

2026 Community Impact Application

Each year United Way provides the opportunity for non-profit organizations providing human services in Lewis, Marion, Monroe, Ralls, or Shelby Counties to apply to become a Community Impact Agency.

Community Impact Agencies benefit financially from the United Way's Annual Campaign, but are also granted a membership into the United Way providing additional publicity opportunities, notoriety, training, and more. This application is to apply for the distinction as a Community Impact Agency from May of 2026 to April of 2027.

In order to be eligible to apply, the work of organizations must align with United Way's areas of focus and priority areas as well as be in line with priorities outlined in the Community Health Improvement Plan. In depth information on those can be found on the United Way website at

<http://unitedwaymta.org/community-impact> and <https://unitedwaymta.org/community-needs>

Applications and all required documents are due to United Way by Saturday, February 15th at 11:59pm.

Email *

kwasson@necac.org

Agency Name

North East Community Action Corporation (NECAC)

Agency Director

Daniel Page

Director E-mail

dpage@necac.org

Agency Address

16 N Court St

City, St, Zip

Bowling Green, MO, 63334

Agency Phone Number

5733242231

Website

www.necac.org

EIN

431017571

Fiscal Year Start and End Date

October 1- September 30

Application Contact Name

Kayla Wasson, CSBG Operations Director

Application Contact E-mail Address

kwasson@necac.org

Application Contact Phone Number

573-324-6633

I certify I have the authority to submit this application on behalf of the organization.

☒ Yes

Organization's Mission Statement

"NECAC strives to make a difference by empowering people, changing lives and building communities"
To assist the disadvantaged within our service area in their efforts to rise above poverty by providing needed services to enable each individual to function at his or her own improved financial, physical, mental and social level.

Organization's Vision Statement

That all community members, including lower income people themselves, will take the responsibility and work together to alleviate the cause of poverty.

Provide a 25-word summary of your organization.

NECAC assists disadvantaged within our service area to rise above poverty by providing needed services to enable each individual to reach self-sufficiency and economic stability.

How many dollars are you applying for from the United Way of the Mark Twain Area?

17,000

Are you currently receiving dollars from the United Way of the Mark Twain Area?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Have you ever received dollars from the United Way of the Mark Twain Area?

☒ Yes

☐ No

What is your organization applying for funding from United Way for?

☒ Specific Project/Program - dollars will be designated to only be utilized for a specific purpose.

☐ General Support - dollars will be considered general revenue to the organization.

If applying for dollars for a specific project/program, name of the project/program.

Gap Services

Give a **brief** overview of the program(s) your organization implements. Provide headings above each program.

*****If applying for specific project/program dollars give the overview of that project/program FIRST*****

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

NECAC administers CSBG to help individuals and families with low incomes move toward stability and self-sufficiency. Through case management, life skill classes and referrals, CSBG addresses immediate needs while helping participants set goals, build skills and overcome barriers related to employment, housing, transportation and access to community resources.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP helps eligible households with heating and cooling costs and provides energy crisis intervention to prevent utility shutoffs. NECAC's support ensures household stability, safety and health, especially for seniors, people with disabilities and families with young children.

Weatherization Assistance Program

NECAC's Weatherization program improves energy efficiency in income-eligible homes through insulation, air sealing and heating system upgrades. These improvements lower energy costs, make homes safer and support long-term housing stability.

Employment and Workforce Development

NECAC supports people entering or re-entering the workforce through employment readiness programs, training referrals and funding through workforce programs and partnerships education providers. These services help participants build skills, increase income and improve long-term economic security.

Nutrition and Basic Needs Support

NECAC addresses food insecurity and other basic needs through referrals, connections with food pantries and on-site direct assistance at select locations. This ensures households can meet essential needs while working toward greater independence.

Community Partnerships and Advocacy

NECAC works closely with local agencies, schools, healthcare providers and community organizations to address root causes of poverty. Through community programs such as Poverty Simulations, REALL and VOICE simulations, NECAC engages partners and residents to build awareness, strengthen local systems and improve services. These efforts expand access to resources and ensure the voices of people served are heard in shaping solutions.

