



United Way
of Columbia County

United Way of Columbia County Board of Directors

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2023 IMPACT REPORT

OUR MISSION: To increase the organized capacity for people to care for one another.

OUR VISION: Columbia County will have thriving communities with opportunities for a better life for all. United Way will work for the common good by focusing on the basic building blocks of health, education and financial stability for everyone.



BY THE NUMBERS...

CHILDHOOD SUCCESS:

1,669 Columbia County Children received books from Dolly Patrons Imagination Library

17,100 books provided to Columbia County youth

32 families assisted in accessing childcare or early learning programs

ECONOMIC MOBILITY:

42 households supported to gain or maintain safe housing through Rental/Mortgage Assistance

10 individuals provided required equipment or training for local employment

290 retired and Senior Volunteers actively giving back to Columbia County through volunteer service

ACCESS TO HEALTH:

2 new low-barrier food pantries installed

\$4,593 saved in prescription costs through SingleCare

FROM THE DIRECTOR

United Way's footprint in our community is both broad and deep, affecting lives in ways that matter. With a focus on health, education, and economic mobility, we are meeting immediate needs and addressing the root causes of systemic issues.

Elevating Health as a Community Asset

We recognize that health is not just a personal concern but a communal asset. Food insecurity and limited access to health services and health education can significantly undermine our community's ability to reach its full potential. 1 in 4 Columbia County households have experienced food insecurity. By supporting partners, like Columbia Pacific Food Bank, Turning Point, Hope of Rainier, and Vernonia Cares, that make healthy foods more accessible, we help build communities where all of our neighbors are not just surviving but also contributing effectively to their own well-being. When people are healthy, they can work, volunteer, and actively participate in the community. In addition, the United Way of Columbia County: Senior Volunteer Program supports local senior centers providing home delivered meals to homebound seniors—ensuring our most vulnerable have access to nutrition. Our approach doesn't just tackle problems on the surface but seeks to create a healthy foundation for everyone in our community.

Unlocking Future Success through Education

Education is also a cornerstone for personal and societal development. We partner with early childhood programs such as Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, offering access to reading materials for our earliest readers, ages 0-5. What this means for families is simple yet powerful: kids who read well early on have a better chance of succeeding in school and life. Our Parent Navigator Program trains local families with lived-experience to help others navigate early learning programs such as childcare, Head Start, Preschool Promise, and other community resources. Our United Way

seeks not just to meet immediate educational needs but to build a strong foundation for future academic and career success.

Economic Mobility: A Generational Investment

We're also focusing on adults, particularly in the realm of maintaining stable housing throughout family transitions. Through the Emergency Food and Shelter Program, we're creating a support net for individuals who have experienced Intimate Partner Violence or other household trauma to maintain or acquire safe, stable housing. Interventions like ours are important because they help break the cycle of trauma that can trap families for generations. The aim is to go beyond quick fixes, providing lasting solutions that elevate entire communities.

How Can You Help?

We have already made meaningful strides, but challenges remain. Far too many people throughout Columbia County struggle to meet basic needs, and too many children risk falling behind. These challenges call for collective action. Join us in creating opportunities so that everyone in our community can thrive. Please donate today.



Claire Catt

Executive Director

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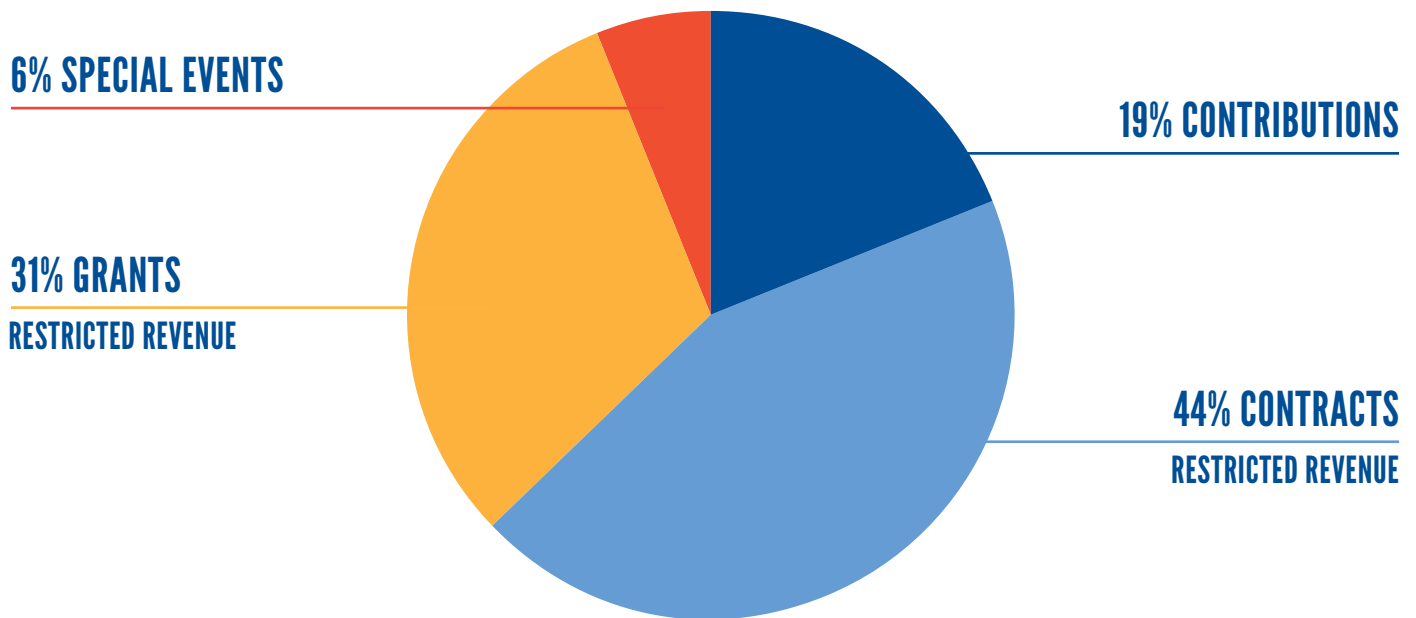
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PO Box 538

