



# VOLUNTEERS

## PROVIDING A HAND UP

United Way finds the best way for you get involved in the causes that matter most to you. Because together, we can do more than any one person can do alone.

### BASIC NEEDS IMPACT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

#### UNITED WAY DAY OF ACTION – STOCK THE PANTRY

Make a difference on the longest day of the year! Each year around June 21, volunteers from communities around the world take action to improve lives and change conditions where they live and work. Locally, Stock the Pantry is United Way of Greater Waterbury's annual food drive to ensure that no one goes hungry during the summer. Join us in the fight against food insecurity and sign up your company or group to collect a food category of most needed items identified by the Food Resource Committee. On the United Way Day of Action, drop off donations to be weighed by Connecticut Food Bank and loaded for delivery.

Grab a team of co-workers or friends and sign up to sort food items donated to the United Way Day of Action Stock the Pantry event. Food sorted will be delivered to participating food pantries.

#### May – June

Contact Renee Young at [ryoung@unitedwaygw.org](mailto:ryoung@unitedwaygw.org)

#### HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS/ JOY OF SHARING

Permit a Casual or Blue Jean Friday to Raise Money for Joy of Sharing, Volunteer at a local food program to hand out food to families for the Thanksgiving holiday, or Adopt A Family for the Christmas Holiday by receiving specific demographics on a family in need, or Organize a Toy Drive to donate toys to a local Christmas Program.

#### October – December

Contact [ryoung@unitedwaygw.org](mailto:ryoung@unitedwaygw.org)

**UNITED WAY BED RACES** Race to Support our 10-Town Community: Come one, come all! Rain or shine. Businesses large and small, and groups of adventurers welcome. Put your racing caps on, and enjoy an exciting day with food trucks, mobile pub, live entertainment and fun for the whole family. All proceeds from this event will be invested in United Way of Greater Waterbury's Community Care Fund.

#### October

Contact Brian Amero at [bamero@unitedwaygw.org](mailto:bamero@unitedwaygw.org)

### EDUCATION IMPACT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**READ ACROSS AMERICA** March 2nd is Dr. Seuss's birthday – what better way to celebrate than to read? Read Across America Day is a national day of observance to promote reading for children held annually on a school day closest to March 2nd each year. By volunteering to read to children you can help foster a love of books and learning that will help kids succeed.

#### March

Contact Renee Young at [ryoung@unitedwaygw.org](mailto:ryoung@unitedwaygw.org) for a list of United Way Partner reading sites.

**LITERACY ENGAGEMENT PROJECT** Encourage bright futures through literacy by volunteering to read a book and lead a project with young children at a United Way partner program.

#### Year-round

Contact Renee Young at [ryoung@unitedwaygw.org](mailto:ryoung@unitedwaygw.org)



100 North Elm Street, 2nd Floor  
Waterbury, CT 06702  
(203) 757-9855 / [www.unitedwaygw.org](http://www.unitedwaygw.org)





## FINANCIAL STABILITY IMPACT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**UNITED WAY FINANCIAL COACH** Volunteer financial coaches work with individuals on a monthly basis to organize and prioritize their finances. Volunteers work with participants to set and achieve financial goals, create and maintain a budget, pay bills on time and save for the future. Six month volunteer commitment after training is completed.

**Annual fall training with placement starting in January.** Contact Karen Mello at [kmello@unitedwaygw.org](mailto:kmello@unitedwaygw.org)

**UNITED WAY VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEER (VITA)** IRS certified volunteers prepare and file taxes for lower-to-moderate-income families and individuals at no cost, getting them the refunds and credits they've earned. They also connect filers to other tools that help them on their paths to financial security. Training is required and provided. Volunteers must be able to commit to one, 4-hour shift per week after certification is obtained.

**Mid-January – Mid-April**  
Contact Karen Mello at [kmello@unitedwaygw.org](mailto:kmello@unitedwaygw.org)

## YEAR ROUND OPPORTUNITIES

The following rewarding opportunities are convenient ways for individuals or groups to make a difference at any time of year:

**DAY OF CARING (Corporate Groups Only)** Lend your skills and talents by volunteering at a local partner agency.

**SKILL-BASED VOLUNTEERISM** Use your primary business skills or personal knowledge to help a local non-profit that needs your support.

Contact Renee Young at [ryoung@unitedwaygw.org](mailto:ryoung@unitedwaygw.org) to learn more.

## VOLUNTEER TOOLKITS

Visit our website at [www.unitedwaygw.org](http://www.unitedwaygw.org) to download toolkits

- **Basics for Back to School:** Hold a donation drive to collect NEW backpacks and basic school supplies to be donated to the “Back to School Rally” that takes place every August at Waterbury Library Park.
- **Diaper Drive:** Diapers are expensive, and struggling parents often face a choice between paying for other essentials, and going without them. Organize a diaper drive to help support your local diaper bank.
- **Personal Care Kits for the Homeless:** Hold a donation drive to collect in-demand items during the summer or winter months, that will help those experiencing homelessness. Organize needed supplies and distribute at the CHD Hospitality Center, a safe place for people who are homeless to connect with services while in the process of moving towards housing stability.
- **Winter Warming Drive:** This is a time when those with scarce resources need items to stay warm. Help make the winter a bit warmer for children in our community. Coordinate a hat, gloves, scarves and socks drive in your office or among friends to be donated to local shelters.

**FIND YOUR BEST WAY.**

**VOLUNTEER** as a group or an individual today at [www.unitedwaygw.org/volunteer](http://www.unitedwaygw.org/volunteer).

