



United Way of the Tri-Valley Area works collaboratively with 8 other United Ways in Maine to efficiently raise funds, share best practices, and collectively raise the visibility of United Way and drive results.



The Franklin Volunteer Network is convened by UWTVA. Members meet quarterly to build their capacity to more effectively and efficiently manage volunteers through trainings and networking.



UWTVA is the fiscal agent for the Western Maine CASH Coalition. CASH stands for Creating Assets, Savings and Hope. WMCA\$H is one of 10 coalitions in Maine that offers free tax preparation by IRS-trained volunteers. Trained volunteer Opportunity Guides also build individuals' financial capability by connecting them with resources such as family development accounts or healthcare information.



211 is a 24/7 help line accessed by phone or on-line at 211maine.org. You can also text your zip code to 898-211. If you or someone you know needs help and doesn't know where to turn, reach out to 211 anywhere in Maine. 211 is supported by all United Ways in Maine, and the State of Maine.



FamilyWize is a discount prescription medication program in partnership with United Way Worldwide. Nobody should have to go without medication due to cost. Discount cards can be found at familywize.org or at United Way of the Tri-Valley Area.



United Way partners with the Western Maine Underwearness Project led locally by Dave and Sue Catino who collect the underwear; UWTVA distributes.

# MAKING CONNECTIONS COLLABORATING FOR SUCCESS

## UNITED WAY OF THE TRI-VALLEY AREA MAKING AN IMPACT IN GREATER FRANKLIN COUNTY



218 Fairbanks Rd. PO Box 126  
Farmington, Maine 04938  
207.778.5048 [info@uwtva.org](mailto:info@uwtva.org) [uwtva.org](http://uwtva.org)  
[Facebook.com/UWTVA](https://www.facebook.com/UWTVA)

**LIVE HERE GIVE HERE HELP HERE**



# LIVE UNITED

## VISION

The United Way of the Tri-Valley Area seeks solutions to meet immediate basic human needs and create long lasting positive change.

## MISSION

The United Way of the Tri-Valley Area strives to unite people and resources to improve lives and build a strong and healthy community. It does this by identifying local needs and addressing their root causes, raising funds to meet those needs, and collaborating on local initiatives that create a measurable difference in Greater Franklin County.

## GOALS

When you join forces with United Way, you don't simply change lives, you change your community. The serious problems that devastate people's lives and threaten the welfare of our entire community are many and varied; however, most arise from the same set of root causes. Root causes that we at the United Way, in collaboration with our Community Partners, are working hard to eliminate.

By investing in non-profit organizations that provide services in our local area, building the capacity of local organizations, and coordinating or participating in local initiatives, the United Way of the Tri-Valley Area is investing in these community solutions:



**RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES  
AND MEETING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS**



**STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN**



**INCREASING INDEPENDENCE  
AND FINANCIAL STABILITY**



**IMPROVING HEALTH**



*The action is always fast and furious at the United Dodge Ball Tournament.*

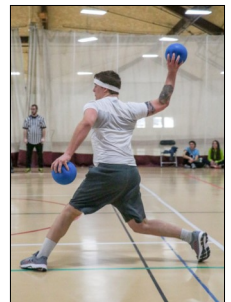
## THE UNITED DODGE BALL TOURNAMENT

United Way partners with United Insurance Shiretown Agency to sponsor a Dodgeball Tournament in the winter—just when a little fun and activity is needed the most. The tournament is a great team activity and another way to support United Way while having a great time.



**Don't forget....**

**You or your  
organization  
can always find  
a creative way  
to support  
United Way!**



Employees of LEAP (above) and Franklin Community Health Network (below) get into the spirit of things and wear flannel during Flannel Fridays. Employees contribute each Friday to be able to wear flannel and raise funds for United Way.

**Special events are integral to United Way's fundraising efforts and volunteers play a vital role. United Way is involved in many special events including:**

### THE GARDEN PARTY

Hosted by community members that value United Way's impact, Garden Parties are outdoor events that take advantage of Maine's fleeting summers. Hosts determine the menu, set up the lawn games, select the music and the fun begins.

