2020-2021 Annual Report

United Way of Hernando County



United Way of Hernando Way



United Way of Hernando County 2020-2021 Board Chair Chris Scavuzzo



United Way of Hernando County **Executive Director/CEO** Angie B. Walasek

Dear Friends of the United Way of Hernando County,

As our United Way of Hernando County organization turns 34 years old, our talented staff and UNITED Board of Directors can't help but reflect on where we were, where we are, and where we want to be. We reimagined ourselves over this past year making us stronger, more energized, and furthering an already unified organization. We feel so fortunate to have been surrounded by some of the brightest and most talented people Hernando County has to offer.

As the global pandemic continues to disrupt our local communities, we have taken on these new unmet needs as a personal challenge moving forward & "pressing on!" Adapting with technology, responding to a housing crisis, an increase in

financial assistance and access to healthcare, addressing a spike in mental health needs, and calling upon all partnerships. Now more than ever, community support for our organization and programs, as well as financial resources are critically needed.

United Way continues to carry out its mission of local support with a heavy focus on programs that provide direct services to those most vulnerable. We have been uniquely positioned to directly impact change by swiftly mobilizing resources. Our trusted policies, procedures, and protocols have allowed us to assess and assist hundreds of local families through the County awarded Coronavirus Relief Assistance funds over this past year. As our small but mighty staff handled each of the 276 cases this past FY, giving each household the attention they deserved, the time they craved for someone to talk to, and the hope they desperately needed, we truly found our purpose as a lead organization.

As we enter our new fiscal year and Frank Cassara takes the Board Chair leadership position, we remind everyone to "Press On" no matter the obstacle that is put in your path. We have now proven to ourselves and our community that we are up to whatever we are tasked to do. Press On and LIVE UNITED!

Our LIVE UNITED motto is more than just a cool t-shirt, it's a movement. A movement that is accomplished by generous GIVING, through passionate ADVOCATING, and through dedicated individuals VOLUNTEERING. Join us! How will YOU choose to LIVE UNITED?

Whether you are a staff member, Board Member, dedicated volunteer, or loyal donor, we thank you for your time, treasurers, and talents! Thank you for your partnerships and continued support.

Sincerely,

Chris Scavuzzo and Angie B. Walasek

MISSION

To inspire leaders and partners, and mobilize resources to strengthen the lives of people in the community.

VISION

To build a strong, caring community and improve the quality of life in Hernando.









Financial Stability (/



Basic Needs/Crisis Prevention

Hearts

CHANGE

Rehavior

Structures

& Minds

2020-2021 Board of Directors:

Executive Committee

CHRIS D. SCAVUZZO | BOARD CHAIR Foundation Risk Partners

DR. EBONY PEREZ | PAST BOARD CHAIR Saint Leo University

FRANK CASSARA | CHAIR-ELECT Centennial Bank

JIM ATEN | TREASURER Raymond James

FRANCINE WARD | SECRETARY Community Advocate

DR. DONNA BURDZINSKI

Pasco-Hernando State College

VALERIE CIACCIO

Community Advocate

PATRICIA CROWLEY Community Advocate

SARAH DUNCAN

North American Title Company

JAMIE FERGUSON **UPS**

BRITTANY GREEN ICTC

KELLY GORMLEY

Community Advocate

KRISTIE HEALIS

State of FL - HC Court Judge

ASHLEY HOFECKER

Mid Florida Community Services

JUDITH MERGAL

Publix Super Markets

DENISE MOLONEY

Hernando County Sheriff's Office

MARTY MONEGRO Spherion Staffing Services

UWHC Staff

ANGIE B. WALASEK

Executive Director/CEO

DOMINIQUE HOLMES Community Outreach Director

SAM BECKHAM

Community Outreach Coordinator

AMY SZWAREK

Community Outreach/Case Manager

here Your Investment Goes

Thanks to our committed Community Investment Grant (CIG) Review Team Members, throughout the 2020-2021 FY United Way proudly invested over \$158,000 in 19 local Health, Education, Financial Stability, and Basic Needs/Crisis Prevention initiatives and outreach programs.

