

United Way of Hernando County

Q2 Highlights - Partner Success Stories

2021-2022

A New Generation

The Epiphany Program provided a class in the school district to youth between the ages of 11 and 14, teaching them about the different aspects of healthy relationships, goal setting, self confidence, and internet safety. These students had the opportunity to leave feedback and comments on the course, showing the impact it had.

- "It helped me know a lot more about relationships, media and human trafficking! Thank you for really impacting my life!"
- "This class had helped me become a more cautious/safe person and how to protect myself with knowing when someone is controlling me and how to set boundaries."
- "I have learned more about personal boundaries and more about what bad relationships are like."



Foundations of Life Pregnancy Program

A Christmas card came from a young client recently discharged from our program updating us on her progress. Alisha had been in the Mentoring Program during the end of her pregnancy until her daughter was about 5 months old, receiving education on healthy pregnancy and parenting skills. While living in Florida, she realized she was in an unhealthy relationship with her boyfriend, so she moved back to West Virginia to live with her parents and to be closer to her support system. Alisha is grateful for the support and education she received from Foundations of Life and feels it has both helped her to reach goals and to establish more for her future so she can become self-sufficient. Since returning to West Virginia, she has gotten her GED and is ready to move forward in enrolling in college. Alisha also has a better understanding of healthy relationships, realizing that both she and her daughter deserve the best.

Mid Florida Homeless Coalition

Can you imagine being told you have 5 days to leave your home? Think about it. Now, can you imagine having Type 2 End Stage Renal Failure, needing weekly dialysis treatments, being admitted to the hospital, and facing eviction? Can you imagine the stress that causes? Jessi can. And thankfully, with help from MFHC and the CoC, her life has been spared. For this precious life, after being admitted into Oak Hill Hospital, communication between a social worker and her case manager brought about the ability to put into place non-congregate shelter utilizing the Hernando County United Way Diversion Grant. While staying in these accommodations for one week, she made a plan and is now with her family and taking the first steps to remaking her future. Despite the difficult health challenges, she is no longer alone, she is not without a home, and her hope has been restored.



NAMI Hernando

During our most recent Family-to-Family Class, the wife of an individual who has a co-occurring mental health disorder and substance use disorder learned that her husband's substance use is a result of his mental health disorder not being treated properly. She learned that individuals with mental health disorders tend to use substances in an effort to self medicate to feel "normal". Her eyes were opened to the fact that her husband was not choosing to use substances for selfish reasons but because his mental illness had gone untreated for too long. Once learning this information, she was able to put away her resentment she had had toward her husband for his recent relapse and be more supportive in his recovery program. She stopped attempting to make him feel guilty about his relapse and started helping him to release the guilt instead.



Children's Advocacy Center

During the holiday season every child who came through the doors was given the opportunity to pick out a toy or stuffed animal to bring home with them. Our therapist reached out to their clients to let them know we were here to help if they needed a little something extra for Christmas. A handful of client families came to our center and picked out 4-5 toys to bring home to surprise the kiddos on Christmas day. It warms our hearts at the CAC to see the joy in the children's eyes. We appreciate our community partners for thinking of us not only for the holiday but all year long.



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UnitedWayHernando.org

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Supported Programs

United Way of Hernando County

Emergency Assistance

2021-2022 Quarter 2



Peace of Mind During a Difficult Time

The child of a United Way client was admitted to the children's hospital, and she had no vacation or sick days left at work, so she had to sacrifice her income to be with her child. This meant she went two weeks without pay. United Way was able to bridge the gap and ensure that she could make ends meet for the month which allowed her to focus on the health of her child, rather than the stress of incoming bills.

"I am so grateful for the help United Way was able to help me with my gas. Ever since then I've been able to maintain stability and I can't thank them enough."

Valuable Agency Partnership

United Way was contacted by the Deaf and Hard of Hearing center about a client of theirs who had been without gas for months. Her family member had passed away, leaving her with no help to pay for necessary expenses. United Way was able to make arrangements with the gas company to have her gas tank filled up and service turned back on. She was grateful to be able to take a hot shower after so long.



Support During Uncertain Times

A pregnant client gave birth prematurely and both mom and baby were in intensive care for multiple weeks. United Way was able to assist by preventing the electricity in their home from being turned off, since the client's husband could not attend work while his family was in the ICU, and he was caring for their other children at home.

"United Way provided me the help I needed to give my kids and wife my full attention while they were ill. I don't know how I would've done it without their help."

Ensuring Stability Through a Health Crisis

When diagnosed with colon cancer, a client was unable to keep up with her physical labor job. She had to find a job that would suit her medical needs. She stayed at her job for as long as possible while searching for sustainable employment, but eventually she was forced to quit. This left her without income for a short period of time while she waited to begin her new job. United Way was able to step in and ensure that she did not lose her housing in the meantime.

Helping Through Quarantine

A client who was a waitress contracted Covid and had to miss work in order to follow quarantine guidelines. Her job did not offer her sick pay or personal days, so she had no income during her quarantine period. After contacting United Way, she was able to receive assistance from the United Way Community Emergency Fund. After the quarantine period she was able to return to work and get herself back on track.

"Without the help from United Way, I would've never been able to make it through a 14 day quarantine and still had enough money to pay my bills for the month."



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

A client contacted United Way after having a baby and contracting Covid in the hospital. Due to complications from the illness, she was in the hospital for much longer than expected, leaving her out of work and without income. United Way was able to prevent her from losing her housing and connected her with a community member who had furniture to donate to furnish her home. With the assistance provided by United Way she was able to return to work once she was fully healed, rather than going back too soon after her illness.

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Due to COVID-19, the United Way office is not accepting visitors without an appointment



Have questions?
Call & leave a detailed message
352-688-2026



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