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You live here. You work here. You know what this community is capable of- and you know that the people in it **deserve every opportunity to succeed.**

United Way of Central Illinois exists because of **people like you.** Donors who believe that where you start should not determine where you end up. Volunteers who show up and roll up their sleeves. Businesses that understand that a stronger community is good for everyone.

This is your invitation to be part of **something bigger.**

Follow us on Social Media!



View the **Workplace Giving Portal Here**



THE WAY BEGINS WITH YOU

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Volunteer at Day of Action

Bring yourself or your whole team and roll your sleeves up at Spring or Fall **Day of Action!** In 2025, **486 volunteers** at **53 projects** put over **\$50,000** in value back in our community!



Plan a Kit-Packing Event

Custom United Way kit-packing opportunities are available for **teams of any size** and amazing way to give back directly to those who **need it most!**



Eat out during Dine United

Grab coffee, lunch, or sweet treats at participating restaurants on Wednesdays **all October long** to give back directly to United Way!



Learn More About Ways to Give Here



WAYS TO GIVE

No matter where you are in life, there is a way to **invest in Central Illinois** that will work best for you.

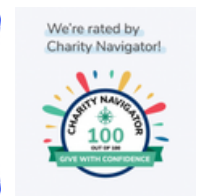
- Through your **workplace campaign**
- Online via the QR code above
- **Monthly giving**, direct from your bank account or debit/credit card
- **Donor Advised Funds (DAF), IRA, or gifts of stock**
- **Legacy Giving**

A gift to United Way of Central Illinois through your estate is one of the most powerful ways to ensure that the community you love **continues to thrive** long after you are gone.



Not sure where to start? United Way has partnered with **FreeWill**- a free, easy-to-use online tool that helps you create a **legally valid will** and begin planning your estate before ever seeing a lawyer. It takes as little as **20 minutes**, and it could be one of the most meaningful things you ever do for this community.

View our **Volunteer Hub Here**



MEET ALICE

ASSET LIMITED INCOME CONSTRAINED EMPLOYED

View the ALICE Illinois Dashboard Here



EVERY GIFT TO UNITED WAY GOES DIRECTLY TO SERVICES THAT HELP EVERY MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY.

31,875

Households in Menard and Sangamon counties make less per year than a realistic survival budget

2026-2029 PRIORITIES

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

26-29 PRIORITY:

Ensure children build strong foundations for lifelong learning by achieving key milestones from early childhood through elementary school.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

26-29 PRIORITY:

Strengthen the community's ability to respond to and recover from crisis by providing immediate supportive services and connecting individuals to essential resources for longer-term stability.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

26-29 PRIORITY:

Ensure all individuals and families have access to affordable support and guidance to navigate mental and behavioral health needs.

FINANCIAL SECURITY

26-29 PRIORITY:

Empower adults to achieve and maintain financial stability through financial education, employment, skill building, and access to safe and affordable housing.

View the 26-29 Measurable Goals Here



Across Central Illinois, a significant portion of our neighbors live in what researchers call ALICE households- Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. **These are working people.** Essential workers, caregivers, and community members who are employed but still unable to afford basic needs. They are **one unexpected expense** away from crisis- and they are your neighbors.

ALICE is not a **small or isolated population.** It is our community. And it is exactly who United Way of Central Illinois shows up for every single day.

Our work across all four priority areas is grounded in a deep commitment to supporting ALICE households- because when **we stabilize families, we strengthen everyone.**

WE ARE UNITED FOR ALICE.



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Every child under five in Sangamon and Menard counties is eligible to receive **one free book a month**- delivered right to their home- through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, brought to our community by United Way of Central Illinois. In 2025 alone, we delivered over **33,000 books to enrolled children.**

United Way's 211 helpline in Sangamon and Menard Counties connects residents to food, rent help, childcare, healthcare, and more, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In 2025, 211 provided **6,331 referrals to local services** for our neighbors right here in our community.

211- Our Community's 24/7 Helpline

211

Powered by United Way of Central Illinois



WHY UNITED WAY?

Your investment stays local- and you are in control.

Every dollar raised here **stays here**- and you decide where it goes. Give with confidence knowing your investment is doing **exactly** what it is supposed to do.

Your neighbors make the decisions.

Every funding decision is made by volunteers and stakeholders who live and work **right here in Central Illinois.**

We work upstream and connect the dots.

United Way funds programs that **prevent crises before they happen**- bringing partners, resources, and people together so **no one** in Central Illinois has to face challenges alone.