What data shows the work you would do with United Way dollars is needed in our community? Share the correlation between the programs you hope to implement with United Way funds and this data. Share the source of the data.

Data from multiple local and state sources shows that residents in Lewis, Marion, Monroe, Ralls and Shelby Counties continue to face challenges related to employment, housing stability, education and meeting basic needs. NECAC's Community Needs Assessment (CNA) identifies persistent poverty, limited access to livable-wage jobs, housing instability and difficulty maintaining basic necessities as ongoing issues across the service area. These challenges are often intensified in rural communities where transportation barriers, limited services and fewer employment opportunities create additional obstacles for families.

Employment data indicates many households experience underemployment or job instability, making it difficult to maintain consistent income. Housing data reflects continued challenges with affordability and the ability to maintain safe and stable housing. Education data shows gaps in credential attainment and workforce skills that limit long-term economic mobility. The CNA and feedback from community partners also highlight food insecurity, energy insecurity and the need for ongoing support to help households remain self-sufficient.

United Way funding would help NECAC address these documented needs by filling critical service gaps and reducing barriers that prevent families from achieving stability. Funding would support employment and workforce services that help individuals gain and maintain employment, stabilize income and improve job retention. Housing and energy-related assistance would help families maintain safe housing and avoid crisis situations that can lead to homelessness. Education and skill-building supports would help participants complete training or credentials needed to improve employability. Basic needs services would ensure families can meet essential needs while working toward long-term self-sufficiency.

By targeting resources where the data shows the greatest need, United Way investments allow NECAC to provide flexible, responsive support that helps families overcome barriers and build stability.

How will your organization measure the success of the programs it implements in the community? What kind of change/improvement does your organization anticipate seeing in the community by doing your work?

NECAC measures the success of its programs by looking at the real changes people experience, not just the services they receive. Using Results-Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) principles, we set clear goals for each program and track progress to help clients move toward stability, independence and a better quality of life. We track outcomes in MIS using National Performance Indicators (NPIs). This helps us see how well our programs are working and where we can improve. We look at key milestones like helping clients get and keep jobs, secure and maintain stable housing, complete educational or skills training, and meet essential needs like food, utilities and healthcare. Through this work, we expect to see real improvements for individuals, families and the community. People may earn and maintain income, keep safe housing, finish school or training programs, and gain the skills and resources they need to meet their basic needs. Programs like Poverty Simulations, REALL and VOICE simulations also help partners, schools and residents understand the challenges of poverty, inspiring stronger community support and solutions. By combining data tracking with hands-on programs, NECAC makes a meaningful difference in people's lives. Success shows up as stronger families, greater self-sufficiency, and communities better equipped to support their most vulnerable members.

Are there other organizations in our community addressing the same need and implementing similar programs who serve the same geographic area as your organization?

Yes. While NECAC is the only Community Action Agency serving Lewis, Marion, Monroe, Ralls and Shelby Counties with a broad suite of programs addressing poverty, energy assistance, housing, workforce development, home support and community engagement, there are several other organizations in the region working to meet similar needs and support overlapping populations. While some of these organizations focus on specific needs or populations (e.g., early childhood services, senior programs, food security, disability advocacy), together with NECAC they form a cross-sector support network addressing poverty, housing instability, energy challenges, food insecurity and other basic needs in this area.

If your organization would receive United Way funds, which focus area(s) would your work with these dollars align to?

- ☒ Healthy Community
- ☒ Youth Opportunity
- ☒ Financial Security
- ☒ Community Resiliency

Explain how your work would align with the selected focus area(s). Please ensure you have reviewed how United Way defines these focus areas.

NECAC's work closely aligns with United Way of the Mark Twain Area's focus on Healthy Community, Financial Security, Youth Opportunity and Community Resiliency and reflects the priorities identified in the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for Northeast Missouri.

Healthy Community:

The CHNA makes it clear that mental health challenges, substance use, chronic disease and limited access to care are affecting families across our region. NECAC helps address these issues by focusing on the everyday conditions that impact health. When families have safe housing, enough food and help navigating resources, their health improves. Through programs that support housing stability, energy assistance, and access to services, NECAC helps remove barriers that often prevent individuals from seeking or maintaining care.