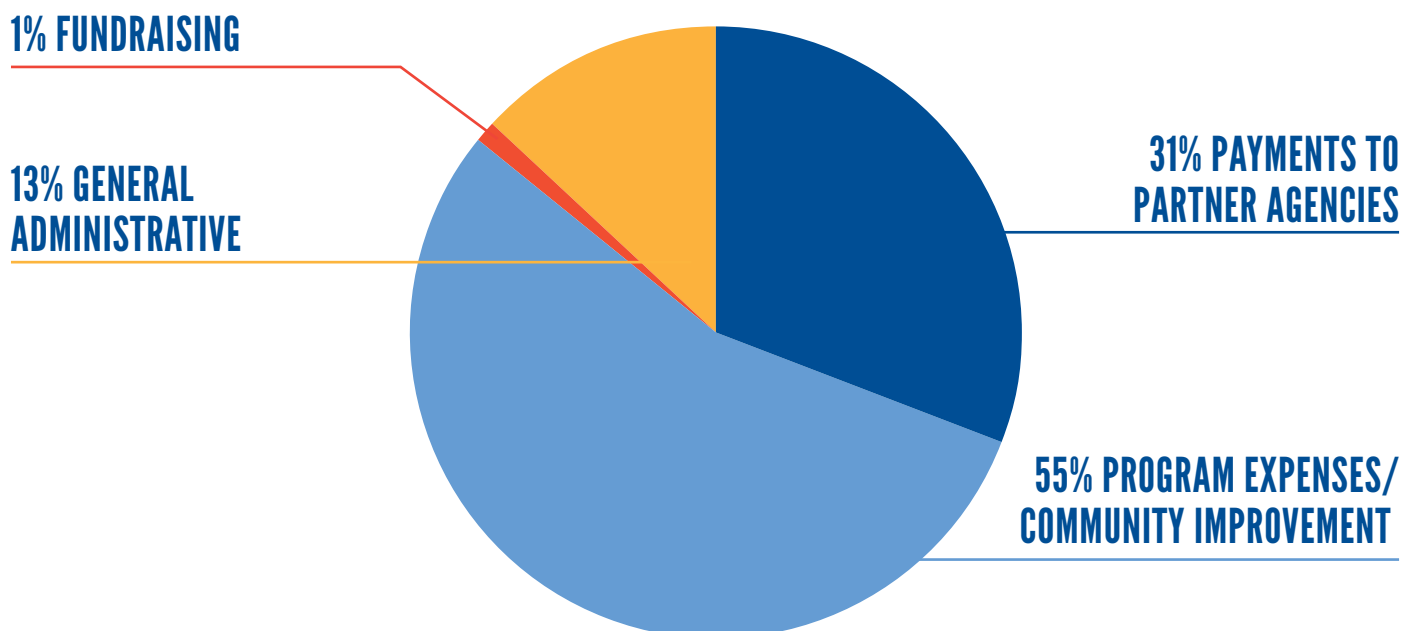
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FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

2023 United Way of Columbia County Revenue \$185,862



2023 United Way of Columbia County Expenses \$176,921



PARTNER AGENCIES

Partnering with local nonprofits allows United Way of Columbia County to understand the landscape of distress in our community. This means your donation supports the greatest local needs, not necessarily just one cause. Sometimes you hear about the work a nonprofit does, but you have questions about how well they are run. UWCC eliminates that concern by ensuring Partner Agencies are self-sustaining, have successful programming, a sound budget and specific reasons for which they are requesting money—every year.

Thank you for your donations in support of our 2023 Member Agencies:

- **TURNING POINT**
- **HOPE OF RAINIER**
- **VERNONIA CARES**
- **COLUMBIA PACIFIC FOOD BANK**
- **AMANI CENTER**
- **SAFE OF COLUMBIA COUNTY**

THANK YOU!

We are so inspired and humbled by each of our volunteers, donors, partners, supporters, and everyday heroes! You are the reason that this work continues each day. You are the reason we can ensure that Columbia County has a bright future.



SCAN to review the many different ways you can support us!



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