2-1-1 TAMPA BAY CARES, INC. UnitedWayHernando.org/211	2-1-1 Hernando Crisis Intervention	JERICHO ROAD MINISTRIES -Food Barn -Shelter Facilities	jericho-road.net Food Security Care and Resources for Those Experiencing Homelessness
THE ARC NATURE COAST -Residential Supports -Community Supports	tancinc.org Permanent Supportive Housing Services for People with tual/Developmental Disabilities	LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIR -Adaptive Skills Training for Visually Impaired Adults & Seniors	RED & BLIND lvib.org Services for People with Physical Disabilities
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF HERNANDO COUNTY -School Year Scholarships	bgchernando.org Out of School Services	MID FLORIDA COMMUNITY SERVICES -Children's Advocacy Center	mfcs.us.com Protection from Neglect, Abuse, Exploitation
CATHOLIC CHARITIES -Foundations of Life Pregnancy Program	ccdosp.org Healthy Beginnings	MID FLORIDA HOMELESS COALITION -Mid Florida Information Network	midfloridahomeless.org Care and Resources for Those Experiencing Homelessness
DAWN CENTER OF HERNANDO COUNTY -Domestic & Sexual Violence Victim Services	dawncenter.org Protection from Neglect, Abuse, Exploitation	NAMI HERNANDO INCSupport Services -Education Programs	namihernando.org lealth/Substance Abuse Services
DEAF & HARD OF HEARING SERVICES -Communication Access Assistance Eme	deafhhsfla.org rgency Assistance Services	PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE -Weekend Blessings	phphernando.org Food Security
DOLLY PARTON IMAGINATION LIBRARY School F	imaginationlibrary.org Readiness & Early Learning	SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL -Food Pantry	svdphernando.org Food Security
EARLY LEARNING COALITION -Support for School Readiness School R	phelc.org Readiness & Early Learning	YOUTH & FAMILY ALTERNATIVES -New Beginnings Youth Shelter	yfainc.org Care and Resources for Those Experiencing Homelessness
Diversity & Inclusion			

Diversity & Inclusion

As a champion and catalyst for building a strong, healthy community in Hernando County, United Way values racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity. United Way fights for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in our community.

United Way's vision and mission reflect our fundamental belief that all people belong, and deserve fairness, justice, and inclusivity. Our strength comes through our diversity and we celebrate the visible and invisible qualities that make each person unique, including race, religion, national origin, ethnicity, age, gender, gender identity and expression, disability, sexual orientation, veteran-status, residency status, socio-economic status, geographical representation, pregnancy, or any other category protected by law. More on this DEI policy may be found at www.UnitedWayHernando.org/diversity

Financial Stewardship

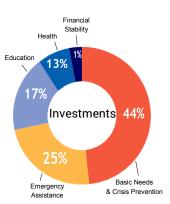
Accountability

United Way has a stringent system of checks, balances, and internal controls in place to ensure it operates in a sound fiscal manner. The organization's operating budget, as well as its community funding decisions, are reviewed by volunteer committees and approved by the Board of Directors.



Ethics

United Way's Board of Directors annually abide by the Code of Ethics and Conduct Education Agreement. The purpose of the code is to describe standards of conduct and business ethics expected of the directors, officers, standing committee members, and United Way staff & volunteers. Practicing but not limited to: leadership, responsibility, personal and professional integrity, diversity and equal opportunity, and confidentiality.



Statement on Accounting & Reporting Practices For a list of frequently asked questions, visit www.UnitedWayHernando.org/FAQ

Here at United Way of Hernando County, Inc. we take our role as a trusted community leader seriously. As a result, we have a long tradition of adhering to high standards of accountability and transparency. Our most recent IRS Form 990 and audit are available upon request.

HEALTH



GOAL: Individuals & families in our community are able to access & benefit from affordable health services to better their overall quality of life.

Focus Areas:

- COVID-19 Disaster Relief
- Access to health care & public awareness
- Healthy beginnings & education
- Mental health/substance abuse services
- Senior/elder support
- Support services for people with disabilities (physical, intellectual, developmental)

Healthier Tomorrows

This is OUR community. DID YOU KNOW?

2.1.1

2-1-1 is a free health and human services helpline that connects residents to available resources. Call 2-1-1, text your ZIP to 898211, or visit the website at UnitedWayHernando.org/211.

