



Message from President/CEO

No one should face hunger's uncertainty especially in a community as caring as Greater Mercer County.

Yet, every day, thousands of hardworking families, our ALICE neighbors (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed), struggle to put food on the table. Even as we move beyond the pandemic, the need for food assistance remains urgent. Rising costs for essentials like groceries and housing are pushing more families to the brink.

At United Way of Greater Mercer County, we're committed to tackling hunger head-on. Your support powers our work and brings hope to those who need it most.

With your support, we **Connect. Empower. Sustain.**

- We **connect** families with vital resources and local partners to ensure immediate access to nutritious food.
- We **empower** community organizations and volunteers to reach more people through innovative programs like Strike Out Hunger, which delivers fresh meals and produce to families in need.
- We **sustain** long-term solutions by investing in local initiatives and supporting the frontline organizations that make a daily impact.

As government funding becomes less reliable, your involvement is more critical than ever.

Hunger affects every aspect of a family's life from health and education to employment and well-being. When you help a family afford healthy food, you help our entire community thrive.

Local food pantries continue to report record demand, with more families seeking help now than even during the pandemic's peak. Your generosity ensures we can respond quickly and effectively.

Will you stand with us to ensure no family in Mercer County goes hungry?



United Way's unique ability to connect resources, empower partners, and sustain real change means your gift creates a ripple effect—helping individuals today and strengthening our community for tomorrow.

Thank you for being a vital part of this effort.

With gratitude,

Sandra Toussaint
President & CEO

United Way of Greater Mercer County



UNITED WAY
Greater Mercer County

**STRIKE OUT
HUNGER**

**** Meal Packing Event Highlights ****

**40,000 Servings
of Chicken Soup
130 Volunteers**



THANK YOU



uwgmc.org/soh

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Thank you to all our Strike Out Hunger Committee, Volunteers, Community Partners, and Sponsors for making our 11th Annual Strike Out Hunger a success. Additional thanks to the New Jersey Office of Volunteerism, United States of America Mrs. Diana Meyer, Meals of Hope, The Father Center of NJ, and Mercer Street Friends.

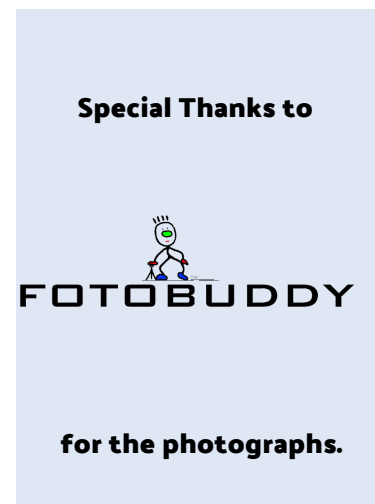
**** EVENT PHOTOS ****
<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjCijvE>

United Way Honors Champions of Change at 2025 United in Impact Awards Community Unites to Tackle Growing Needs Across Mercer County

UWGMC hosted its fifth annual United in Impact Awards on April 30, 2025, at the stunning Grounds For Sculpture, celebrating the power of partnership, leadership, and community spirit. The evening brought together business leaders, public officials, and community members to recognize individuals and organizations driving meaningful change across the region. Emceed by Hal English, President & CEO of the Princeton Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce, the program honored four distinguished champions for their dedication to building a stronger, more inclusive community: Wendy Morriarty of Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ, Assemblywoman Tennille R. McCoy, Susan L. Swatski, Esq. of Hill Wallack LLP, and Jeannine LaRue of Moxie Strategies.

The highlight of the evening included a moving video, produced by Tim Sexton Photography, showcasing UWGMC's ongoing impact and calling on the community to get involved. From food security to education and financial stability, UWGMC's programs support over 60,000 families struggling to make ends meet across Mercer County. Event proceeds will help fund essential services like health insurance access, rental assistance, tax preparation, and school supplies. **As Sandra Toussaint, President & CEO of UWGMC, reminded attendees, "Creating lasting change takes all of us."** With support from sponsors including Horizon, NJM Insurance Group, PNC, Hill Wallack, Your Part-Time Controller, and Johnson & Johnson, the night concluded with renewed energy and a shared commitment to build a thriving Mercer County.

For those inspired to take action, UWGMC welcomes volunteers, donors, and partners to join the movement. Learn more at www.uwgmc.org.



