

COMMUNITY IMPACT PORTFOLIO

2026-2027



United Way seeks to improve lives in Lincoln and Lancaster County by advancing the common good. From strengthening local resilience to advancing health, youth opportunity, and financial security, we're working towards a future where every resident in Lincoln and Lancaster County has the opportunity to thrive. We bring a comprehensive approach to every challenge, actively listening and responding to local needs.

Youth Opportunity

Total Funding: \$848,140

Helping young people realize their full potential

Every young person deserves the opportunity to thrive. United Way helps children and youth along a path to success by breaking down barriers to learning and well-being. Supporting students through early childhood education, enrichment opportunities like afterschool and summer programs, and youth behavioral health provides the foundation needed to prosper.

- The Arc of Lincoln
- Asian Community & Cultural Center
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Lincoln
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Lincoln/Lancaster County
- CASA for Lancaster County
- CEDARS Youth Services
- Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties
- Educare of Lincoln
- Family Service Lincoln
- HopeSpoke
- Lincoln Medical Education Partnership
- Lux Center for the Arts
- Malone Community Center
- Mourning Hope Grief Center
- Northeast Family Center
- The Salvation Army - Lincoln
- TeamMates Mentoring Program of Lincoln
- Willard Community Center

Financial Security

Total Funding: \$125,500

Creating a stronger financial future for every generation

Everyone deserves the opportunity to earn a living that can sustain a family and build financial security for future generations. United Way helps hard working families connect to the tools that create economic mobility: adult literacy, job training and career pathways, financial coaching, and homeownership.

- Asian Community & Cultural Center
- Center for People
- Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties
- ECHO Collective
- El Centro de las Américas
- The HUB Central Access Point for Young Adults
- Lincoln Literacy
- Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc.
- NeighborWorks Lincoln

Community Resiliency

Total Funding: \$726,827

Addressing urgent needs today for a better tomorrow

Everyone deserves access to support during a time of crisis. United Way works alongside our neighbors to build long-term resilience by meeting a wide range of immediate needs through homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, food access, safety for victims of abuse, and rental and housing assistance.

- BraveBe Child Advocacy Center
- Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska
- CEDARS Youth Services
- Center for People
- Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties
- El Centro de las Américas
- Family Service Lincoln
- Food Bank of Lincoln
- Fresh Start
- Friendship Home
- Good Neighbor Community Center
- The HUB Central Access Point for Young Adults
- Legal Aid of Nebraska
- Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach
- People's City Mission
- The Salvation Army – Lincoln
- Voices of Hope

Healthy Community

Total Funding: \$100,000

Improving health and wellbeing for all.

Everyone deserves the opportunity to live their healthiest life. United Way helps our neighbors overcome barriers to good health by advancing maternal and child health, as well as substance use prevention and recovery.

- CEDARS Youth Services
- Malone Community Center
- St. Monica's Life Changing Recovery for Women

Combined Health Agencies Drive

Total Funding: \$498,875

Programs and organizations which provide medical research, patient and family services and community education and advocacy to assist individuals and families facing chronic illness:

- The ALS Association
- Alzheimer's Association Nebraska Chapter
- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention - Nebraska
- American Lung Association in Nebraska
- Angels Among Us
- Arthritis Foundation Nebraska
- Autism Action Partnership
- Blood Cancer United
- Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska
- Breakthrough T1D (formerly JDRF Nebraska - Iowa Chapter)
- Crohn's & Colitis Foundation, Nebraska/Iowa Chapter
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation – Nebraska Chapter
- Epilepsy Foundation - Nebraska
- Heart Heroes, Inc.
- March of Dimes, Nebraska & Western Iowa Market
- National MS Society – Mid America Chapter
- Nebraska AIDS Project
- Nebraska Chapter of the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation
- Nebraska Health Care Foundation
- Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Association
- Nebraska Kidney Association
- Susan G. Komen®
- Team Jack Foundation
- United Cerebral Palsy of Nebraska

Community Impact Collaborative Initiatives

Total Funding: \$110,500

The Community Impact Collaborative Initiatives are initiatives and partnerships that cannot be conducted by one agency or program alone. These initiatives require combined resources and community partnerships to improve community conditions and access to human services.

Cause Collective

Cause Collective strengthens nonprofits to better serve the community through collaboration, education and advocacy. With a network of over 170 members, Cause Collective helps build a stronger community in Lincoln, Nebraska for all its residents. By providing local nonprofits with opportunities for collaborations, a robust schedule of trainings, and offering peer support, Cause Collective strengthens the nonprofit sector and community as a whole.

Community Learning Centers (CLC)

Supports the CLC Initiative to improve learning, strengthen families and engage neighborhoods.

