



United Way of Greater
Oswego County, Inc.

United Way Is About Partnering

United Way of Greater Oswego County is community-wide and community-strong. Workplace partners, individual donors and volunteers, and nonprofit agencies work together to achieve a powerful impact on the education, health and financial stability of people in the Oswego County area. Our three focus areas include ending hunger, ensuring health and wellness, and building successful youth.

Partner Agencies

Our partner agencies are nonprofit organizations that help families and individuals in crisis situations that may result in food insecurity, lack of safe housing, reduced health, and disability. They also help us raise all of our children to succeed in school and life with hope and strong ethics.

It's not just about temporary solutions. Our partner agencies deliver evidence-based programs with measurable outcomes.

What Makes the United Way So Powerful?

It's our position at the **heart of our community**, to hear what the compelling needs are.

It's our commitment to fight for the **health, education and financial stability** of everyone in our community.

Questions for Community Leaders:

When you think of United Way of Greater Oswego County, what first comes to mind?

What do you see as the areas in our community upon which United Way has had an important impact?

What do you think the strongest needs of the residents of our county are?

Where do you see a gap in services or programming in our county? Are there programs that might be duplicating services?

What areas do you consider the most important for United Way to focus their funds and attention? Is United Way currently fulfilling those expectations?

What do you see as the largest issue for which United Way might be able to find solutions? What do you think United Way needs to focus more attention to? Less attention to?



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Do you find the following statements to be true about United Way of Greater Oswego County?

- ✓ Our United Way has engaged external organizations and residents to assess the degree of trust and credibility we have, to create meaningful community engagement.
- ✓ Our United Way uses stories and data in our community engagement efforts to compel people to action.
- ✓ Our United Way partners with grassroots community leaders, affinity groups, and other community-based organizations with local credibility and strong ties to the community in our efforts to connect with and engage residents.
- ✓ Our United Way prioritizes for investment strategies and initiatives that have been informed by and/or developed in collaboration with community residents.

We want you to know:

- ✓ United Way of Greater Oswego County is one of 1,800 United Way organizations worldwide (and 1,100 in the USA) and while all United Way agencies are interconnected, the local agency is fiscally independent and governed by 26 volunteer board members who work and/or live in Oswego County.
- ✓ United Way funds do not cover any of our partner agency's entire budget. United Way campaign funds are used solely for local programs and services, not to support administrative or salary expenses. Partner agencies must also meet strict standards of governance, program effectiveness, and financial accountability; they are evaluated regularly as part of a volunteer-driven certification process.
- ✓ Nonprofit partner agencies are also able to use United Way allocations as matching funds for state, federal, and private grants -- something a direct donation can't do. Because our member agencies don't need to spend as much money fundraising, more money goes to services in the community.
- ✓ United Way of Greater Oswego County serves as a fiscal agent for county government agencies to include Oswego County Office for the Aging Senior Picnic, Oswego City-County Youth Bureau, annually updating the Community Directory and Shop With a Hero Program, to name a few. UWGOC also serves as the fiscal agent for federal funding (FEMA) dollars annually.