

COMMUNITY

INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

We encourage partnerships and initiatives that address specific challenges related to poverty to create a community-wide impact.

- Hunger-Free Pierce County collectively provides food for hungry children and families.
- Our From Poverty to Possibilities summit convenes around public problem solving focused on the continuum of moving families out of poverty.
- The Common Referral System partnership with Workforce Central and 2-1-1 helps people connect to the training and education they need to be successful.
- Help Me Grow, a partnership with 2-1-1 and First 5 FUNdamentals connects families to parenting support, including pregnancy resources and child development.
- Ride United Lyft transportation service with 2-1-1 for employment, healthcare and public benefits access.



TOP 10 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

- 1 Tell people about South Sound 2-1-1 and how we provide a lifeline when people are struggling.
- 2 Volunteer to help provide Summer Meals for kids who aren't getting enough to eat and don't have a formal meal program.
- 3 Attend a United Way event to learn more and network with like-minded community members.
- 4 Participate in your workplace giving campaign to show your support for United Way.
- 5 Donate an extra \$25 a month to provide 5 calls to 2-1-1 to help house people who are experiencing homelessness.
- 6 Follow us on social media to be inspired and join in the conversation about topics that impact you.
- 7 Sign up for our e-newsletter at UWPC.org so you can keep up on issues, companies making a difference and advocacy efforts.
- 8 Write your congressperson and ask them to support hard working families struggling to make ends meet.
- 9 Advocate for legislation that supports programs like SNAP for families who are working but can't afford food.
- 10 Never stop fighting for what's right for every member of our community.

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER. LIVE UNITED™

Follow us     UWPC.org

253.272.4263 | 1501 Pacific Avenue, Suite 400, Tacoma, WA 98402

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UNITED WE FIGHT.

LIVE UNITED



1 IN 3 PIERCE COUNTY RESIDENTS STRUGGLE TO GET BY.

HELP LIFT 15,000 HOUSEHOLDS OUT OF POVERTY BY 2028.

**We can't do it alone. It takes everyone and
United Way is the one to bring the community together.**

UWPC.org
#PIERCECOUNTYSTRONG



United Way of Pierce County

UNITED, WE FIGHT TO END POVERTY, ONE FAMILY AT A TIME

We are helping to transform lives with poverty cutting programs and services that help people who are struggling. When individuals gain stability, families are stronger, children are more successful and our community thrives.

Prevention | Intervention | Empowerment

BASIC NEEDS: BUILDING A SOLID FOUNDATION

By ensuring basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter are met, individuals and families can move out of crisis and into stability. Basic Needs is an essential component of the social safety net and helped more than 124,105 people last year.

- 29,703 received services designed to break down barriers to self-sufficiency
- 80,966 individuals had access to food and shelter
- 5,215 children and their parents accessed early childhood development resources

“We live on \$1,300 per month, and \$880 of that goes to rent. Without this food, life would be a real struggle.” - Nicole

SOUTH SOUND 2-1-1: BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

We connect individuals and families with programs and services to help them navigate through the barriers that are preventing them from becoming self-sufficient. Instead of multiple calls, our free helpline connects people in need with trained specialists to get matched with the right services. South Sound 2-1-1 provides access to hundreds of services and programs from Pierce, Thurston and Lewis Counties including:

- Utilities
- Transportation
- Behavioral Health
- Housing
- Hunger
- Employment
- Legal Assistance

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH HELP WHEN THEY NEED IT MOST

89,214 Served in Pierce, Thurston and Lewis Counties
TOTAL CONTACTS



5,599 Connected to rental assistance
2,661 Connected to emergency shelter
2,743 Connected to a transportation provider

“2-1-1 was simply amazing and it was a one stop resource for everything I needed.” - Robert

STRONG FAMILIES: ACHIEVING FINANCIAL STABILITY

Employment placement, financial coaching, education and workplace skills move families from stable to thriving. Families who struggle with poverty know it's more than just money they lack. Many don't know where or how to find the resources that will help get them back on solid ground. Our Center for Strong Families has been deployed in low-income neighborhoods to help residents face financial challenges head on. Individuals get free one-on-one financial and career coaching as well as resources that will help them thrive and break the cycle of poverty.



LEARN

By achieving a level of post-secondary education and/or training.



KEEP

Savings equal to three months' worth of living expenses; have good credit.



EARN

A sufficient family income for daily expenses, asset accumulation and minor emergencies.



GROW

Smart debt through mainstream banking to gain appreciating assets.

1,158
PEOPLE ENROLLED

Benefited from bundled services at the Center for Strong Families, since its inception



68% Got better paying jobs / \$1,235 increase

43% Increased their net worth / \$12,496 average

66% Increased their credit scores / average 41 points

“The Center for Strong Families was a big part of my journey out of homelessness and into hope. I don't know where I would be today.” - Anita



YOUR INVESTMENT COULD CHANGE A LIFE—OR THOUSANDS. HELP LIFT 15,000 HOUSEHOLDS OUT OF POVERTY!

\$25 Provides five South Sound 2-1-1 calls, which can help house people who are experiencing homelessness.

\$50 Provides an individual with a free financial counseling session to improve their credit score.

\$135 Per month for 1 year helps to stabilize one family and get them on the path to financial stability.