



**2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT** 

## **OUR MISSION** ····

To enhance youth success and family stability in the Pikes Peak region by leading and lifting the most vulnerable in our community with mentorship, life resources and real job opportunities. Our signature programs and partner agencies intently focus on connecting youth and their families to resources at the beginning of their life journey to ensure access to fundamental needs of food, shelter and learning resources for all.

### **OUR VISION** ••••

Through strengthened collaboration, we will achieve measurable improvements in education, income stability and health for the residents of El Paso and Teller counties.

#### **BY THE NUMBERS:**

29 Charities Receiving Funds

Workplace Campaigns

3,005 Individual Gifts

**5,234** Military Community Members Served in 2023

313,150 Total Clients Served in 2023



Reflecting on this past year, we are immensely grateful for everything we have accomplished together. This has been a year of growth and a continued commitment to the communities we serve. We are reminded daily of the incredible strength and dedication within El Paso County, the power of working together to lift those who are struggling, and the commitment and compassionate hearts of our volunteers, donors and staff.

Whether you have supported Pikes Peak United Way as a donor, a partner, a volunteer or an advocate, you are part of our success. Together, we have served and reached goals that once seemed only to be a dream.

We have created meaningful impact for our community during the last 18 months. Among our achievements was the successful opening of the Family Success Center. This long-held vision came to life through the commitment and support of our partners, donors and community members. The center has already become a cornerstone of support for hundreds of families, providing essential services, guidance and resources to strengthen families and build their futures.

Alongside this milestone, we deepened our partnerships with key organizations throughout the city and county. These collaborations allowed us to extend our reach to better serve families in need, ensuring that no one in our community is forgotten.

Yet, like many organizations, we faced our share of challenges. The lingering effects of economic uncertainty and heightened demand for services stretched our resources and tested our resilience. Through it all, we remained committed to adapting, innovating and working together to find solutions.

Our greatest strength has always been the unwavering help of businesses and individuals in our community — this year was no exception. Our generous donors have continued to invest in our excellent work. We are grateful for the support from numerous foundations that have helped us bridge the gap between concept and implementation, enabling us to bring big ideas to life. El Pomar, The Colorado Springs Health Foundation, The Daniels Fund, The Margaret and Al Hill Foundation Fund, the Chapman Foundation, the Gates Family Foundation, Colorado Springs Health Foundation, Colorado Health Foundation and the Siemer Institute all have invested in Pikes Peak United Way so we could continue to do good work.

Volunteers play a crucial role in achieving community goals, often bringing various skills and enthusiasm to their work. Their dedication can significantly boost project effectiveness, especially in resource-limited situations, by providing essential manpower and support. From our volunteers at our bimonthly food distributions, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and Family Success Center, we are blessed with dedicated residents who understand that they play a vital role in strengthening our communities.

Our Family Success Center is operational thanks to solid partnerships with Harrison School District 2, The City of Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Sen. Michael Bennet, Sen. John Hickenlooper, Weidner Apartment Homes, Kathy Boe and Pam Keller.

This year — with its challenges and successes — has shaped the future of Pikes Peak United Way and families throughout the Pikes Peak region. Our community was essential in creating a better, brighter tomorrow for so many people. Our work continues as Pikes Peak United Way remains a source of life-saving hope in El Paso County.





### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS ····**



**Dan Nordberg Board Chair** Market President, Bank of Colorado



Morane Kerek Vice Chair



Melissa **Burkhardt-Shields Treasurer** Coordinator of Professional Learning, School District 49



