COVID-19 RESPONSE IN 2020

United Way of Southwest Virginia responded to the needs of our communities experiencing detrimental economic effects related to the COVID-19 pandemic by focusing on our most vulnerable populations including children and families.

DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS, UNITED WAY PROVIDED:

- $185,000 for food, shelter, utility assistance, and prescription medications
- 4,071 families in Southwest Virginia with help during the COVID-19 crisis
- $43,096 repurposed grant funds for childcare centers to operate during the COVID-19 crisis
- $55,800 for approximately 50 community hot-spots for greater Internet service availability
- 2,000 food vouchers for at-risk residents in Southwest Virginia
- 125,000 face masks to child care centers and community action programs throughout Southwest Virginia
- 660 gallons of hand sanitizer to child care centers, social service organizations, and community action programs

BACKPACKS UNITE - A LOOK BACK AT 2019

- 1,092 children in schools across Southwest Virginia currently receive weekend meals through Backpaacks Unite
- 34 local schools are participating in United Way of Southwest Virginia’s Backpaacks Unite program
- $6 provides a child with nutritious meals over the weekend
- $24 to $30 provides a child with nutritious meals every weekend for one month
- $216 provides a child with nutritious meals every weekend for 36 weeks (school calendar)

FINANCIAL STABILITY - A LOOK BACK AT 2019

- VITA volunteers saved Southwest Virginia tax filers $794,750 by preparing their taxes for free
- $3,698,477 returned to people who filed their taxes with VITA in Southwest Virginia through federal refund
- 3,179 federal returns prepared by VITA volunteers
- 7,114 people saved money on their prescriptions through our partnership with FamilyWize
- $459,530 saved by residents of Southwest Virginia on prescriptions through our FamilyWize partnership

YOUTH SUCCESS - A LOOK BACK AT 2019

- 32,372 middle and high school students served by the Ignite Program, with a total of 36 completed Ignite Internships
- 93 schools across Southwest Virginia participated in the Ignite Program
- 34 businesses and organizations offered internships through the Ignite Program
- 103 local employers partnered with the Ignite Program
- 4,270 students attended Reality Stores
- 4,480 seventh-grade students attended the Careers Expo for Youth
- 84 educators went on the Educators in Industry tours

CHILDHOOD SUCCESS - A LOOK BACK AT 2019

- 480 hours of coaching provided to 12 childcare providers through the Virginia Infant and Toddler Specialist Network
- 750 participating Virginia Quality educators in Southwest Virginia classrooms
- 120 participating Virginia Quality centers
- 3,194 children were served by participating Virginia Quality providers
- 117 classrooms observed using the Teachstone CLASS assessment tool