This service is confidential and available 24/7. 211 Hernando is proudly provided by United Way.

> *Data collected from 211 report July 2020 to June 2021

> > 250

COVID-19 related calls eceived from March-June

3,438 Total calls received to 211 Hernando





and behavioral health. Visit HernandoCares.org

Housing Resources (29,44%)

- Income Support/Assistance (12,27%)
- Individual, Family and Community Support (11.64%)
- Utility Assistance (10.68%)
- Information Services (8.89%)
- Health Care (9.56%)
- Mental Health/Addictions (4.72%)
- Legal, Consumer and Public Safety Services (4.09%)

EDUCATION



GOAL: Residents of all ages will have access to quality education services to further enhance their knowledge, skills, & behavior in order to be successful in school, work, family, & community.

Focus Areas:

- Early childhood development & school readiness
- Mentoring/tutoring support or out of school services
- Middle grade success & transitions
- Youth development & family engagement

14th Annual Stuff the Bus



United Way organizes Stuff the Bus every summer, a county -wide supply drive to fulfill teacher Wish Lists for children in need. Amidst the Pandemic, United Way enhanced their annual supply drive to a virtual platform, in order to safely advocate and collect school supplies for local classrooms.

4.195 lbs.

Of School Supplies





In Hernando received donations

Total weight of School Supplies is equivalent to 5 Sea Lions!





2020 Partners in Education





FINANCIAL STABILITY



GOAL: Individuals & families will be

Focus Areas:

VITA 2021 Survey Results Volunteer Income Tax Assistance



Over 673 households utilized United Way's VITA program. 468 clients participated in this survey.



VITA clients described (#1) health care, (#2) education, and (#3) food security as the 3 greatest needs in Hernando County.



Out of 468 VITA households, 133 consider themselves **ALICE** (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed).



Most VITA clients are retired and are in the age category of 71-80 years old. 31 VITA clients were 81+ and 122 were between the ages of 61-70.



Due to COVID-19, clients named (#1) vaccine availability, (#2) buying food & toiletries, and (#3) COVID-19 testing as the top 3 greatest needs.

COVID-19 Response

Although United Way and many of our Partner Programs temporarily shut their doors to the public as a result of necessary safety precautions due to the coronavirus, we continued providing necessary services to those in need.

United Way of Hernando County specialized in mobilizing resources, and collectively distributed:



825 disinfectant kits



10,000 toothbrushes



100 infrared thermometers



1,550 hand sanitizer bottles



11 LUV sanitizing sprayers



10,000 lbs. of food to local pantries and shelters





Proud Partner Highlights

Children's Advocacy Center (CAC)

Throughout the Pandemic the CAC adapted and continued to provide hundreds of free therapy sessions for child victims of abuse. They utilized TeleHealth to provide services and advocated throughout by posting on social media to inform others how to spot abuse or signs of trafficking.

People Helping People

Partnered with Feeding Tampa Bay to provide a drive-thru Mobile Food Pantry every month to anyone who was in need. They also partnered with Pine Brook Pharmacy to provide a free clinic and vaccines for

Youth & Family Alternatives

YFA's New Beginning's shelter immediately implemented strict COVID-19 safety guidelines including sanitizing, temperature checks, mandatory masks, and restricted shelter visitors and youth trips outside of the shelter. As a result, there have been no positive cases for either the staff or the stath cincular the pade the pade and the shelter. youth since the pandemic began.

Dolly Parton Imagination Library



books distributed to children from July 2020-June 2021

On 3/27/21, United Way hosted their 6th Annual "KICK" Start to Early Literacy Kickball Tournament. Proceeds raised will help enroll 461 children over the next year! 16 teams competed but previous champs Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative & 2 time champ Coach Jeff Rogers took home the Ultimate Traveling Trophy!

A special thank you to Presenting Sponsor Holmes Drafting Services, Field Sponsors PED-Stuart Corporation, Integrity Pest Control & Terlep Chiropractic, and Kickball Sponsors Carter Foreman PLLC, Cricket Wireless (Sun Com), Grow Financial Credit Union, Rotary Club of Brooksville, Mid-Florida Community Services Head Start/Early Head Start, and Timber Pines Community Association/Scott Dienes Construction LLC.