Financial Security:

Many households in our communities are struggling with rising costs, limited wages and unexpected emergencies. NECAC's work supports financial security by helping families stabilize during difficult times while also building pathways toward long-term independence. Workforce development, employment support, and financial education help individuals reduce crisis situations and gain the stability they need to move forward.

Youth Opportunity:

Children and young people do best when their basic needs are met and their families are supported. The CHNA highlights the importance of early support, stable housing and access to services for improving outcomes for youth. NECAC supports youth opportunity by strengthening families—helping parents maintain stable homes, nutrition supports and connect to education and job training. These supports create environments where children can grow, learn and succeed.

Community Resiliency:

Rural communities often face added challenges including limited transportation, fewer service providers and vulnerability during emergencies. NECAC plays a key role in helping communities respond to immediate needs while preparing for future challenges. Through coordinated partnerships, emergency assistance and unmet needs support, NECAC helps individuals and communities recover more quickly and remain resilient. Overall, NECAC's work is rooted in meeting people where they are—addressing urgent needs today while building stability and opportunity for tomorrow. This approach aligns directly with United Way's focus on improving lives and strengthening communities across Northeast Missouri.

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If your organization would receive United Way funds, which priority area(s) would your work with these dollars align to?

- ☒ Supporting Critical Services
- ☒ Providing Opportunities for Upward Mobility

Explain how your work would align with the selected priority area(s). Please ensure you have reviewed how United Way defines these priority areas.

NECAC's work aligns closely with United Way's priority areas of Supporting Critical Services and Providing Opportunities for Upward Mobility by addressing both immediate needs and long-term stability for individuals and families.

Under Supporting Critical Services, NECAC helps ensure households can meet basic needs during times of crisis or instability. United Way funds would support services that stabilize families, including assistance related to housing stability, energy needs, food access and other essential supports. These services help prevent emergencies such as homelessness, utility shutoffs or food insecurity, allowing individuals and families to remain safe and secure. By reducing immediate barriers, NECAC helps households avoid crisis situations that can derail long-term progress. At the same time, NECAC's work supports Providing Opportunities for Upward Mobility by helping individuals build the skills and stability needed to improve their financial situation over time. United Way funding would support employment and workforce services that help individuals gain and maintain employment, increase income and improve job retention. Educational and skill-building supports help participants complete training or credentials that strengthen their ability to compete in the workforce. Case management and supportive services help clients set goals, address barriers and sustain progress toward self-sufficiency. By integrating these approaches, NECAC ensures that individuals are not only stabilized in the short term but also supported in achieving long-term economic security

If your organization would receive United Way funds, which priority health need(s) outlined in the Community Health Improvement Plan would your work with these dollars align to if applicable?

- ☐ Mental Health & Substance Use Disorders
- ☐ Access to & Affordability of Care
- ☒ Housing & Homelessness
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Chronic Disease Prevention & Management
- ☒ Workforce Development (Health & Social Sectors)

Explain how your work would align with the selected priority health need(s). Correlate your work to what is shared in the Community Health Improvement Plan.

Our work aligns directly with the priority health needs identified in the Community Health Improvement Plan, specifically housing and homelessness and workforce development in the health and social service sectors. The Community Health Needs Assessment shows that housing instability, economic hardship and workforce shortages are major factors affecting health outcomes across the region, especially for low-income and rural families.

To address housing and homelessness, our work focuses on keeping people safely housed and helping them regain stability when a housing crisis occurs. The CHNA highlights rising housing costs, utility insecurity and limited emergency housing options as ongoing challenges. Through emergency assistance, housing stabilization support and coordinated referrals, we help families avoid homelessness and reduce the stress that comes with housing instability. For individuals already experiencing housing challenges, we provide case management and help connecting to housing resources and support services. Stable housing creates a foundation for better health, employment and overall well-being.

Our workforce development efforts support the Community Health Improvement Plan's focus on strengthening the health and social service workforce. The CHNA identifies workforce shortages and limited access to training as barriers that affect both employment opportunities and service availability. We help individuals overcome barriers to employment through education, job readiness support and access to training opportunities within health and social service fields. This work improves financial stability for individuals while also strengthening the local systems that families rely on for care and support.

