, thank you! You are the reason we love what we do.

FROM ALL OF US AT UNITED WAY OF WHATCOM COUNTY
We are proud to have partnered with so many supportive donors, volunteers, and companies to raise over a million dollars in our community in 2019-2020. After passing along donations that were earmarked for specific nonprofits and covering our fundraising and administrative costs, we were able to support 24 local nonprofit agencies with more than $860,000 in funding to help provide basic needs, increase economic mobility, and break the cycle of poverty in Whatcom County. Yes, one person can make a difference. But look what we can do when we Live United!

Community Impact Grants

We are proud to have partnered with so many supportive donors, volunteers, and companies to raise over a million dollars in our community in 2019-2020. After passing along donations that were earmarked for specific nonprofits and covering our fundraising and administrative costs, we were able to support 24 local nonprofit agencies with more than $860,000 in funding to help provide basic needs, increase economic mobility, and break the cycle of poverty in Whatcom County. Yes, one person can make a difference. But look what we can do when we Live United!

Making an Impact: See How Your Gift Changes Lives

For more details on our financials, click here.
"I support United Way because of the great work they do right here in Whatcom County. The money I donate to United Way stays in my community and helps nonprofits in my back yard. By giving directly to United Way, I know there is financial oversight to where those funds are being used and that they are addressing the most critical needs our community is facing."

~ Natalie Boatman, donor, volunteer and former Loaned Executive

"We believe United Way is the most efficient and effective way to support those in our community who are in need. The root causes of people's problems need to be addressed. We support those organizations that are trying to address those root cause problems."

~ Bob & Cheryl McCarthy, leadership donors

"When my son was diagnosed with Autism and sensory processing disorder, United Way agencies were there to help. It's incredible. Damien was nonverbal until he was three. Whatcom Center for Early Learning had a speech pathologist who would come to the house and work with him. I never imagined I could have a full, meaningful conversation back and forth with him, but I can right now. And I don’t take that for granted.

The early intervention services that he has received have made a big difference in his life, and I'm so grateful for that."

~ Jane Parsons, proud mom of Damien

Damien is now a Math Olympiad champion!

To see Damien's story, click here.
SUPPORTING A NETWORK OF LOCAL NONPROFITS

Your Gift Helped Fund All of These Local Agencies & More!

For more information about our partner agencies, click here.
BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Tackling tough community issues isn't easy, but we are committed to funding solutions to measurably improve lives for everyone in Whatcom County.

Thankfully, you're in this work with us.

Thank you to the thousands of donors who give every year and the hundreds of companies who believe in the United Way model. Our collective fundraising power is magnified when we come together to do good. As is our impact.

Many of our donors choose to remain anonymous, but you know who you are. And we're so very grateful that you are inspired to Live United along with us.

Thank you to all of the individuals and organizations who supported our 2019-2020 community fundraising efforts in Whatcom County.

You came through in a big way during a very difficult time. Large or small, your gift made a difference. Thank you!

2019-20 COMMUNITY BUILDER SPONSORS

PeaceHealth  bp  WECU  samson®

PowerTek Electric  Boeing  THANK YOU
We recognize structural racism and other forms of oppression have contributed to persistent disparities which United Way seeks to dismantle. Our United Way network strives to engage community members, especially those whose voices have traditionally been marginalized. We work with individuals, nonprofits, public and private partners to find and support solutions to ensure everyone has the resources, opportunities and networks they need to thrive. We commit to leveraging all of our assets (convening, strategic investments, awareness building, and advocacy) to create more equitable communities.

United Way Equity Statement

To unite with a network of nonprofits, local businesses and community stakeholders to enable financial stability for every person in Whatcom County.

United Way of Whatcom County has received a Platinum level transparency rating on GuideStar, one of the top charity watchdog groups.