### THE GREAT CHARITY AUCTION

A signature event for United Way, the auction raises thousands of dollars that are reinvested in the community. MANY volunteers are needed to carry out this successful event. While the main live event is held mid-November, be sure to watch for the on-line auction on facebook held the week before the auction.

### COMMUNITY CHANGE CHALLENGE

A little change can add up to a lot. Do you have a business or organization that would volunteer to host a Community Change Challenge jug? You just might win a coveted trophy and get to designate the money your organization raises to a United Way Community Partner.



Participants colorfully celebrate the finish of the Color Me United 5K.

### COLOR ME UNITED 5K

Runners, walkers, and rollers are all welcome to join the fun at United Way's wildly popular Color Run. Get active, form a team or come alone, dress up, get splashed with color, and have fun all while supporting a great cause.

# WELCOME TO YOUR UNITED WAY.

**We are passionate about making a difference. Join us.**

- United Way of the Tri-Valley Area (UWTVA) raises money to invest in our local communities. Community Partners, Special Projects grant recipients, and many other collaborators address a broad range of community issues ranging from preventing violence to ensuring older adults can live independently in their own homes.
- UWTVA actively engages volunteers to make a positive impact in Greater Franklin County.
- And UWTVA connects people to resources by supporting 211, fielding hundreds of requests for assistance and reaching out to every corner of the region to let people know what is available.



United Way partners with USPS to Stamp Out Hunger.



All over Greater Franklin County people are joining United Way to fight for high quality education, health, and financial stability.



### UNITED WAY OF THE TRI-VALLEY AREA STAFF

Lisa Park Laffin  
Executive Director

Kendra Baker  
Finance and Operations Coordinator

Nichole Ernest  
Community Resource Coordinator

# MAKING INVESTMENTS COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Healthy Community Coalition's Mobile Health Unit.

At the core of what United Way does is make community investments to what are called Community Partners. Partners apply annually for program support and must be 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. UWTVA is proud to currently support the following Community Partners:

## Care and Share Food Closet

PO Box 38, Farmington, ME 04938  
Contact: Dana Bullen or Leiza Hiltz-Scerbo,  
(207) 778-0508  
careandsharefoodcloset@gmail.com  
United Way helps this food pantry serve nine towns including Farmington, New Sharon, New Vineyard and Temple.

## PACKS FOR PROGRESS

Backpacks filled with school supplies are collected throughout the year and distributed in late August to income-eligible students in every school district in the United Way service area. Each year almost 600 backpacks are distributed.



School supplies are generously donated for the Packs for Progress program. This helps kids have the tools they need to enter school ready to learn.



Totes in the process of being filled for the Tools for Teachers program.

## TOOLS FOR TEACHERS

Customized totes with teacher supplies for each of the 17 public schools in Greater Franklin County are distributed in the fall.

## THE COMMUNITY ENERGY CHALLENGE (CEC)

Initiated in 2009, the CEC volunteer-led program has saved thousands of dollars in energy costs and kept families warm by building removable, custom-fit window inserts. Those eligible for heating assistance programs including LIHEAP (Low Income Heating and Energy Assistance Program) qualify for up to 6 free panels, others can pay for panels. The payback on panel purchases is within one heating season. More than 2,300 panels having been made to date for more than 425 households and for 22 community buildings throughout Greater Franklin County.

## WESTERN MAINE CASH COALITION

UWTVA partners with New Ventures Maine to coordinate the Western Maine CASH Coalition. (Creating Assets, Savings and Hope.) Locally, free tax preparation by IRS-trained volunteers is offered during tax season. Trained volunteer Opportunity Guides also build individuals' financial capability by connecting them with resources like family development accounts and healthcare information. Other asset building opportunities are offered throughout the year.



Volunteers help hundreds with their taxes every year, saving prep fees and maximizing their returns.



Verso Androscoggin Mill employees are the largest Campaign contributors to United Way.

