

# United Way of Greater Stark County Programs, Workshops and Collaborations



United Way of Greater Stark County is a catalyst for proactive and lasting change at the root causes of challenges facing the community.

United Way convenes, partners, advocates and educates the community on the urgent needs and challenges within our neighborhoods.

United Way works with educational institutions, government, foundations, key funders and community leaders on county-wide agendas, to help fund programs in health, education and financial stability.

## 2-1-1 Information and Referral

instantly connects you to hundreds of local resources for emergency housing, health care services, food assistance, and more. Available 24/7/365 via phone, 211stark.org or by texting your zip code to 898-211. Every call is free and confidential and connects families and individuals in need to current resources in Stark and Carroll Counties.

**Bridges Out of Poverty** workshops help organizations understand the causes of poverty, the hidden rules of each economic class, mental models of economic class, language barriers, family structure and more. It provides a framework for understanding poverty and appreciating economic diversity.

**CARE Team** is comprised of teachers, administrators and staff from multiple community agencies, including law enforcement, mental health, and other social services. The team works together in a school-based environment to address challenges facing at-risk students. Non-academic barriers facing students and their families are identified and the team serves as a liaison between students and community resources. This helps break down the barriers that interfere with student progression and students begin to successfully learn in school, increasing their potential through education.

Partners:

- Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Stark Education Partnership
- Stark County Educational Service Center
- Stark County Family Council
- Stark County Family Court
- Stark County Job & Family Services
- StarkMHAR

## Emergency Assistance Collaborative

provides streamlined and client-centered emergency assistance services to Greater Stark County residents who are at risk of a crisis and are seeking temporary assistance for rent or utilities.

Partners:

- Catholic Charities Serving Portage & Stark Counties
- The Salvation Army (Alliance, Canton & Massillon)

**Financial Prosperity Center** provides wraparound services geared toward low income individuals and families, helping them prosper financially. Staff introduce clients to financial literacy programs which will increase their monthly income through long-term stable employment, decrease expenses and acquire assets.

Partners:

- OhioMeansJobs Stark County
- Stark Tuscarawas Workforce Development Board

## Financial Prosperity Center Services

- **Auto Repair** helps local families get back on the road by providing financial assistance for costly vehicle repairs that the family cannot afford.

Partner: *Stark County Job & Family Services*

- **Financial Coaching & Counseling** is a client-driven program that works with low-to-moderate individuals. The focus is increased economic mobility and independence. A financial coach works with the client to facilitate self-awareness about their goals and underlying values, and to align the clients' behavior with their desired outcome.

- **Financial and Soft Skills** are taught through workshops available to the community. Instructors focus on increasing financial literacy through money management, debt and credit report education, as well as improving personal skills like critical thinking, communication and leadership.

- **Prosperity@Work** is a solution driven collaborative, dedicated to improving workplace retention, productivity, advancement, financial stability, and the well-being of employees. Employees are taught financial skills, soft skills, and more at the workplace, during work hours, in-person or virtually, helping employees address non-work related, personal, and family challenges that interfere with employees' ability to be productive and focus on work and their career.

Partners:

- Aultman Health Foundation
- H-P Products

# United Way of Greater Stark County Programs, Workshops and Collaborations

- **Resource Connecting** refers individuals to services in the community that will help reduce barriers in their life so they can find success at work and strengthen their family.
- **Volunteer Income Tax Services (VITA)** helps moderate-to-low income households meet basic needs and build financial assets as they continue to achieve long-term financial independence. Trained volunteers help individuals file taxes for free, looking for all possible credits.

Partners:

- Carroll County Public Library
- CSE Federal Credit Union
- DoverPhila Federal Credit Union
- Malone University
- Massillon Recreation Center
- University of Mount Union
- OhioMeansJobs (Stark & Tuscarawas Counties)
- Stark County District Library (Main, East Canton, Madge Youtz and Sandy Valley)
- Rodman Library
- Stark State College
- United Way of Tuscarawas County
- Walsh University

**Homeless & Recovery ID Programs** provide birth certificates and photo IDs to homeless individuals and families living in a Continuum of Care shelter and photo IDs to those wanting to enter addiction recovery programs.

Partners:

- Coleman Professional Services
- CommQuest Services, Inc.
- Domestic Violence Project, Inc.
- Ohio BMV
- Phoenix Rising Behavioral Healthcare and Recovery, Inc.
- Refuge of Hope
- Stark County Health Department
- YWCA Canton

**Imagination Library** Through our partnership with Ohio Governor's Imagination Library, any child from birth to age five in Stark and Carroll Counties is eligible to receive a new book in the mail each month at no cost to the family.

Partners:

- Bowerston Public Library
- Brown Local Schools
- Carroll County Chamber of Commerce
- Carroll County District Library
- Carroll County Job & Family Services
- Carroll County General Health District
- Carrollton Exempted School District
- Family & Children First Council
- Stark Library

**Project Blueprint** is designed to identify, recruit, train and place diverse volunteer leaders into policy making roles to enhance the effectiveness of nonprofit agencies and improve diversity in board leadership and on committees.

**Stark County Teen Court** is a peer-to-peer diversion program. It serves as an alternative to the formal juvenile court process by utilizing teen volunteers as jurors, bailiffs, defense attorneys, and prosecutors for informal court proceedings.

Partner: **Stark County Family Court**

**Dismantling Racism Coalition of Stark County** designed a Unity Challenge to create dedicated time and space to build more effective social justice habits, particularly those dealing with issues of race, power, privilege, and leadership. Participants explore racial equity and social injustice through activities designed to dismantle racism and other forms of discrimination. [dismantlingracismstarkcounty.org/unitychallenge](http://dismantlingracismstarkcounty.org/unitychallenge)

Partners:

- Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health
- Coming Together Stark County
- The Greater Stark County Urban League
- Kent State University at Stark
- Stark County Collaborative on Race Relations
- Stark County Educational Service Center
- Stark County Health Department
- StarkMHAR
- Stark Education Partnership
- YWCA Canton