**Travas Deal Chief Executive** Officer, Colorado Springs Utilities



Jeff Finn Vice President, Norwood Development Group



**Kent Fortune** Retired, USAA



**Matthew Hanson** Market President, Alpine Bank



**Deborah Hendrix Executive Director,** Parents Challenge



**Calvin Johnson** Pastor, **Church for all Nations** 



**Tracy Lessig** Deputy City Attorney, City of Colorado Springs



**Chantal Lucas** Chef and Owner, Luchals



Laura Neumann Owner, LN Business Consulting



**Tom Pattee** Owner, **Peak Aviation** 



**Annie Snead** Director of Community Advocacy, **Ent Credit Union** 



**Adrian Vasquez** Police Chief, **Colorado Springs** Police Department



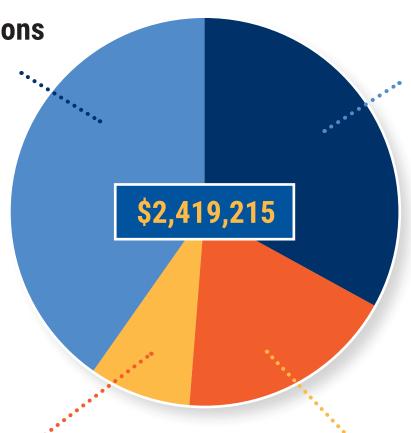
**Bret Waters** County Administrator, El Paso County

### IMPACT DOLLARS ····



\$730,368

Contributions directed by donors to go to other nonprofits.



# Allocation Commitments \$598,564

Awards to local partner agencies for specific programmatic work that will improve lives in El Paso and Teller Counties.

## Direct Support to Individuals

\$700,629

Financial support to local individuals as part of specific programs and grants managed by us.

Food Distributions \$546,489
COSI Program \$121,440
Adopt-A-School, Wrap \$28,441
Other \$4,259

## Other Awards and Distributions \$389,654

Financial support to local nonprofits that is derived from grants and other funding to us in order to accomplish specific outcomes that benefit the community.

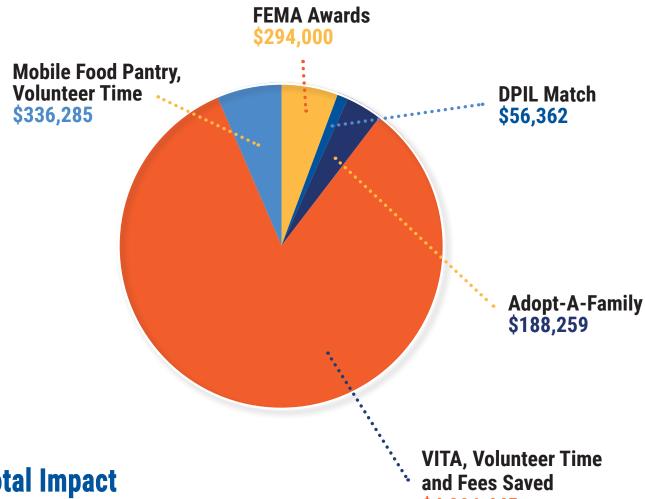
<ul> <li>Catholic Charities, Siemer</li> </ul>	\$177,000
<ul> <li>CS Sports Corporation</li> </ul>	\$77,040
• Dolly Parton's Imagination Library	\$56,362
<ul> <li>Care and Share Food Pantry</li> </ul>	\$40,000
<ul> <li>Lighthouse Early Care, WU</li> </ul>	\$38,620
• Other	\$632



## IMPACT DOLLARS cont'd · · ·

#### **Leveraged Funds**

Funds flowing into the community from others as a result of our efforts.



#### **Total Impact**

GRAND TOTAL \$7.600.56
Leveraged Funds \$5,181,351
Other Awards and Distributions \$389,654
Direct Support to Individuals \$700,629
Allocation Commitments\$598,564
Designations \$730,368

\$4,306,445



### PROGRAMS ····

#### Pikes Peak United Way 211



CONTACTS TO 211 FOR ASSISTANCE THROUGH CALLS, TEXTS, EMAILS AND ONLINE SUBMISSIONS

Staffed by compassionate community navigators, 211 is a free, confidential

and multilingual phone line that connects callers in need with personalized referrals for help.

Additionally, 211 supports disaster relief efforts to stabilize our communities through partnerships with city and county officials and the local VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters).

## Dolly Parton's **Imagination Library**

Dolly was inspired by her father, who never learned to read or write. DPIL mails a book each month to children, from birth to age 5. The goal is to develop an early love of reading, prepare children for success in school and provide bonding opportunities for parents and their children.

