

# 2020-2021 United Way Program Summary



## VITA PROGRAM

Free income tax preparation for families with a household income of \$60K or less: Approximately \$480,400 in Savings; Based on \$200 average cost/return.

Service Area	No. Families	\$ Refunds
PSJA Area	367	\$855,096
McAllen Area	1,100	\$2,148,835
Mission Area	359	\$718,791
Edinburg Area (includes My Free Taxes)	277	\$628,226
Starr County	299	\$755,373
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,402</b>	<b>\$5,106,321</b>

## SINGLECARE

SingleCare, formerly known as FamilyWize, offers pharmacy discount cards. UW distributes them to over 46 non profits, federal and state entities. In 2020, 4,288 claims were made by local families in Hidalgo & Starr Counties, for a total **savings of \$213,867.**

## SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

A collaboration between United Way and The Monitor to help families in extenuating circumstances during the holidays. **\$468,349** raised for 161 families since 2002.

## EDUCATION COUNCIL

- **\$62,003** in COVID-19 Grants for 17 School Districts to address “emerging” needs that are faced by students.
- **\$6,250** grant was awarded to the Mercedes I.S.D. Tiger Den food pantry to help families.
- **65 students** have completed training and earned certification through a Food Handler’s Program, which was established in 2017. Students gain employment and contribute to their household income to meet basic needs.

## TRANSPORTATION VOUCHERS

Free vouchers are distributed thru 15 entities, such as El Milagro Clinic, Texas Veterans Commission, The Salvation Army and many more. The vouchers are used for:

- Medical Appointments & Prescription Pick-up
- Job Interviews
- Emergency Transportation to Work

12,038 Free Bus Rides (to and from) were given, **saving families approximately \$12,038.**

## LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

A mentorship initiative established by United Way in 2017 for high school Juniors and Freshmen. Students selected by counselors receive training on communication, leadership skills, financial literacy, and career/volunteer opportunities. A total of **348 students** from Weslaco I.S.D. and Mercedes I.S.D. have benefitted from the program.

## DAY OF CARING

School Supplies for 28,600 Freshmen  
**\$255,865** investment since 2011:

Donna ISD	PSJA ISD	Roma ISD
Edcouch Elsa ISD	McAllen ISD	Sharyland ISD
Edinburg CISD	Mercedes ISD	South Texas ISD
Hidalgo ISD	Mission CISD	Weslaco ISD
La Joya ISD	Monte Alto ISD	
La Villa ISD	Rio Grande City CISD	

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL SHOPPING SPREE

Established by United Way in 1996, with direction from representatives from McAllen I.S.D., PSJA I.S.D., Mission C.I.S.D. and La Joya I.S.D.

- **\$261,750** investment
- 1,861 Middle School Students
- \$150 per student
- School Attire, Hygiene Items and School Supplies
- Over 200 volunteers annually

## COVID-19 COMMUNITY FUND

Established in March 2020 to support local non-profit agencies providing direct services to Hidalgo and Starr County residents affected by COVID-19.

- **\$226,902** distributed in grants thru the summer of 2021.
- **24,520** individuals served
- \$37,000 for Mental Health and Wellness Support

Our mission is to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of our community to advance the common good.