

# UNITED in PURPOSE



## 2023-2024 United Way Program Summary

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

### YOUTH LEADERSHIP MENTORSHIP PROGRAM (YLM)

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 **501 students** from Weslaco I.S.D., Mercedes I.S.D., Sharyland I.S.D., and McAllen I.S.D. have benefitted from the program.

### 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.

- **\$281,000** investment
- 2,161 Middle School Students
- \$150 per student
- School Attire, Hygiene Items and School Supplies
- Over 200 volunteers participate annually

### TRANSPORTATION VOUCHERS

Free vouchers are distributed thru 21 entities, such as Nuestra Clinica del Valle, The Veteran's Administration, The Salvation Army and many more. The vouchers may be used for:

- Medical Appointments
- Pharmacy visits
- Visits to social service Agencies
- School
- Seeking employment

United Way's partnership with the City of McAllen will offer 50,000 free rides to eligible clients between 2022-2024.

### DAY OF CARING

School Supplies for 35,050 Freshmen **\$328,181** investment since 2011:

- |                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Donna I.S.D.        | Mission C.I.S.D.         |
| Edinburg C.I.S.D.   | Monte Alto I.S.D.        |
| Edcouch Elsa I.S.D. | PSJA I.S.D.              |
| Hidalgo I.S.D.      | Rio Grande City C.I.S.D. |
| La Joya I.S.D.      | Roma I.S.D.              |
| La Villa I.S.D.     | South Texas I.S.D.       |
| McAllen I.S.D.      | Sharyland I.S.D.         |
| Mercedes I.S.D.     | Weslaco I.S.D.           |

### EDUCATION COUNCIL

- Emergency Grants for 8 School Districts to address "emerging" needs that are faced by students, with a focus on reducing drop-out rates.
- Some districts added food pantry services and extensive assistance for basic needs.

### VITA PROGRAM

Free income tax preparation for families with a household income of \$60K or less: Approximately **\$884,100** in Savings; Based on \$300 average cost/return.

Service Area	No. Families	\$ Refunds
Mid- Valley Area	45	\$62,748
PSJA Area	468	\$858,198
McAllen Area	1,027	\$1,245,826
Mission Area	352	\$523,478
Edinburg Area (includes My Free Taxes)	709	\$883,180
Starr County	346	\$728,519
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,947</b>	<b>\$4,393,674</b>

### SINGLECARE

SingleCare, formerly known as FamilyWize, offers pharmacy discount cards. UW distributes them to over 46 non profits, federal and state entities. In 2022, 6,152 families used SingleCare discount cards in Hidalgo & Starr Counties, for a total **savings of \$340,649.**

### SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

A collaboration between United Way and The Monitor to help families in extenuating circumstances during the holidays. **\$596,634** raised for 205 families since 2002 including 1,346 family members.

### LATINA HOPE

Latina Hope offers business development classes to support minority women entrepreneurs. Along with attending educational sessions about creating business plans and financial literacy, participants benefit from the emotional support and relationships that they build throughout the years.