Specifically, UWTVA:

- Matches interested volunteers with local volunteer opportunities that are constantly kept up-to-date.
- Provides quarterly facilitation of the Franklin Volunteer Network, an organization of 106+ members and growing with a focus on professional networking, capacity building and information sharing.
- Partners with the Maine Commission for Community Service and Points of Light to become an accredited Service Enterprise organization AND facilitates other non-profits in the region to become certified as well. The goal is to help organizations gain a greater return on volunteer investment and have greater impact in the communities.
- Coordinates Days of Caring. Many days are themed, ranging from *Getting Ready for Winter* to *Caring for our Seniors*.
- Recruits and trains student volunteers, sparking a passion for service in childhood through young adulthood. (UMF Interns, Upward Bound, etc.)
- Offers a week-long *Summer Experience* designed to build leadership through service in 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. This is in partnership with the University of Maine at Farmington, Syntiro, and GEAR UP.

*In addition to connecting individuals to meaningful opportunities throughout the community, United Way coordinates multiple programs through its Volunteer Center. These include:*

# COORDINATING PROGRAMS

MAKING A MEASURABLE DIFFERENCE

## Catholic Charities

307 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101  
Contact: Julie Allaire, (207) 781-8560  
jallaire@ccmaine.org  
United Way funds the SEARCH (Seek Elderly Alone, Renew Courage & Hope) Program in Greater Franklin County enabling vulnerable seniors age 60 plus to remain independent in their homes and create a long-term support system to meet their needs.

## Children's Center

508 Fairbanks Rd., Farmington, ME 04938 (physical)  
1 Alden Ave., Augusta, ME 04330 (mailing)  
Contact: Katelyn Pushard (207) 626-3497  
United Way supports a center-based program that works with young children with disabilities.

## Community Dental

366 US Rte. One,  
Falmouth, ME 04105 (mailing);  
131 Franklin Health Commons #1,  
Farmington, ME 04938 (physical);  
Contact: Susan Isenman, (207) 779-2659  
susan.isenman@communitydentalme.org  
www.communitydentalme.org  
Patient assistance program and sliding fee scale support to provide emergency and preventive dental care to children and adults who otherwise could not afford it.

## Franklin County Children's Task Force

113 Church St., Farmington, ME 04938  
Contact: Renee Whitley, (207) 778-6960  
rwhitley@fcctf.org; www.fcctf.org  
School and community-based education programs to prevent child abuse and neglect and promote healthy relationships.

## Healthy Community Coalition

105 Mt. Blue Circle, Ste.1,  
Farmington, ME 04938  
Contact: Jennifer McCormack,  
(207) 779-2926  
jmcormack@fchn.org; www.fchn.org/hcc  
Mobile Health Unit outreach program which provides free health screenings, information and education.

## LEAP, Inc.

313 Farmington Falls Rd.  
Farmington, ME 04938  
Contact: Loretta Crockett, (207) 778-3443  
ldcrockett@leapcommunity.org  
www.leapcommunity.org  
The DREAM program. Family respite and community integration for adults with developmental and cognitive disabilities.

## Literacy Volunteers serving Franklin & Somerset Counties

129 Seamon Rd. Suite A,  
Farmington, ME 04938  
Contact: Barbara Averill, (207) 500-3131  
literacyvolunteersfs@gmail.com  
www.westernmaineliteracy.org  
Funding supports one-on-one tutoring and "Bring Books to Life Program" which provides free, brand new children's books and a volunteer tutor to coach and support the reading of the books. Program is in collaboration with Head Start.

## Rural Community Action Ministry

81 Church Hill Rd., Leeds, ME 04263  
Contact: Janice Daku, (207) 524-5095  
jdaku@rcam.net; www.rcam.net.  
Housing and homelessness programs including housing rehabilitation, shelter, and financial and technical assistance in Livermore and Livermore Falls.

## Safe Voices

PO Box 713, Auburn, ME 04212 (mailing)  
Contact: Elise Johansen, (207) 795-6744  
www.safevoices.org. Helpline 1-800-559-2927 or (207) 778-6107 (Franklin County).  
Franklin County outreach, emergency services, and community education for survivors of domestic violence, including court advocacy, support groups, children's and youth services, and emergency shelter.