**** EVENT PHOTOS ****
<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjCijvE>

UWGMC Joins Global United Way Leaders to Ignite Bold Transformation at Together We Thrive Conference



UWGMC joined more than 1,200 United Way leaders from across all 50 states and 26 countries for the 2025 Together We Thrive Conference in Orlando. The gathering marked the start of United Way's

bold global transformation, uniting seasoned CEOs and emerging changemakers alike in a shared commitment to strengthening community impact, elevating relevance, and building long-term sustainability. UWGMC staff returned energized, inspired, and ready to contribute to this next chapter—ensuring that Mercer County remains connected to this worldwide movement for measurable change.

UWGMC Awards First-Ever Pathways to Success Scholarships to Empower Mercer County Youth

For the first time ever, United Way of Greater Mercer County is proud to award our Pathways to Success Scholarship—an exciting new initiative designed to fuel the dreams of ambitious high school seniors ready to take their next big step. Whether their journey leads to college or trade school, this scholarship honors the incredible talent and potential of our Mercer County youth. Five outstanding students will each receive \$1,000 to support their educational goals as they continue building bright futures for themselves and our community. This scholarship is a powerful extension of our **Pathways to Success College and Career Readiness Program**, a dynamic six-week experience that equips high school juniors and seniors with essential tools to navigate post-secondary education or career pathways.

Congratulations to our 2025 scholarship recipients:

Mike Castro, Trenton Public High School, attending New Jersey Institute of Technology

Ariyanna Johnson, Stuart Country Day School, attending Emerson College

Jevon Lin, Trenton Central High School, attending Haverford College

Akoya Naylor, Foundation Collegiate Academy, attending St. John University

Eudora Pamphile, Mercer County Technical School, attending Howard University

If you're interested in bringing the Pathways to Success program to your school or nonprofit, contact Fatima Scipio at 609.637.4914 or Fatima.scipio@uwgmc.org. Let's help more students chart their path to success!

**** Programmatic Highlight ****

UWGMC Literacy Kits Spark Learning and Team Spirit Across Mercer County



United Way of Greater Mercer County (UWGMC) is bringing the joy of reading, science, and art directly into the hands of local children through its Literacy Kit initiative—a unique program that blends corporate team-building with community impact. Each Literacy Kit includes an age-appropriate book paired with hands-on

age-appropriate book paired with hands-on activities designed to reinforce literacy, STEM concepts, or creative arts for elementary-aged students. Companies engage their employees by decorating kits, assembling activity materials, and knowing their efforts directly support childhood development across Mercer County.



The program features a variety of themed kits, including A Pocket for Corduroy for kindergarteners to second graders, encouraging literacy through interactive reading and sewing activities. STEM kits like Oh! Say Can You Seed? inspire budding scientists to grow plants and track progress, while art kits transport children into the world of famous artists like Claude Monet, complete with creative projects and even tickets to Grounds For Sculpture. In just the past four months, 310 kits have been lovingly prepared by corporate volunteers, with approximately 400 distributed to schools, afterschool programs, and community partners. By combining skill-building with imagination, UWGMC's Literacy Kits are igniting a love of learning while strengthening bonds between local businesses and the community.

TO LEARN MORE OR HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS INITIATIVE

CONTACT JOHN.SANTANA@UWGMC.ORG

Join the UWGMC Leader's Circle

United Way of Greater Mercer County Leader's Circle, a network of like-minded individuals who contribute \$500-\$9,999+ annually, is committed to strengthening our community and sharing a vision for advancing the common good in Mercer County.

By bringing together people with passion, expertise, and resources, we can address the complex social issues affecting our community's economic vitality and quality of life.

With your help, we continue working tirelessly to alleviate our neighbors' growing challenges. Your support will guarantee that hundreds will continue to benefit from our initiatives, ensuring children and families in need have their basic needs met and additional resources to thrive.

Together, we can create real change and improve people's lives, now and into the future.



Visionary Circle: \$5,000-\$9,999

Gateway Circle: \$2,500-\$4,999

Pacesetter Circle: \$1,000-\$2,499

Neighbor Society: \$500 - \$999

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND
BENEFITS OF GIVING**

WWW.UWGMC.ORG/LEADERSCIRCLE



UNITED WAY
Greater Mercer County

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To continue making a difference in the lives of people in Mercer County, consider a donation today.

For Secure online Credit Card

Donations go to

uwgmc.org/summer2025ppeal

or scan QR Code



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