

NO MATTER HOW LARGE OR SMALL, EVERY DONATION TO UNITED WAY OF ROCK RIVER VALLEY CREATES REAL IMPACT WITH LONG-TERM RESULTS IN WINNEBAGO AND OGLE COUNTIES BY:



HELPING CHILDREN TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL



CONNECTING ADULTS WITH JOB SKILLS AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES



BUILDING SAFE AND HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS



When you give to United Way of Rock River Valley, you Give Smart. By combining your donation with every gift from the community, your contribution improves the lives of many.

To donate, visit www.unitedwayrrv.org.

LIVE UNITED



Dial 2-1-1 and connect to free information and referrals for community services such as rent/utility assistance, housing options, and healthcare services. Available 24/7, the free help line also supports multiple languages.

TO DONATE OR VOLUNTEER, VISIT WWW.UNITEDWAYRRV.ORG.



United Way of Rock River Valley
612 North Main Street, Suite 300
Rockford, Illinois, 61103
815-968-5400



YOU CAN MAKE THE CHANGE HAPPEN





HELPING CHILDREN TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

One in four children in the Rock River Valley live in poverty. Children from low-income neighborhoods are six times more likely to drop out of school. Success in school should not depend on your zip code or family income.

KEY STRATEGIES

- School Readiness
- Early-Grade Literacy
- Youth Development

IMPACT SNAPSHOT

Walking School Bus

This innovative program provides a secure and healthy walking route to school for children in the Ellis Heights neighborhood. Trained, responsible adults walk a predetermined route each day, making sure students get to school safely and on time.

Result

Reduced absenteeism, reduced truancy, increased physical activity, increased focus on schoolwork, and children arrive in time for breakfast and core subjects.

Partners

Rockford Housing Authority, United Way of Rock River Valley, Winnebago County Health Department, YMCA of Rock River Valley, Youth Services Network

To learn more about IREAD, Page Turner, Tiny Turners and Success By 6, visit www.unitedwayrrv.org.



CONNECTING ADULTS WITH JOB SKILLS AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

For a decade, the unemployment rate in the Rockford region has been consistently greater than the state average. Adults with a stable income positively affect the health and education of their children, family and community.

KEY STRATEGIES

- Job Skills Training
- Job Opportunities
- Financial Literacy

IMPACT SNAPSHOT

GoodTAXES

This volunteer income tax preparation program saves middle and low-income families hundreds of dollars in preparation fees and helps individuals claim special credits and other deductions, often resulting in a larger income tax refund.

Result

During the 2015 tax season, over \$2.4 million in refunds were returned directly, saving residents \$425,000 in tax preparation fees.

Partners

Crusader Community Health, Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois, Rock River Center, United Way of Rock River Valley

To learn more about hiring events and our work in the neighborhoods, visit www.unitedwayrrv.org.



BUILDING SAFE AND HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

Neighborhoods in the Rock River Valley suffer from some of the highest crime rates in the nation. All families deserve an opportunity to live in a safe and healthy neighborhood.

KEY STRATEGIES

- Resident Empowerment and Safety
- Healthy Living
- Health and Human Services

IMPACT SNAPSHOT

Strong Neighborhoods House

This community oriented policing program builds a positive relationship between residents and local police officers, provides necessary human services directly to the residents, and improves the overall quality of life in the neighborhood.

Result

In fall of 2015, we will open two Strong Neighborhoods Houses in Ellis Heights and Midtown District, in addition to a house established on Revell Avenue.

Partners

City of Rockford Police Department, SwedishAmerican Health System, United Way of Rock River Valley, ZION Development

To learn more about Lights & Locks and Strong Neighborhood Days, visit www.unitedwayrrv.org.

OUR IMPACT PROMISE TO OUR DONORS

United Way is making the change happen by inspiring donors, mobilizing partners and helping people overcome challenges to a better life.

With your contributions, we promise to invest:

- **\$175,000 in our own Success By 6 Program**, distributing over 66,000 books and helping prepare children for Kindergarten.
- **\$100,000 in Strong Neighborhood Houses** and programming that supports health and safety in the neighborhoods.
- **\$85,000 in a holistic and comprehensive afterschool program** at Nelson Elementary School in the Midtown neighborhood.
- **\$70,000 to pay 100%** of the cost of 2-1-1 services for Winnebago and Ogle Counties.
- **\$15,000 to support the collaborative effort** of getting children to school on time through the Walking School Bus program in the Ellis Heights Neighborhood.

THESE ARE JUST SOME EXAMPLES OF OUR IMPACT PROMISE TO YOU.

Learn more about our strategies that create lasting change in the community by visiting www.unitedwayrrv.org/our-impact.