

LIVE UNITED

A credo. A mission. A goal.

A constant reminder that when we as individuals think outside ourselves, we have the power to facilitate change. When we think of others lives as linked to our own, our compassion grows. When we reach out a hand to one, we influence the condition of all. We build the strength of our neighborhoods. We bolster the health of our communities. And we change the lives of those who walk by us every day.

More, it is a command. TO GIVE. TO ADVOCATE. TO VOLUNTEER. Because united, we stand. United, we elevate.

United, we persevere. United, we move through. Above. And beyond.

United, we can change what we see in our world.



The Live United campaign is about the power of unity.



Elevator Speech

United Way of Central Alabama is working to advance the common good through a collective effort. What is the common good? Opportunities to access the basics we all need for a good life. Education. Income. Health.

Separately many worthwhile organizations have been working on these issues. United Way wants to be the catalyst to identify the best practices, bring everyone to the table and find the resources to make it happen.

Our vision for Central Alabama is bold, in the next ten years we want to elevate the living standard in Jefferson, Shelby, Walker, Blount and St. Clair Counties by creating long lasting changes that prevent the problems from happening in the first place.

We invite you to be part of the change. **Give. Advocate. Volunteer.** United we can inspire hope and create new opportunities for us all.

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United Way Advancing the Common Good

Creating the opportunities for a good life for all by focusing on:



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Community Statistics

We have the power to create opportunities for a good life for all. When we think of others' lives linked to our own -- our compassion and understanding grows. When we reach out a hand to one, we influence the condition of all.

Education

- 43 percent of Alabama's children live in poverty
- 35% of 4th graders and 47% of eighth graders in Alabama scored below the basic level of math in their grade
- In Alabama 24% of the population have less than a high school education

Income

- One out of six people in our community live in poverty
- In order to be economically self sufficient in Birmingham a single adult with no children needs to earn \$8.09 per hour to be able to meet his /her basic needs. Two adults with two children must each earn \$9.69 per hour
- In Alabama in 2000 23% of households had no earnings
- 28% of households reported social security income
- In Alabama female headed families with children under age 18 living below the poverty threshold was 44.6%

Health

- Alabama is the 45th healthiest state in the union
- Alabama had the highest increase nationally in obesity rate in the past year – the second heaviest state in the nation
- Alabama ranks 5th in the nations for adult diabetes levels and third for rates of hypertension
- 5.5% of children in the state of Alabama have no health insurance



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THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUR ANNUAL SUPPORT

By your annual support you provide hope and help to many people.

Your commitment is the heart of our support to education.

- Funds directed to schools that help children in need
- Tutoring programs in the school
- Activities to promote and address family literacy, ESOL, adult basic education and GED preparation
- In-school enrichment and prevention programs
- School readiness activities
- After school programs with supplementary education programs
- Early intervention programs and services to families of children living with disabilities
- Adult mentors for children and youth
- Parenting programs

Your commitment lifts people out of crisis and poverty and puts them on track to independence

- Job training, employment and placement services
- Vocational rehabilitation and habilitation
- Financial assistance and subsidies for day care tuition
- Consumer counseling in budgeting, housing and financial planning
- Shelters for the homeless and victims of domestic violence
- Employment opportunities for seniors
- Affordable housing
- Disaster relief
- Basic skills training
- Emergency assistance to families needing clothing and medical supplies
- Food pantries and community kitchens
- Financial subsidies and referrals to day care

Your annual gift also helps people access services

- Information and referral services
- Transportation assistance
- 24 hour crisis telephone hotlines
- Community planning and collaboration activities

Your commitment leads the community to better health and healthy life styles

- Research, public education and prevention programs
- Health and safety education
- Pediatric health services to Alabama's children
- Health insurance for children not eligible for government or private assistance
- Recreation and sports opportunities for children and youth
- Counseling services for families in crisis
- Prescription drug assistance
- Testing services
- Nutrition programs for seniors