



## UNITED WAY MONTEREY COUNTY— MONTAGE HEALTH WORKPLACE CAMPAIGN

### IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY

United Way Monterey County (UWMC) needs your support. Nearly one in three Monterey County households do not earn sufficient income to pay for their basic needs, including housing, child care, food, or transportation. This current socio-economic state requires all of us to come together to support our community. Montage Health, through the workplace giving campaign, provides you with an opportunity to support UWMC's work through the convenience of automatic payroll deductions or a one-time donation.

### WHO WE ARE

UWMC's mission is to engage the community and focus resources to improve lives in Monterey County. We envision a caring and connected community where children succeed, families are economically self-sufficient, and each of us can lead healthy, productive lives. To achieve these goals, we focus on helping families achieve Financial Stability through access to quality, affordable Early Education, Child Care and Housing. We also offer a portfolio of financial support services to help our community members become self-sufficient. But we don't do this alone. We bring partners together to bring solutions to scale.



**Active Referral Network** is a community collaborative administered and managed by UWMC. Partnering organizations coordinate services to help residents reach financial stability, address the determinants of health and improve well-being. Partners work together to actively refer clients to each other's services and support clients to successfully complete the services needed to reach their goals. 6,799 outgoing referrals were made during FY 20-21 by 40 members of ARN.

To increase the scale and impact of the Active Referral Network, UWMC developed the Smart Referral Software. The SRS allows ARN partners to search for services in the 211 database and generate a prioritized list of complementary services that address the need. Participating partners include, but not limited to: **Dorothy's Place, Salvation Army, Monterey County Office of Education Head Start, Eden Housing, Housing Resource Center, Community Homeless Solutions, Central Coast Center for Independent Living, Gathering for Women, Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, Doctors on Duty, Catholic Charities.**



**Get Connected. Get Help.™**

Last year, UWMC's 211 information and referral helpline received nearly 30,000 calls from Monterey County residents seeking help with housing, emergency food and shelter, income support, healthcare, in addition to the challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic. 211 connected residents with local information, including Shelter-in-Place orders, COVID-19 testing sites, vaccine registration, home meal delivery, and emergency rental assistance.

**Wildfires:** 211 assisted residents impacted by the wildfires in Monterey County.

**Diabetes Awareness:** 211 supported the development of resources for diabetes and prevention.

**Low-cost Broadband:** 211 connected residents to UWCA's broadband initiative for low-cost internet by getting screened for eligibility.

## Emergency Rent & Utility Assistance Program (ERAP)

In Fall 2020, United Way and the [County of Monterey](#) partnered to distribute \$1.25 Million of CARES Act funding. ERAP prioritizes very-low-income tenants, those at immediate risk of homelessness, or residents with rental arrears up to 12 months. During phase one, the program helped nearly 800 residents with \$1,006,781 in rent assistance and \$203,851 in utility assistance. UWMC continued our partnership with the [County of Monterey](#) on a larger scale to administer the second phase of ERAP in the disbursement of \$28 Million of State and Federal funding. We have been collaborating with 14 community partners, including the [City of Monterey](#), [City of Seaside](#), [City of Soledad](#), [City of Greenfield](#), [City of Gonzales](#), [King City](#), [City of Salinas](#), [Hartnell College Foundation](#), [Goodwill Central Coast](#), [Central Coast Energy Services](#), [Housing Resource Center](#), and the [Salvation Army](#). During phase 2, as of June 28th, 2021, together with our partners we supported over 900 residents.

## Emergency Food and Shelter Program



UWMC administers the EFSP with local organizations, supporting our County's most critical needs, especially economic emergencies. Last year, EFSP grants received \$1,458,229 in funding and served 17,814 individuals below the federal poverty level and experiencing chronic hunger and homelessness. The funds were awarded to nearly 15 organizations in Monterey County:

[Boys and Girls Clubs of Monterey County](#), [the Salvation Army](#); [Catholic Charities](#); [Gathering for Women](#); [Food Bank of Monterey County](#); [City of Gonzales](#); [Central Coast Center for Independent Living](#); [Meals on Wheels of Salinas](#); [City of Seaside](#); [Sun Street Centers](#); [King City](#); [YWCA of Monterey County](#); [Access Support Network](#); [Community Homeless Solutions](#).

VITA supports low-to-mid-income families by filing their taxes for free and by identifying the credits and refunds for which they are eligible. During the 2020 tax season, the VITA service filed 1,232 tax returns for Monterey County residents, generating \$2,253,598 in State and Federal refunds. VITA is offered in partnership with the [IRS](#), [State of California](#), [United Ways of California](#), [Center for Employment Training in Salinas](#), and private and corporate donors.



**Financial Literacy Workshops** In partnership with the [Community Action Partnership](#), we provide Financial Literacy Education workshops to teach participants how to set financial and career goals, manage a budget, understand and repair credit, and inform them of different childcare and subsidy programs. Together, we offered 25 Financial Literacy Workshops for over 700 residents.

**Prosperity Planners** United Way, in partnership with [Goodwill Central Coast](#), provides resources to residents struggling financially and need career management. This is achieved by financial coaching, career coaching and access to an [Active Referral Network](#) that allow program beneficiaries to easily access, enroll and complete multiple programs needed to reach self-sufficiency. In 2020-2021, Prosperity Planners supported 35 participants. 28 participants advanced in their professional goals and started working at Goodwill and 26 improved their financial goals.

**Support to Homebased Child Care Providers** UWMC, [Go Kids inc.](#), and [CAPSLO](#) distributed 100 iPads to Family, Friends, and Neighbors (FFNs) in Gonzales, Greenfield, Salinas. The iPads are used for distance learning, play groups, and support FFN caregivers to stay connected with the broader FFN program network. UWMC, [Bright Beginnings](#), [Quality Matters Monterey County](#), [The Mexican American Community Foundation](#), [CAPSLO](#), and [Go Kids Inc.](#) provided one-time financial support of \$500 to 80 FFNs throughout the County. The funds were utilized to buy school supplies and personal protective equipment.



*Stuff the Bus*

United Way and the [Monterey County Office of Education](#) hosted United Way's 11th annual **Stuff the Bus** program to provide 4,040 backpacks with new school supplies for students



**Volunteer Education and College Assistance Alliance**, in partnership with the [Hartnell College Foundation](#), provides free assistance for college-bound students and their families in applying for federal financial aid. UWMC hosted 25 outreach events attended by over 700 students.

**Monterey County Preschool Service Corps program:** With the support of [Greenfield Union School District](#)— [Mary Chapa](#), [Early Development Services](#) – [Avondale Early Education Center](#), and [Monterey County Office of Education](#) – [Salinas Child Development Center](#), UWMC launched the Monterey County Preschool Service Corps program in August 2020. The goal of this early learning initiative is to help children reach age level and support kindergarten readiness. The program recruits AmeriCorps members to provide individualized opportunities for preschool aged children to develop language and literacy skills. In 2020 academic year, the program served 40 children.