## SeniorsPlus

8 Falcon Rd., Lewiston, ME 04240  
Contact: Holly Zielinski, (207) 795-4010  
hzielinski@seniorsplus.org;  
www.seniorsplus.org  
Provides nutrition and safety checks to homebound older adults through the Meals on Wheels program.

### Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services

PO Box 6, Auburn, ME 04212 (mailing);  
227 Main St., Farmington, ME 04938 (physical)  
Contact: Meagan Davis, (207) 778-9522  
meagan.davis@sapars.org; www.sapars.org  
School-based sexual assault crisis intervention,  
prevention, and support services.

### Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services

#### Children's Advocacy Center

See address above  
Contact: Meagan Davis, (207) 778-9522 or  
(207) 784-0436; marty.mcintyre@sapars.org  
Forensic interviewing of sexually abused  
children and cognitively-impaired adults.



The Adaptive Outdoor Education Center helps climbers of varying abilities reach new heights.

### United Methodist Economic Ministry

1458 Salem Rd., Salem Township, ME 04983  
Contact: Rev. Michele St. Cyr,  
(207) 678-2611. umem@tdstelme.net  
www.gbmg-umc.org/umem.  
Fostering independence and providing assistance  
with basic needs, including housing repairs, food,  
clothing, and fuel in Northern Franklin County.

### Western Maine Community Action

PO Box 200, E. Wilton, ME 04234 (mailing);  
20A Church St., East Wilton, ME 04234 (physical)  
Contact: Jim Trundy, (207) 645-3764  
jtrundy@wmca.org; www.wmca.org  
United Way provides funding for emergency  
heating assistance.

### Western Maine Homeless Outreach

547 Wilton Rd., Farmington, ME 04938  
(physical);  
PO Box 830, Farmington, ME 04938  
(mailing)  
Contact: Shelter Manager, (207) 491-4100  
Emergency shelter and case management.

### Western Maine Transportation Svcs.

76 Merrow Rd., Auburn, ME 04210  
Contact: Craig Zurhorst, (207) 333-6972 x 6  
czurhorst@westernmainetrans.org  
www.wmtsbus.org  
Community Rides Program which allows  
WMTS to provide public transportation in  
Greater Franklin County to those who other-  
wise would not be able to access medical  
and other critical services.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND RECIPIENTS

Special projects funding supports  
emergent initiatives coordinated by  
coalitions, individuals, businesses or  
non-profits.

Applications are accepted on a roll-  
ing basis throughout the year.

#### Recent recipients:

- **Adaptive Outdoor Education Center.**
- **Fun for All Committee/Mallett School**
- **LEAP Stone Soup Gardens**
- **Friends of Wilson Lake**
- **Farmington Grange #12**

## THE HOPE FUND

The Hope Fund provides assistance  
for unmet needs of children in  
Greater Franklin County, with a  
particular emphasis on removing  
barriers to enable low-income chil-  
dren to engage in a wide variety of  
enriching experiences in which they  
would not otherwise be able to par-  
ticipate. Applications are reviewed  
on a monthly basis. Visit [uwtva.org](http://uwtva.org)  
to apply.

**“Because of program  
funding from The Hope  
Fund, a child I work with  
has become a new kid.”**

- Case Manager  
Evergreen Behavioral Services

# CONNECTING VOLUNTEERS STRENGTHENING THE REGION

### Volunteers are an incredible asset to our community.

The hours volunteers donate to making our  
community a better place are an important  
part of our community impact and are care-  
fully tracked. These hours are even part of  
our overall Campaign goal each year. That's  
how important service is to United Way.

UWTVA established the Volunteer Center in  
2009 to support a wide variety of activities  
that provide meaningful experiences,  
strengthen the sector and make a positive  
difference.



Becky Davis-Allen and Nicole Foote volunteer  
at the Color Me United 5K.