Supporting Teams:

- Amerifirst Home Mortgage
- Barrette Outdoor Living
- Century 21 Alliance Realty
- HC School District
- HC Sheriff's Office
- (8) Publix Stores The Plumadore Group
- **Timber Pines Community** Association
- Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative

Statistics as of June 2021

1,000

Currently Enrolled Per Month

422 Children Graduated in 20-21

3,629+ Total Children

Graduated

A special thank you to Suncoast Credit Union, Kiwanis of the Adventure Coast, Challenger K-8, and USA Benefits Group for being Proud Partners in Education and providing grants for the DPIL program.







USA Benefits Group®

"Read to Me" Caregiver Survey Results

Over 150 parents & caregivers responded to the 2021 "Read to Me" survey



of parents believe that receiving free, high quality & age of parents believe that receiving free, fight quarts and appropriate books every month enhanced their child's early learning and literacy skills!



64% of kids enrolled can recite their ABCs!





of parents read to their kids for at least 30 min. a day

Born Learning

- Born Learning Trail #6: Linda Pederson Park sponsored by Truist Installed on November 16, 2020
- Born Learning Trail #7: Anderson Snow Park sponsored by Keller Williams Elite Realty Installed on May 13, 2021
- Born Learning Trail #8: Alfred A. McKethan Pine Island Park sponsored by WWHS National Honor Society



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance is available to those who have a low-to-moderate income (generally \$56,000 or less)

United Way implemented safety precautions such sanitizing stations, and were able to successfully

2021 VITA Locations

- · United Way of Hernando County
- Spring Hill Library
- Jerome Brown Community Center
- Introduced virtual appointments at the Jerome Brown Center for remote filing

673 Tax Returns Completed

\$745,298 in Total Refunds

\$150,908 Total EITC | \$235,550 Saved

Returning to our Hernando community:

\$1,131,756

Those could be dollars spent on:

- covering child expenses
- transportation costs
- paying bills & groceries
- · purchasing household necessities

Save on prescriptions with United Way's FREE SingleCare **Discount Prescription Card!**



010123200

United Way

Hernando Residents have been impacted by using SingleCare

were saved in prescription costs as of June 2021

BASIC NEEDS & CRISIS PREVENTION



GOAL: Residents experiencing crisis or trauma will receive emotional, financial, or general support they need to overcome life's unexpected barriers.

Focus Areas:

- Disaster Relief
- Emergency Assistance Services
- Food security
- Protection from neglect, abuse, exploitation
- Providing care and resources for those experiencing homelessness
- Transitional or permanent supportive housing

Coronavirus Relief Assistance

Generous support was provided by the Hernando Board of County Commissioners. CRA funds provided relief to those who were negatively impacted by COVID-19.

\$291,454

Total in emergency assistance funds were used to assist Hernando residents.

households received assistance

573 family members impacted

Total

closed cases

276

\$237,000+

In rent/mortgage assistance

\$17,300+

In electric/gas/ utilities

\$16,000

In food and basic necessities

In distributed PPE

\$3,500+

\$12,000+

In childcare and daycare costs

From October 2020-June 2021.

Grieving Family of 7

A mother with 6 children lost her husband in October to a stroke, and contracted COVID-19 from work. United Way's Coronavirus Relief Assistance funds were able to pay her mortgage and give her peace of mind while grieving the family's recent loss.



"I am very grateful to the United way for all their help and knowledge."

"United Way helped me so much, and very quickly. My household was very blessed." "The help I received will stabilize my situation so I'm very happy for the assistance."



Impact on the Restaurant Industry

A restaurant worker lost hours when her place of employment shut down due to COVID-19. Once they reopened, she continued to lose hours, working sporadically, until they shut down a second time due to COVID-19. She received a 3-day eviction notice from her landlord, but United Way's Coronavirus Relief Assistance funds were able to help her pay her past due balance and remain housed.



Focusing on Mental Wellness

A client was laid off in 2020 and his mental health was suffering due to the stress of the pandemic. His wife was struggling to make ends meet with just her income. There are children and the wife's elderly mother with dementia in the household. United Way's Coronavirus Relief Assistance funds took care of their past due rent and electric bills, giving them some herathing room, so they can focus on his mental wellness.

