

FAST FACTS: YOUR GIFT CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

EDUCATION

Did you know that 85 percent of a child's brain development takes place before age 5? Early learning sets the stage for later success. Because of gifts to United Way *Community Investment*, last year almost 1,000 children in our region developed the skills they'll need for kindergarten, such as counting and recognizing the alphabet. Let's prepare every child for the future. Make your pledge to *Community Investment* during our United Way campaign.

Last year, 3,000 young people improved their academic skills in after-school and summer programs because of gifts to United Way *Community Investment*. Join with us and create a better life for all! Give to *Community Investment* during our United Way campaign.

Our contributions to United Way *Community Investment* helped more than 1,000 adults improve their parenting skills last year. Say yes to stronger families! Make your pledge to *Community Investment* during the United Way Community Campaign.

INCOME

Imagine not being able to read this sentence. Now think of the 1,400+ adults in our region who learned to read and write last year because of gifts to United Way *Community Investment*. Together we can change the world, one person at a time. Please make your pledge to *Community Investment* during our United Way campaign.

Nearly 8,600 of our lower-income, working neighbors filed their taxes for free last year – receiving \$14.8 million in hard-earned refunds and credits – because of gifts to United Way *Community Investment* through the United Way Community Campaign. Help hard-working families make ends meet: Make your pledge to *Community Investment* during the United Way Community Campaign.

HEALTH

Each year nearly 2,000 local people with disabilities and their families receive medical and career preparation services because of our pledges to United Way *Community Investment*. We can support dozens of respected health charities such as Easter Seals Capital Region & Eastern Connecticut through United Way's campaign partner, Community Health Charities of New England, with pledges to *Community Investment* during our United Way campaign. (Source: [Easter Seals Capital Region & Eastern CT website](#))

Did you know your pledge to United Way *Community Investment* supports research to develop a simple, noninvasive blood test to detect cancer? It's true. Your contribution supports dozens of respected health charities such as the American Cancer Society through United Way's campaign partner,

Community Health Charities of New England. Please give generously during our United Way campaign!
(Source: [American Cancer Society website, New England region](#))

Your gift to United Way *Community Investment* supports autism "Awareness Bootcamps" across Connecticut, to help people learn how to be more understanding, tolerant, and helpful to families with a loved one on the autism spectrum. (One local amusement park held a Bootcamp for 100 of its employees!) Your gift supports dozens of respected health charities such as Autism Speaks through United Way's campaign partner, Community Health Charities of New England. Please give to *Community Investment* during our United Way campaign! (Source: [Autism Speaks website](#))

SAFETY NET

Have a problem and don't know where to turn? Try dialing the 2-1-1 helpline, supported by gifts to United Way *Community Investment*. You can find a summer camp for your child, help for an aging family member, or substance abuse counseling for a friend. It's free, multilingual, 24/7/365...and our contributions to *Community Investment* keep it going. Something to think about during our United Way campaign.

A warm meal. A well-stocked refrigerator. Children who can concentrate in school because they had a good breakfast at home. For too many people in our region, it's a daily struggle. But together we can help. Because of gifts to United Way *Community Investment*, almost 25,000 of our neighbors received basic food assistance last year – and we're also teaching families how to budget, save, and get the credits and help they qualify for, so hunger will become a thing of the past. Be a part of the solution: Please give to *Community Investment* during our United Way campaign.