




**\$2.2 MILLION
INVESTED IN
GRANTS AND PROGRAMS**



**390
VOLUNTEERS
LEVERAGED TO SERVE
THE COMMUNITY**



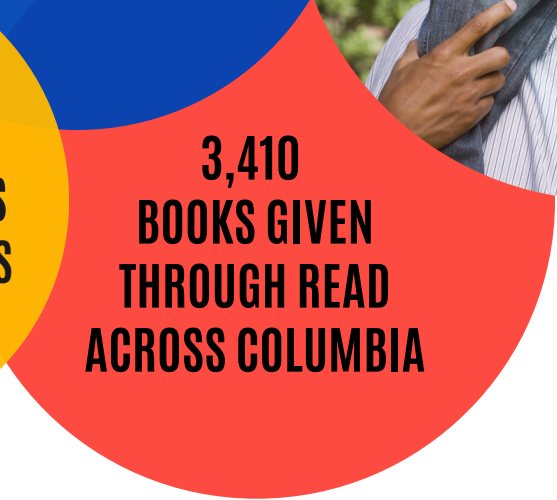
2025 Annual Report



**18,233
INDIVIDUALS
SERVED THROUGH
IMPACT GRANTS**



**37 IMPACT GRANTS
FUNDED PROGRAMS
ACROSS 25 AGENCIES**



**3,410
BOOKS GIVEN
THROUGH READ
ACROSS COLUMBIA**



HEART OF MISSOURI UNITED WAY PROGRAMS

Impact Grants

Our Impact Grants support trusted nonprofits serving the most vulnerable individuals and families in our community. These investments aim to equitably improve health and well-being, strengthen financial stability and economic mobility, expand youth access to knowledge and skills to reach their full potential, and help meet basic needs. Using community data to align funding with key priorities, Heart of Missouri United Way leads trained community volunteers through the investment process. Volunteers evaluate proposals and recommend funding to the Board. Once approved, awards provide one year of funding with renewal opportunities for years two and three. We offer ongoing support as grantees report progress, and data is reviewed to ensure outcomes are met. Together, we create opportunity, strengthen families, and build a healthier, more empowered community.



“What a great few weeks it was getting to know you all and learning of areas and ways to serve in our community....”

Give 5 & Read Across Columbia

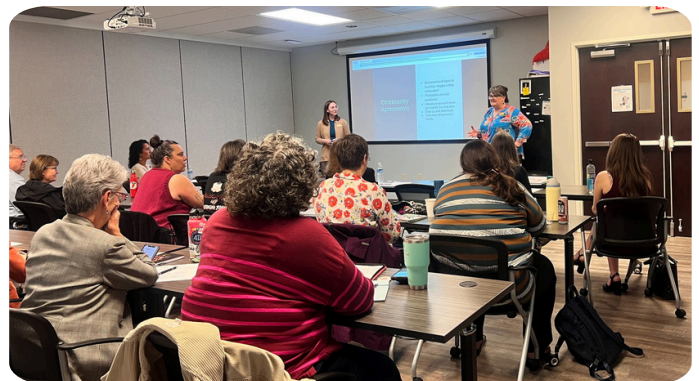
Heart of Missouri United Way strengthens community connection and childhood literacy through two flagship initiatives: Give 5 and Read Across Columbia.

Give 5 connects Boone County residents aged 55+ with meaningful volunteer opportunities by immersing them in local nonprofits and helping them plug their skills and passions into community needs.

Read Across Columbia removes barriers to early literacy by delivering four high-quality, age-appropriate books and a Daniel Boone Regional Library book coupon to approximately 650 first and second grade students across Columbia Public Schools each year.

ASPIRES Project

The ASPIRES Project is Heart of Missouri United Way’s capacity-building initiative designed to strengthen local nonprofit organizations so they can more effectively achieve both short-term goals and long-term missions. Through a partnership with the City of Columbia, ASPIRES provides nonprofits with research-backed organizational assessments using the CCAT® tool, expert coaching, group learning sessions, and access to targeted capacity-building funds. These offerings help organizations identify challenges, prioritize needs, and build lasting infrastructure, ultimately elevating the capacity of the entire nonprofit sector and improving community impact across Mid-Missouri.



“We gained invaluable training, workshops, and connections with other nonprofit leaders—benefits that will support our mission well into the future.”



TALIA JACKSON, PRESIDENT AND CEO

As I reflect on my first year as CEO, I am inspired by the strength and unity that continue to define our community. This year, we demonstrated how adaptability and collaboration allow us to respond with purpose, strengthen essential programs, and meet emerging needs across Mid-Missouri. I am grateful for our agencies, volunteers, donors, and partners who show every day what is possible when we live united and remain committed to one another. As we look ahead, we do so with excitement because 2026 marks Heart of Missouri United Way's 80th year of service, a milestone made possible by the unwavering support of this community. Thank you for walking alongside us, and let's continue building a more connected and resilient future.

With gratitude,
Talia

Visit our site for more information about our mission and the work we do to serve our community.



uwheartmo.org

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
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| Jennifer Gordon* | Brittani Secundino |
| Danny Hill | Bill Watkins |
| Sharon Horbyk | |

*Executive Committee Member

Thank you to our Board of Directors and community agencies whose dedication and partnership make our shared impact possible.



2025 IMPACT GRANT PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

- Big Brothers Big Sisters Central Missouri
- Boys and Girls Club of the Columbia Area
- Central Missouri Community Action
- City of Refuge
- Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture
- Columbia Housing Authority - Low Income Services
- Compass Health Network
- First Chance for Children
- Fun City Youth Academy
- Grade A Plus, Incorporated
- Harrisburg Early Learning Center
- Heart of Missouri CASA
- Jabberwocky Studios
- Kingdom Konnections
- KVC Behavioral Health
- Love Columbia
- Lutheran Family and Children's Services
- Mid-Missouri Legal Services
- P.E.A.C.E
- Services for Independent Living
- True North of Columbia
- Turning Point of Wilkes Blvd UMC
- United Cerebral Palsey Heartland
- United Community Builders
- Voluntary Action Center



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211

**Is someone you
know in need of
community
resource
services?**

Call 211 or 1-800-
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211helps.org

MAKING STRATEGIC IMPACT

