



UNITEDWAY
GREATER CLEVELAND

INVEST IN WORKING-AGE ADULTS

There are many variables that contribute to the risk of living in poverty including education, marital status, race, and sex. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic put individuals and families at an increased risk of falling into poverty as they faced greater economic insecurity, due in large part to job layoffs and furloughs.

DID YOU KNOW? In Ohio, the minimum wage of \$8.70 per hour **is low enough that anyone in a family of three or more people could work full-time, year-round and still live in poverty.** A full-time working single mother with a minimum wage job (\$8.70/hour) with two children earns just \$18,096, more than \$3,000 below the federal poverty level.

OUR COMMUNITY—THE FACTS

30% of working-age adults in Cleveland live in poverty.

16.4% of black residents in Ohio have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 28.1% of white residents.

43% Black and Latina women are paid 43% and 49% less, respectively, than white men in Cuyahoga County.

What is United Way doing about it?



THE COMMUNITY HUB FOR BASIC NEEDS: MEETING HERE-AND-NOW NEEDS TODAY

The Community Hub for Basic Needs provides an immediate, coordinated response for people experiencing hunger, homelessness and more.

2-1-1 HelpLink

United Way's 2-1-1 HelpLink is a community information and referral line. Our trained specialists are available 24/7 to help individuals and families access basic needs resources, such as housing and food assistance, health care, income support, employment resources, and more.

135,000
individuals and families were helped in 2020 by 2-1-1 Specialists.

Strategic Investments

Working with our agency partners over the past year, we have invested in programs that provided:

15,344 adults with emergency shelter

819,465 meals to individuals and families

4,142 adults with new jobs at a livable wage

WE ARE COMMITTED TO SERVING CLEVELAND AS A RESOURCE, AN INNOVATOR AND A VOICE.



Removing barriers to economic opportunity for single college students and their children to support educational success, helps curb the reach of generational poverty.



THE IMPACT INSTITUTE: UPENDING THE ROOT CAUSES OF POVERTY FOR THE FUTURE

The Impact Institute challenges the root causes of poverty by creating innovative, long-term solutions to prevent the cycle from continuing forward.

Right to Counsel

Seventy-seven percent of individuals at high risk of eviction in Cleveland are low-income single mothers with young children, particularly black women. For families facing eviction, the threat of homelessness is just one of the worries when faced with a possible eviction. **Working renters who lose their home are 20% more likely to lose their jobs.**

In July 2020, United Way of Greater Cleveland and The Legal Aid Society launched Right to Counsel, providing Cleveland tenants with children access to an attorney when facing an eviction. In the first six months of Right to Counsel, 93% of tenants seeking assistance avoided eviction or an involuntary move.

Workforce Connect

Having a steady full-time job is the best way to avoid financial hardship. Workforce Connect supports a more inclusive and competitive economy in Cuyahoga County by linking workers to career paths in manufacturing, healthcare, and information technology and helping employers find the skilled talent they need.

The Workforce Connect partnership is key to the development of training programs that prepare local residents for **jobs that offer family-sustaining wages and reduce racial disparities in economic outcomes.**

Scholar House

Higher education generally leads to greater employment opportunity and helps to ensure financial security. **An individual with a bachelor's degree can expect to earn nearly \$1 million more over the course of their career.**

United Way of Greater Cleveland and CHN Housing Partners are breaking ground on Scholar House next summer on Community College Avenue. Scholar House will remove barriers to economic opportunity by providing housing and wrap-around services for single college students and their children to support educational success and help curb the reach of generational poverty.

RIGHT TO COUNSEL FACTS AND STATS:

29% is the median household income in Cleveland

41% of households with minor children indicated they had 'Slight Confidence' or 'No Confidence' in the ability to pay next month's rent.

85% of clients have female heads of households.

29% of households without minor children had 'Slight Confidence' or 'No Confidence' in their ability to pay next month's rent.