



# TOGETHER WE CAN CHANGE LIVES.



2022 Annual Report



United Way of Central Ohio

# TOGETHER

## WE STRENGTHEN FAMILIES.

With the support of thousands of donors and volunteers, United Way of Central Ohio partners with local nonprofits to provide critical basic needs that help families thrive.

### In 2022, our Community Response Fund:

-  Invested \$3.6 million to provide 65 grants to 57 funded nonprofits
-  Assisted 376,961 individuals with basic needs
-  Provided 404,568 nights of shelter to neighbors in crisis and
-  2.9+ million meals through pantries and hunger-fighting partners



Lakeea

After an eviction notice turned Lakeea's world upside down, she was referred to United Way's Stable Families program. With help from her Stable Families service coordinator, Lakeea found a job and a home she loves, has re-enrolled in college and her girls are enjoying school. Lakeea is now studying to be a social worker so she can help other families in crisis.

[Watch Lakeea's story.](#)


## WE HELP STUDENTS SUCCEED.

Our investments in effective local nonprofits ensure children have equitable opportunities from cradle to career.

### Last year, our Community Response Fund:

-  Invested \$3.9 million to provide 63 grants to 52 funded nonprofits
-  Served 36,609 students through 44 programs

### YMCA SPARK program

-  90% of children improved on Get Ready to Read assessments, demonstrating they were ready for kindergarten

### After-School All-Stars Ohio

-  95% of students improved or maintained literacy fluency

### One Linden Schools Initiative

Started in 2017, the One Linden Schools Initiative is a multi-tiered approach to student success focused on student and teacher relationships and behavior, as well as parental and community engagement. As teachers and students have become more connected, office discipline referrals have decreased by 60%.

Students with high numbers of conflicts and discipline events showed marked improvement:

- 100% advanced to the next grade
- 86% improved or maintained behavior
- 100% improved social emotional learning

The initiative is a partnership among Columbus City Schools, the City of Columbus, United Way of Central Ohio, The Ohio State University and others.

## WE'RE BUILDING A STRONGER, MORE EQUITABLE CENTRAL OHIO.

### Success by Third Grade:

Network directors began working in the Columbus City, Groveport Madison and Whitehall school districts, establishing relationships with community leaders, educators and families as they identify and address barriers to student success. Highlights from 2022 include Whitehall's summer literacy program, Groveport Madison's Reading Buddy program and the donation of 2,300 new winter coats to Columbus City Schools elementary students.



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Cesar

Cesar's favorite thing about the Boys & Girls Club of Central Ohio is playing games with his friends. His dad says the Club opened up a world of opportunities for his son. When he started first grade, Cesar had significant communication barriers. But with patience and guidance from the Club's staff, he has developed a sense of belonging and gained confidence. Cesar's behavior and academic skills continue to show great improvement.

[Watch Cesar's story.](#)

### Mobilizing the caring power of the community:



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United for Impact took place in May 2022, raising over \$650,000 for 74 nonprofit partners, thanks to the generosity of our donors and corporate sponsors.

Our Stuff the Backpack event, in partnership with NBC4 and the Columbus Crew, brought together hundreds of volunteers to stuff backpacks at Lower.com Field in August.

### A trusted partner for 100 years:

With an eye toward community issues, we selected Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority and national nonprofit The Community Builders in September to redevelop our former headquarters at 360 South Third Street into much-needed, mixed-income housing.

Thanks to Nationwide, we moved to the Community Impact Center in December with other nonprofits, forming a hub that features efficiencies of scale and ongoing collaboration to maximize impact when addressing critical needs.

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# DEAR SUPPORTERS,

When I reflect on the challenges and exciting changes that came with 2022, I am reminded that our accomplishments are made possible through strong partnerships, dedicated volunteers and generous donors. My team and I are extremely grateful. Thank you.

At United Way of Central Ohio, we've embraced change knowing that it brings new insights, opportunities and solutions that will transform our work and our community. But there is one thing that brought our organization into existence and has remained steadfast over our 100-year-old history: loyal partnerships. The power of these partnerships is immeasurable and evident throughout this annual report.

In the coming year, I look forward to continuing to grow the Success by Third Grade movement, celebrating our 100th anniversary and preparing for our next 100 years of creating positive change together. [I hope you'll join us for our centennial celebration.](#) Thank you once again for caring about our community and our neighbors. Thank you for being an important partner.

Gratefully,



Lisa S. Courtice, Ph.D.



## THANK YOU to our generous partners for their support of \$500,000 and over

AEP

City of Columbus

Crane Group

Franklin County Board of Commissioners

Grange Insurance

Huntington National Bank  
Nationwide

The Ohio State University

Siemer Institute

State of Ohio



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