Data Tracking Project

Gathers and analyzes community data and trends of hunger issues in the community through Clarity.

Lincoln Littles

Lincoln Littles believes all children should have access to affordable high-quality early care and education ensuring healthy growth and development,

kindergarten readiness, a more available workforce today and a smarter workforce tomorrow.

Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development

United Way provides support for the Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development's workforce development activity to create pathways for Lincoln residents to obtain living-wage employment in our community.

Lincoln Public Schools – Two Generation Family Literacy

Lincoln Vital Signs

United Way and CHAD (Community Health Agencies Drive) are committed to creating long-term change within Lincoln and Lancaster County. In order to create that change, it's important to take an in-depth look at the issues facing our community. Lincoln Vital Signs is a collaborative effort to examine those issues.

Summer Food Program (Food Bank of Lincoln)

Women in Philanthropy – Helping Hands Auction

Total Funding: \$71,652

United Way's Annual Helping Hands Auction raises funds to give children safe starts through winter clothing and diapers for children, as well as children's chronic health conditions:

- Angels Among Us
- Asian Community & Cultural Center
- CEDARS Youth Services
- Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties
- Friendship Home
- Good Neighbor Community Center
- Lincoln Public Schools – Two Generation Family Literacy Program
- Malone Community Center
- Northeast Family Center
- People's City Mission
- St. Monica's Life Changing Recovery for Women
- The HUB Central Access Point for Young Adults
- Voices of Hope

Emerging Leaders United – WingFest

Total Funding: \$24,631

WingFest is an event produced by Emerging Leaders United to support United Way's ENGAGE.EMPOWER.GRADUATE. initiative that works to ensure children and their families, regardless of circumstances, have the opportunity to succeed in school and life. The event raises funds to support the development of creative learning spaces in our community, which provide an alternative physical space that promotes and facilitates learning and achievement of educational outcomes for students.

- Campbell Elementary School
- CEDARS Youth Services
- Family Service Lincoln
- Lux Center for the Arts
- Willard Community Center

ENGAGE.EMPOWER.GRADUATE.

Total Funding: \$309,375

This initiative is a joint undertaking by the Women United (WU) and the Emerging Leaders United (ELU). Together we're identifying and addressing the disadvantages that children and families face in three local elementary school communities, Campbell, Clinton and McPhee, to ensure children and their families, regardless of circumstances, have the opportunity to succeed in school and life through these key strategies:

Early Childhood Development

- **Goal:** Preparing children for kindergarten

Family Engagement and Support

- **Goal:** Engaging parents with the school

Adult Education

- **Goal:** Teaching both parents and students English

Mental Health and Family Support

- **Goal:** Address behavioral and emotional barriers to learning through the support of a school-based therapist

Extended Learning Opportunities

- **Goal:** Enrichment outside of the classroom to enhance development opportunities and reduce summertime grade level loss

Prevention Services

- **Goal:** Reaching out to families in their homes to build safe environments and prevent child entrance into protective service

Labor Partners United

Total Funding: \$34,849

Labor Partners United (LPU) focuses on supporting neighborhoods where Labor communities work and live in Lincoln by addressing: Access to Basic Needs, Youth Behavioral Health, Extended Learning Opportunities, and Workforce Development. LPU is currently funding a part-time therapist at Dawes Middle School and family resource pop-up events to support the surrounding community.

Virtual Book Drive

Total Funding: \$17,544

A joint effort between Women in Philanthropy and Emerging Leaders United, Virtual Book Drive makes it possible to deliver books through our community nonprofit partners and supported school communities of Campbell, Clinton, and McPhee Elementary Schools. Books at home propel a child further in education and can break the link between poverty and poor academic outcomes.

Project DASH

Total Funding: \$7,300

United Way's Project DASH, in partnership with DoorDash, is a successful national program fulfilling critical needs. Each week, Dashers pick up supplies, such as bags of shelf-stable food organized by Pantry Partners like the Food Bank of Lincoln and deliver them at no cost to neighbors who are unable to access these items on their own due to transportation or mobility barriers.

Family C.A.R.E.S. Fund (formerly Stable. Strong. Successful.)

Total Funding: \$11,810

This fund wraps support around families on the brink of crisis by connecting them to a community of support, helping them become aware of their strengths, finding resources, addressing emergency needs and building the skills needed to thrive.

Kits and School Supplies

Total Funding: \$500

United Way's Kit Packing invites organizations to sponsor an opportunity for their employees to pack kits filled with basic supplies needed by members of the Lincoln and Lancaster County community. Kits include: literacy, hygiene, sensory, and house/home.