640,751

7,400

BOOKS MAILED SINCE STARTING THE PROGRAM

CHILDREN CURRENTLY IN THE PROGRAM

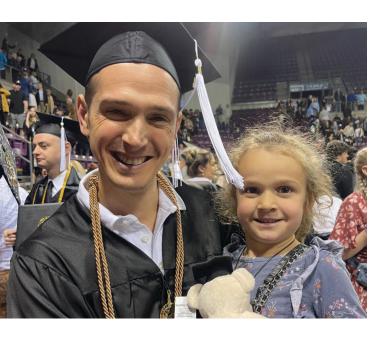




## PROGRAMS cont'd

#### **COSI Back to Work**

Pikes Peak United Way partnered with CDHE's COSI program to fund scholarships towards tuition, enrollment fees, books, supplies and transportation costs to/from class.







#### **Family Success Center**





The mission of the Pikes Peak **United Way** Family Success

Center is to serve the entire family and empower community members to become financially stable, grow and accomplish their goals. Opening in 2023, we've worked with over 14,000 unique individuals in the first nine months of serving the community. We are helping working families, teachers, first responders, senior citizens and more. For example, in a single day, a mom in crisis was able to receive new clothing, hygiene items, shoe gift cards and get fresh groceries from the market. She made an appointment with the healthcare provider to evaluate her blood pressure issues. She started working with our community resource advocate and signed her 5-year-old up for sports. She has come back to work to continue to find support for her older son and to also help her mom access groceries and healthcare.



## PROGRAMS cont'd · ·

#### **The Wrap Party**

3 SCHOOLS ADOPTED

**-1,500** 

GIFTS DISTRIBUTED



Every year, Pikes Peak United Way adopts students in our community to provide gifts for each child in school. In 2023, we adopted three schools and provided 1,500 gifts to these students.





Project COPE provides utilities payment assistance once a year to families and individuals who experience emergencies regardless of income. In January 2024, we partnered with Colorado Springs Utilities to bring Project COPE to our Family Success Center.

Since January, 211 has assisted **181** households with utilities payment assistance through the COPE program.

### Adopt-A-Family



In partnership with Harrison School District 2, Pikes Peak United Way facilitates holiday support for families that are nominated by their local schools. Each year, 235-250 families are adopted by local donors. In 2023, gifts were provided for:

114 single parent households

18 households led by grandparents

16 households experiencing a tragedy

Plus, 51 bicycles!



### FEMA 👛

FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) is a federally managed funding program administered by Pikes Peak United Way. Agencies in El Paso and Teller Counties doing work in mortgage/rental assistance, emergency shelter, temporary housing and / or food assistance can apply for funding through the EFSP program.



### **VOLUNTEERS**

### **Our volunteers rock!**

2,200 10,575

2023-2024 TOTAL

#### **VITA - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance**

Staffed mostly by volunteers, VITA provides free tax preparation to individuals and families with moderate-to-low household incomes. For many of our clients, life just seems to get in the way, and filing taxes is something that gets overlooked or put on the back burner. Through the PPUW VITA program, we not only prepare and submit tax returns but also build relationships with our clients. Many of our clients have been visiting our VITA sites for several years.

43 Volunteers

3,997 Hours



2,487 Federal Returns Accepted (this includes prior year returns from Summer VITA)

**\$2,041,927** in Federal Refunds \$3,032,845 in Colorado Refunds







### Day of Action



Each year, thousands of people across the globe take action to improve their communities by volunteering with United Way. In 2023, Pikes Peak United Way partnered with Brothers Redevelopment to paint three full houses for our neighbors!

129 Volunteers

\$30,202.44 in Volunteer Time



### **VOLUNTEERS** cont'd

## **Mobile Food Pantry**



Twice a month at Mitchell High School, in partnership with Care and Share Food Bank, we set up a mobile food pantry to supply an average of 300 households with a variety of staple pantry items, produce, dairy, protein and snacks. Each pantry is staffed by volunteers who show up early to sort and distribute food to our neighbors in need.