Community Engagement

PUBLIX APPRECIATION WEEK

United Way and their Partner Agencies showed appreciation for Publix during the week of March 1st by dropping off thoughtful thank you's and goodies.

"KICK" START TO EARLY LITERACY

Raised over \$12,000 to support Early Literacy. Congrats to the champs "WRECing Crew" from Withlacoochee River Electric.

BUSINESS BLITZ CHALLENGE

United Way challenged all Hernando Businesses to invest in cause brand marketing during June 2021, and \$10,645 was raised! Thank you to all of the businesses that Accepted the Challenge! (see back of report)

LEND A HAND HERNANDO

United Way's Online Volunteer Portal connects residents to local volunteer opportunities. Over 902 volunteers are currently enrolled! www.UnitedWayHernando.org/Volunteer

GREAT HERNANDO WEIGHT LOSS & WELLNESS CHALLENGE

UW and CHIPP encouraged Hernando residents to not only lose 10 pounds in 10 weeks, but also adopt wellness healthy habits, like drinking more water and getting enough sleep. Over 100 residents participated and lost a cumulative 563lbs.

MASS VIOLENCE VICTIM RESPONSE TASK FORCE

A collaborative effort led by UW and the Children's Advocacy Center, with community agencies organizing a coordinated response plan for Mass Violence incidents that may occur locally.

TOILETRY DRIVE DONATIONS

Thank you to members of Girl Scouts of West Central Florida Troop #24417 who donated toiletry kits for the homeless in Hernando.











AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Hits 106 and WWJB partner with UW throughout the year and advocated for upcoming events and opportunities through radio promotions, including UW's "Did You Know" campaign.

SCHOLARSHIPS THROUGH CETA

United Way donated a \$1,000 scholarships for a senior student in the LEADERSHIP category through the Chamber Education Training Association. Congrats Alexis Bowermaster from SHS!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

As the world continued to reopen during the pandemic, UW staff once again participated in local events including Timber Pines Senior Expo and Eastside Elementary's Community Walk.

EFSP— FEMA SUPPORT

United Way is a part of the Emergency Food & Shelter Program Local Board and helps determine how funds are distributed to local food and shelter programs. In 2021, \$64,439 was allocated to Hernando through Phase 38.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP

In celebration of Earth Day, UW staff beautified the area surrounding the office along US19, collecting 5 bags of trash!

#HERNANDOPREPARES

Emergency Management, Hernando COAD, and UW worked hand in hand to identify unmet needs during the COVID-19 pandemic and helped prepare during hurricane season.

5 DAYS OF CARING

The week before Thanksgiving, UW organized a community-wide volunteer effort with a food drive, neighborhood clean-up, food drive distribution, 2 Born Learning Trail installations, and virtual volunteer opportunities.









Corporate Giving Partnerships

Ackley Dental Group All Performance Title, Inc. ! Amerifirst Home Mortgage! April Johnson for Hernando AT&T

Bank of America Barrette Outdoor Living BBVA Compass Bank

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Blaise & Julie Ingoglia Blue Cross Blue Shield!

Brijbag Law!

Brown and Brown Insurance

Buck Law Group, PA!

Burns & McDonnell Engineering * Capella Education Company *

Capital City Bank Carter Foreman PLLC •

Centennial Bank

Century 21 Alliance Realty • Charles Schwab Foundation *

Christ the Savior Greek Orthodox Church

Citigroup *

City of Brooksville Cricket Wireless •

Crystal Automotive

Custom Paints Inc.

Dawn Center of Hernando County

Delta Airlines

Dex Imaging!

Direct Lending Group

Discovery Point Silverthorn & Seven Hills!

Duke Energy

Dynasty Collision & Auto Repair!

Encompass Health & Hospice!

Euclid Chemical Company!

Family Chiropractic Center for Wellness! Fast Signs

Federal Express

Fifth Third Bank

Florida Blue FWH & Associates

Frontier Communications *

General Motor Retirees

Grow Financial Credit Union •

HCA, Oak Hill Hospital

HC Board of County Commissioners

HC Clerk of Circuit Court

Hernando County Greek Festival

Hernando County Schools •

Hernando County Sheriff •

HiTek Truss!

