

24 hours of United Way

Every hour of every day someone is helped by a United Way supported program. Invest in your community through the Community Impact Fund.

7 AM - As parents across the Midlands prepare their children for the day's activities, know that your United Way supports early learning programs that prepare children for school and increase student success rates. United Way funds several NAEYC accredited child care centers such as Arthurtown and Children's Garden that have served more than 3,000 children since 1990.

8 AM - For many Midlands families, basic shelter is economically impossible. Improving access to permanent housing is a priority of United Way. The PATH (Prompt Access to Housing) program is a joint initiative designed to place homeless families into permanent housing with minimal stays in transitional housing.

9 AM - Each day senior citizens are able to remain in their own homes thanks to United Way supported programs. Community Impact programs help senior citizens with things like discount drug prescriptions, housing, and meals on wheels programs.

10 AM - Volunteers prepare grocery bags for distribution at new, rural, food pantries. United Way has supported the operational costs of new food pantries in rural areas in Lexington, Richland, Fairfield, and Newberry County.

11 AM - United Way of the Midlands recognizes that a costly car repair can mean the difference between getting to work or losing a job. United Way supports a program that provides bus tickets to individuals with no transportation while their vehicle is under repair.

12 PM - Due to unexpected medical bills, an elderly man cannot afford to pay his electricity bill. The gentleman calls United Way 2-1-1 and learns where assistance is available. Every day this referral service helps people in crisis find assistance with rent, utilities, and other household bills.

1 PM - Toddlers are preparing for rest time in a safe, accredited child care facility supported by United Way. Reaching for the Stars is a joint initiative which serves children 6 weeks to 5 years old in NAEYC accredited child centers.

2- 4PM - Quality after school care can make the difference in school success. United Way supports quality after-school programs and tutoring. In 2008, Community Impact grants provided tutoring to 3,942 at-risk students, after which 72% improved their grades and 76% were promoted to a higher grade level.

5 PM - For too many kids, all that stands between them and joining a gang is one caring, supportive adult. United Way of the Midlands supports youth mentoring programs. Last year, Community Impact programs supported a one-on-one match for 386 at-risk youth with a caring volunteer and increased their immediate support system.

6 PM - Adults are participating in education or training that prepares them for better jobs. Community Impact programs provided adult literacy training to more than 141 individuals, 70% of whom demonstrated an improvement in reading, writing and grammar skills.

7 PM - Lines begin to form outside local shelters. United Way supports programs that offer temporary shelter and meals for homeless families and individuals. United Way has been instrumental in securing more than \$10 million in grants and funding for a new homeless shelter downtown.

8 PM - Inspired to volunteer? United Way 2-1-1 helps you find a great volunteer experience. Interested volunteers can now log onto www.sc211.org to be connected to hundreds of volunteer opportunities.

9 PM - Because United Way is working to address the needs of the chronically mental ill, fewer individuals seek help in local hospital emergency rooms. Community Impact programs helped provide social rehabilitation services to more than 840 clients.

10 PM - Expectant parents see a Born Learning commercial and call United Way 2-1-1 for information about child development. United Way has begun administering Child Care Resource & Referral for parents through 2-1-1.

11PM - A woman escapes her home and leaves her abuser. She finds safety and care from United Way supported programs. Community Impact programs helped secure advocacy services for 208 battered women in 2008.

12AM-8AM - United Way 2-1-1 is still answering the phone and responding to callers long after others have finished their work day. 24-hours a day, 7 days a week, 2-1-1 is available to answer questions, provide assistance and offer referrals. On average, it would take a caller 11 different phone calls to be connected to the services that one call to 2-1-1 would accomplish.