7,403 Total Households Served

319,651 Total Pounds of Food Served

1,203 Military Families Served

**29,472** Total Individuals Served (16,820 Adults and 12,652 Children)

894 Volunteers

3,083 Volunteer Hours

1,903 First Time Households











### **PARTNERS**

#### **Community Impact**

Assistance League of Colorado Springs

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colorado

Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado

CASA of the Pikes Peak Region

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado

Community of Caring Foundation

Court Care for the Pikes Peak Region

**CPCD** 

Crossfire Ministries

**Dream Centers of Colorado Springs** 

Early Connections Learning Centers

Forge Evolution

Fostering Hope Foundation

Greccio Housing

Homeward Pikes Peak

Hope & Home

Junior Achievement of Southern Colorado

**Lutheran Family Services** 

Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center

Partners in Housing

Peak Education

Ronald McDonald House Charities

of Southern Colorado

Safe Passage

Serenity Recovery Connection

Silver Key Senior Services

**TESSA** 

The Place

The Resource Exchange

Tri-Lakes Cares

#### **Family Success Center**

Assistance League Operation School Bell

Benefits in Action

Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado

**Colorado Springs Sports Corporation** 

Community Economic Defense Project

El Paso County Department of Human Services

**Ent Credit Union** 

Fountain Valley Health Care

Goodwill of Colorado

Harrison School District 2

Junior Achievement of Southern Colorado

Kingdom Builder's Family Life Center

The Lighthouse Early Care and Education

National Cybersecurity Center

Parents Challenge

Peak Vista Community Health Centers

Pikes Peak United Way 211

The Thrive Network





### **CORNERSTONE** ····

Our Cornerstone partners support our mission of bringing organizations together to achieve greater results. These companies and organizations help us underwrite the administrative and fundraising costs, ensuring that donor dollars support our initiatives across youth success and family stability.

### PHIL LONG











### **MAJOR DONORS** ····

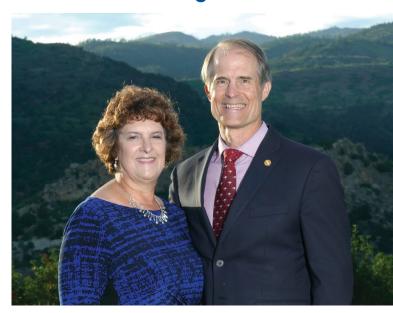
#### **Tocqueville Society**

Tocqueville Society is comprised of a powerful group of local business, civic and philanthropic leaders who, as an integral part of the national society, share a passion for investing in the community and making a difference at the \$10,000 or higher level.





#### **Leaders in Giving**





Leaders in Giving is an opportunity for Pikes Peak
United Way donors to maximize their impact in our
community by combining them with the gifts of other
like-minded individuals to achieve greater outcomes.
The membership is made up of donors who give
\$1,000 or more annually.



### IMPACT DOLLARS ····

#### **VITA**



#### **Family Success Center**

















#### General Operating/ Cornerstone







#### **Advocacy**



#### Military Assistance Fund





### **AWARD WINNERS**

### **Lifetime of Philanthropy**

**CHUCK AND MARY LOU MURPHY** 



#### **Volunteer of the Year**

**MARSHA FRECH** 



### **Spirit of Caring**

**LARGE COMPANY** 



**MEDIUM COMPANY** 









### STAFF · · ·

#### **EXECUTIVE**



**Cindy Aubrey Outgoing President** and CEO



**Cami Bremer Incoming President** and CEO



**Tom Hilton Chief Financial Officer** 

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE**



Miriam Fleisher **Executive Assistant** 



**Laura Voorhies** Office Manager

#### COMMUNITY IMPACT/FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER



**Elizabeth Quevedo Senior Vice President** of Community Impact



**Bobby Gomez** Director of **Community Impact** 



**Mira Benegas Community Resource Advocate** 



**Deisy Cardona** Office Manager, **Family Success Center** 



Alejandra Aguero PT Administrative **Assistant, Family Success Center** 

#### **FINANCE**



**Annette Perea Staff Accountant** 



**Mary Burton** Gift Processing Manager

#### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT



**David Amess Senior Vice President of Resource** Development



Lisa Kazee **Resource Development Senior Manager** 



**Morgan Chapman Resource Development** Manager of Strategy and Engagement

#### 211



**Ange-Elie Jean** Senior Director of 211 & **Disaster Response** 



**Rhonda Gatlin** 211 Community Navigator



**Becky Garel** 211 Community **Navigator** 



**Dan Bideau** 211 Community Navigator/Database Coordinator

Not pictured: Aida Santillan, 211 Community Navigator



