

"OH, The People We Can Help"



"Together,

We Can Do So Much Good"



2017-2018 Newsletter

Visit us online at www.myunitedwaymonroecounty.org

Caylen Matoy Executive Director

"What exactly does United Way do?"

The simplest way to answer that question is

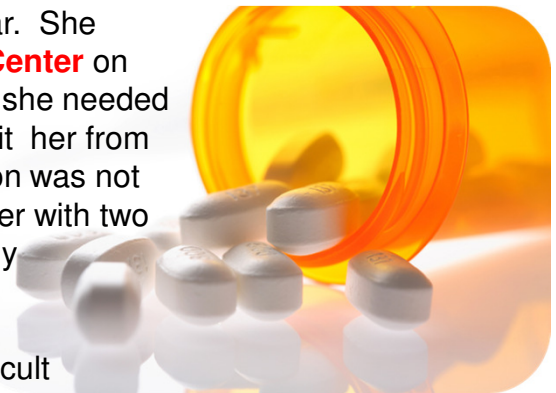
"We Support Programs That Help People."

These stories were made possible because of your donations...

Rachel was diagnosed with cervical cancer in July of last year. She came into the **Douglas Cherokee Neighborhood Service Center** on August 30, 2016 asking for help paying for four prescriptions she needed to kill infections that had set up in her body and would prohibit her from beginning her chemotherapy the following week if the infection was not taken care of. Her husband passed away last year leaving her with two young children to raise on her own. They had been financially supported by the children's survivor benefits from his social security during the difficult time of adjusting to their loss.

This income was well below poverty level which makes it difficult for the struggling family if any unexpected expenses arise. The children have medical insurance but Rachel does not have any health coverage and cannot pay the extra premium costs to obtain health insurance.

The prescriptions (at cost) came to \$192.67. The United Way Medication fund was able to issue a voucher for \$192.67 to Wil-Sav Drugs the same day Rachel came in to Douglas Cherokee Neighborhood Service Center. This assistance provided by United Way helped Rachel get the medicine she needed to get the infection under control so that she could have the chemotherapy she needed to fight the cancer in her body. If it were not for these funds, Rachel would not have been able to get the medicine she needed to get well and start chemotherapy and be on the road to healing so she could take care of her family.



Through Our 22 Local Agency Programs

United Way Achieves Lasting Results in our Community.





It's Nice Not Feeling Alone...



Janet moved to Monroe County nine years ago. She stayed in her home for eight years without making any new friends or joining in new activities. She doesn't drive and has no family in the immediate area for transportation. She found out about **Monroe County Senior Citizens and Friends, Inc.** and joined about a year ago. Since then she has made many new friends, joined exercise classes, went on the group trips organized through our program, and takes advantage of the congregate meal and transportation programs several days a week. Other benefits from participating in our United Way funded program is that she has received help on her health insurance, obtained Medicaid, legal aid and assistance on preparing for a court hearing with TennCare for a surgical procedure. She often says "I don't know what I did before I found this place. I have friends and people to help me with my problems. This place is a lifesaver!"

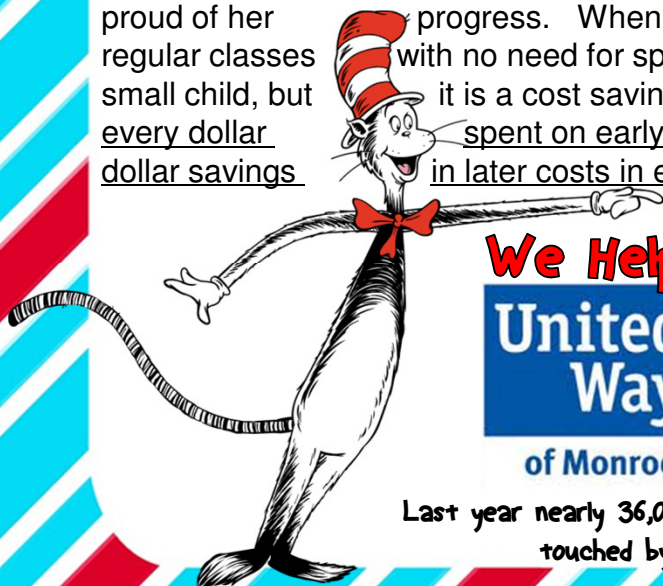


Monroe County Imagination Library has provided 18,936 free books to children this past year!



"Jump Start in Development."

Ashley, a 16 month old was referred to **LTVEC Birth-to-Three** by her foster mother. Her foster mother described her as very loving and she could understand some words said to her but she didn't speak at all. Ashley was extremely shy and fearful of strangers, so it was important for her to have an early intervention teacher see her at home where she was most comfortable. This also allowed her family to learn specific strategies for helping her learn new development skills daily. After twenty months of weekly home visits, Ashley had become more physically active and coordinated. She understands everything said to her and communicates in full sentences! Ashley can do everything that any other child her age can do. She is ready to graduate from early intervention services. **Ashley has gone from a child who needed assistance in all areas of development to a little girl who learns and plays just as well as any other child her age.** Her foster family feels confident that they can help her with learning activities at home and are so proud of her progress. When Ashley attends kindergarten at age five, she will attend regular classes with no need for special education. This is not only a special miracle for a small child, but it is a cost savings to Monroe County. National statistics tell us that for every dollar spent on early childhood intervention, there is a fourteen to seventeen dollar savings in later costs in education, social and judicial services to the community.



We Help People



of Monroe County

Last year nearly 36,000 people in Monroe County were touched by United Way Services

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