STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS
Engaging residents, businesses and government in revitalization efforts.

Jhuma and Mike share a strong desire to connect with their neighbors. Jhuma is an advocate for immigrant and refugee rights who spent 19 years in a refugee camp before coming to this country in 2011. Mike grew up in central Ohio, and lives on the South Side where he leads Southside STAY, a volunteer group supporting neighborhood schools and families. The two met in United Way’s Neighborhood Leadership Academy, where they found resources and connections to be effective champions for their neighborhoods.

YOUR UNITED WAY GIFTS ACHIEVE RESULTS:

$1.44 MILLION in grants given to revitalize neighborhoods and help people stay in their homes

3,510 PEOPLE trained and mobilized to improve their own neighborhoods

JHUMA AND MIKE’S STORIES
Jhuma and Mike share a strong desire to connect with their neighbors. Jhuma is an advocate for immigrant and refugee rights who spent 19 years in a refugee camp before coming to this country in 2011. Mike grew up in central Ohio, and lives on the South Side where he leads Southside STAY, a volunteer group supporting neighborhood schools and families. The two met in United Way’s Neighborhood Leadership Academy, where they found resources and connections to be effective champions for their neighborhoods.

HAMILTON STEM ACADEMY:
In 2018, United Way partnered with The Ohio State University and YMCA to support student success at Hamilton STEM Academy in Linden by focusing on improving social and life skills, and meeting basic needs. The school reports a noticeable improvement in student behavior. Discipline referrals have decreased by 39% and discipline interventions went down by 93%.

UNITED WE FIGHT. UNITED WE WIN.
TOGETHER, WE CAN FIGHT POVERTY

Despite low unemployment rates and a booming economy, too many families and neighborhoods are struggling in central Ohio:

There is a 20-year difference in life expectancy between certain Columbus ZIP codes. Concentrated poverty affects many local neighborhoods and the families that live in them. When opportunity is determined by ZIP code rather than potential, that affects all of us.

UNITED WAY STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS PARTNERS

- Affordable Housing Alliance
- Center for Employment Opportunities
- Columbus WILL (Nationwide Children’s Hospital)
- Community Development Collaborative of Greater Columbus
- Community Development for All People
- Community Mediation Services of Central Ohio
- Goodwill Columbus
- Habitat for Humanity-MidOhio
- ONE Linden Community Schools (OSU Foundation)
- Mid-Ohio Foodbank
- Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families (Nationwide Children’s Hospital)
- Partners Achieving Community Transformation (PACT)
- Reeb Avenue Center
- St. Stephen’s Community House
- South Side Thrive Collaborative
- Stable Families
- Tax Time

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer United, United Way’s new online tool, connects volunteers in central Ohio to meaningful projects posted by our nonprofit partners. Sign up to find opportunities with United Way’s basic needs partners at volunteerunitedcbus.org.

JOIN THE FIGHT

Your gift to the Community Impact Fund supports a network of more than 80 nonprofit partners that help people meet basic needs, achieve student success, get good jobs and build strong neighborhoods.