Together, these efforts reflect a practical, coordinated approach outlined in the Community Health Improvement Plan. By addressing housing stability and workforce development at the same time, our work supports healthier families, a stronger workforce and a more resilient community.

Describe the demographic makeup of the clients you would serve with funding from United Way. United Way prioritizes the needs of individuals who are marginalized (individuals living in poverty, minorities, children without parental support, etc.).

During FY25, NECAC served 4,192 individuals across Lewis, Marion, Monroe, Ralls, and Shelby Counties, representing 2,084 households. Of those served, 1,766 were male and 2,426 were female. Many clients face additional challenges, including 1,023 individuals with disabilities, 51 veterans, and 531 from minority racial backgrounds, with 72 identifying as Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin. NECAC also assisted 16 individuals experiencing homelessness and 1 disconnected youth. Our services reached a broad age range, including 1,444 children and youth ages 0-17, 1,644 adults ages 18-54, and 1,104 adults ages 55 and older. Through United Way funding, NECAC would continue focusing on marginalized populations, including those living in poverty, minority communities, children without parental support, individuals with disabilities, and older adults, ensuring equitable access to programs that strengthen families, improve stability, and provide pathways to opportunity.

Dollars from the United Way of the Mark Twain Area can ONLY be used to support programs in Marion, Monroe, Ralls, Lewis, and Shelby Counties in Missouri. If you serve additional counties, how can you prove dollars are only used to support the work of these counties?

Counties outside the five-county United Way service area do not have access to funding. The Emergency Services Coordinator maintains a United Way funds balance sheet and oversees the distribution of funding to the designated counties. Applications are reviewed and processed through the Central Processing office, and checks and balances are in place to ensure that funding is only provided to eligible counties.

What other revenue streams are utilized to support the program you are applying to the United Way to receive funding for?

NECAC operates programs funded through local, state, and federal grants, as well as community donations, to support housing, employment, and essential needs. Community donations help fund projects such as internal food pantries, back-to-school initiatives, and community gardens. CSBG funding supports staff, case management services, and Life Skills classes, while LIHEAP and Ameren program dollars provide utility assistance to eligible families. Employment needs are addressed through the Skill UP program and CSBG case management. Building strong relationships with clients through case management ensures they receive the assistance needed to achieve self-sufficiency, whether through housing, utility support, or educational opportunities.

Explain the impact funding from United Way will have on the work of your organization if selected to receive funding from May 2026-April 2027.

NECAC will use United Way funding to help individuals meet basic needs identified during the Intake, Assessment, and Referral (IAR) process, as well as to support educational and gap services. Staff are trained to coordinate and “bundle” resources so clients can access all services needed. United Way funds specifically address gap needs, including deposits, medical prescriptions, utilities when no other funding is available, employment supplies, and other essential services. By filling these gaps, United Way funding enables low-income families to maintain stability and supports their progress toward self-sufficiency.

Explain any collaborations with other agencies.

NECAC collaborates with Tri-County Alliance and the Balance of State Coordinated Entry system to provide a streamlined referral process. These partnerships help ensure that the most vulnerable individuals and families receive housing assistance and other critical services. By sharing program information and coordinating efforts, NECAC and its partners can more effectively address client needs, reduce service gaps, and support individuals on their path to stability and self-sufficiency.

For organizations that have been a United Way Community Impact Agency previously: How has your organization shown that your organization receives funding from United Way and partnered with the United Way organization?

NECAC has partnered with United Way through the UHON program by completing applications and entering client eligibility information into the United Way portal for direct assistance dollars. We ensure clients receive timely support for basic needs through this program. In addition, NECAC participates in local United Way events, including Kick Off and other community-based activities, helping to promote United Way initiatives and strengthen our partnership in serving the community.

If your organization previously has been a United Way Community Impact Agency, outside of receiving monthly financial support, how else has your organization benefited?