Holmes Drafting Services * ● Home Instead Senior Care

IBM Employees/Retirees

Integrity Pest Control Services * • Jericho Road Ministries

Keller Williams Realty *

Kimbrough Properties

Kiwanis Club of the Adventure Coast * Kiwanis Club of Brooksville Ridge!

Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired *

Lincoln Financial

Marshall's

Mid Florida Community Services * • Mirage Hair Studio

Morton Plant Mease Health Care

Moss Chiropractic Clinic!

NAMI Hernando

O'Reilly Auto Parts *

PACE Center for Girls

Ped-Stuart Corporation *

The Plumadore Group •

PNC Mortgage National

Premier Community Health Care!

PricewaterhouseCoopers *

Principal Financial Group *

PUBLIX Super Markets & Charities •

Raymond James & Associates *

Regions Bank

Republic Bank

Ring Power

Bold = Workplace Campaign

= Increased Campaign

= NEW

= Kickball Supporters

Rotary Club of Brooksville Spring Hill MRI

St. Joseph's Baptist Healthcare

Stuart Dienes Construction LLC!

Sumter Electric Cooperative *

Suncoast Credit Union

Sunrise Consulting Group!

SunTrust Bank

Target

Terlep Chiropractic •

Texas Roadhouse •

Timber Pines Community Association ! •

Tropic Shores Realty

Tropic Title Services!

Truist Bank *

HPS

USA Benefits Group *

Vraspir Law Firm

Walmart Distribution Center Weeki Wachee High School NHS!

Wells Fargo *

WREC

Youth & Family Alternatives



Publix Super Markets Charities & 881 Publix

Associates Contributed...



You make the difference.

\$281,027+ to **United Way's Community Investment Fund!**

Loyal Leadership Givers

James Aten Ralph & Angela Ausiello **Todd Barker** Sonine Beaumont Gordon Marshall & Marsha Beckman Robert Benedetto Anthony Bisesti Kimberly Bowling James Caldwell Michelle & Chris Campbell Samantha Carpenter Noreen Carter Nancy Caruso Tonya Challis Amber Clingo Jeffrey Cloud Kory Coleman

Ashley Crisci

James Massingale

~Sharon Holland

Cody Duphily Tina Elkins William Fenton Charles Fernandez Jeffrey J. Finlan Trevor K. Flanders Kelsev Forrester Dean & Lotte Furlong David Gonzalez Wayne Heavens Gary & Gloria Horstmann Blaise & Julie Ingoglia Sam, Abby, & Izzy Johnson Casey Jones Riley Kinman Kerry Kinsella Robert Kleiner

Elizabeth Malin Augie Manalili Janet Marino Matthew Marriage John Martens Judith Mergal **Brian Miller** Jasmin Mortimer **Brett Newland** Chatty Nix Allissa O'Berry Jay Olmstead Riki Peterson Craig Piliego Danielle Robinson Ronald Roppolo Melanie Sanabria

Patricia Lonergan

Riley Sapp Troy Schuldt Adam Scull John Sievers Christine Simpson Gary & Patricia Steinmetz Gina Stifanic Taylor Tucker Debra Urban Robert & Monica Watts Hailee & Steven Wegner Allyn D. Welch Aaron Yana Michael Yatroussis

In Memory of

Colleen Leroux

Albert Mathis Jr. ~Florisha Thompson

Ashley Devine ~Angie B. Walasek

Janet Stewart ~James Stewart

In Honor of

Dedicated VITA Volunteers

~Barbara Fisher ~ Ralph Loeffler

A Generous Donation was made on behalf of The Brijbag Family

~Pat Crowley



LIVE UNITED

Need Help? Dial 2-1-1

Annual Report Printing Courtesy of



SirSpeedy placeholder



Dial 2-1-1 on your phone to talk with a caring professional 24/7 in over 150



Text your Zip Code to 898211 to communicate with a professional *Monday thru Friday from 7am to 6pm. Standard text message rates may apply



Visit the 2-1-1 website to search Hernando's database www.UnitedWayHernando.org/211



one of our professionals



















Businesses who Accepted the 2021 Business Blitz Challenge!











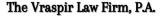


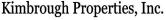






























Integrity

PEST CONTROL SERVICES