Beyond receiving monthly financial support, NECAC has benefited from being a United Way Community Impact Agency through increased visibility in the community, strengthened partnerships with other local organizations, and access to resources and training opportunities. Participation in United Way events and initiatives has allowed NECAC to expand outreach, connect clients to additional services, and share information about programs that support low-income families. This collaboration enhances our capacity to meet community needs and amplifies the impact of our programs.

Organization Best Practices Questionnaire

Complete the following form answering questions relating to organization best practices. This information will not necessarily make an organization ineligible for status as a Community Impact Agency with United Way, but might result in the need for additional information for United Way.

PROGRAMS & MISSION:

Is your organization's mission statement able to be found prominently at your organization, on your organization's website, and on printed materials about your organization?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your organization ensure all programs of your organization align with the mission of the organization?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your organization have a strategic plan?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

BOARD:

Does your organization have a board of directors that meets at least once a year to oversee the affairs of the organization?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your organization have a board of directors made up of a diverse group of people (age, gender, education, background, ethnicity, etc.)?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your organization have a process to recruit new board members?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your organization provide training to new board members?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Has your organization reviewed its bylaws in the last 12 months?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your board approve the annual budget?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your board review financial statements on at least a quarterly basis?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your board annually disclose conflicts of interest?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your organization maintain meeting minutes for all board meetings?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

How frequently does your board meet?

Full board meets 7 times per year, executive committee meets an additional 5 times per year.

Does your organization's bylaws include term limits for board members?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Need more information

Do all of your organization's board members give financially to the organization, or if they are unable to give financially, do they volunteer their time to the organization?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

EMPLOYER QUESTIONS:

If your organization has employees, do you have an employee handbook?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information
- ☐ N/A

If your organization has employees, are there up to date job descriptions for those employees?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information
- ☐ N/A

If your organization has an Executive Director, is that director evaluated on an annual basis by the board of directors?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information
- ☐ N/A

FINANCE & LEGALITY:

In the last year has there been any government agency led investigations of your organization?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Need more information

Is your organization registered with the Secretary of State's Office and is that registration up to date?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Did your organization file the IRS Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N in a timely manner (within ten and a half months of your last fiscal year end)?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Was a copy of the IRS Form 990 provided to the organization's board of directors before it was filed?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Has your organization reviewed its policies and procedures in the last 12 months?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your organization have a financial policy in place to oversee the paying of invoices?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your organization have a policy in place to reimburse employees or volunteers for expenses?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

Does your organization have a policy in place for receiving cash and making deposits?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Need more information

How much does your organization have in operating reserves per your most recent financial statement?

81,169.34

How many months does that operating reserves equate to in regards to average monthly expenses?

0 Months

Any details you want to share about your organization's operating reserves?

N/A

File Uploads

Following are the required documents - United Way must receive ALL required documents by Saturday, February 15th in order to be eligible to become a Community Impact Agency.

NUMBER SERVED: Please submit your numbers served using THIS link:

[2026 Number of People Served at the Agency – Fill out form](#)

Number of Individuals Served - USE THIS LINK: [2026 Number of People Served at the Agency – Fill out form](#)

☐

Form Submitted

Organization Budget - Form found on Website or can use own format - Upload as Spreadsheet

📎 2026 - 2027 NEC...

📁 Add file

Program/Project Budget (if applying for program/project dollars) - Form found on Website - Upload as Spreadsheet

 2026 - 2027 NEC...

 Add file

Most Recent IRS 990

 2023 NECAC- 10-...

 Add file

Federal IRS Determination Letter - Not required for returning applicants

 Add file

For budgets over \$300,000 please upload your most recently completed audit.

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 Add file

For budgets of \$20,000-\$300,000 please upload a Compilation Report prepared by a CPA (or bring a copy to the United Way Office if no full audit).

 Add file

For budgets under \$20,000, please upload most recent approved financial statement.

 Add file

Board Member Listing - Form Found on Website - Upload as Spreadsheet

 Board Member Li...

 Add file

Key Employee Listing - Form Found on Website - Upload as Spreadsheet

 Key Employee Li...

 Add file

Organization's most recent Annual Report (if applicable)

 Add file

Upload Agency's Bylaws - Required for new applicants, required for returning applicants if any changes have been made in past year.

 CorporateBy-Law...

 Add file

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