
Impact Report: Donor Dollars at Work

What a year! In spite of COVID-19, we still made an immense difference in the lives of many during quarter 4 of our fiscal year thanks to our valued donors and community partners.

ReadingPals: Although the ReadingPal year ended early, volunteers were still able to assist **288** children in **69** classrooms across the county. These children received over **5,000** hours of additional literacy instruction, and **2,880** books were distributed to ReadingPal children.



Mission United: Our program assisted **22** additional veterans this quarter, bringing the yearly total to **137**. Mission United steps in as needed to assist this group with any unforeseen circumstance that puts them on the verge of crisis. We partner with other area agencies and local businesses too in order to take care of this selfless group. In the above picture, one of our client's is celebrating his 98th birthday. Mission United and the Combat Veterans' Motorcycle Association partnered to assist him by trimming trees, cleaning his roof, building a wheelchair ramp, and presenting him with a new flag.

The Prosperity Center: Workforce development is at the heart of this worthwhile program. This fiscal year, we were able to help **121** adult education students as they worked hard to complete their education. At the end of this fiscal year, **18** of our clients graduated with a degree or certificate, and **25** received their GEDs. By enabling these adults to complete their education, they are able to earn a family sustaining wage, which not only changes the trajectory of their lives, but the lives of their children as well.

Rapid Rehousing: This fiscal year, our Rapid Rehousing program assisted **94** families to keep them safely and steadily housed. These clients are case-managed for one year after entering this program.

Volunteer Shoutout!



We cannot thank 15-year-old Graceann Schlisner enough for helping out at our United Way office. She answers phones, updates email lists, organizes materials, and assists with whatever we ask her to do.

Graceann attends Seven Rivers Christian School and will be a sophomore this year. Her favorite subject is history, and her interests include playing soccer and volleyball, reading, and spending time with her friends. When she grows up, she wants to become an ophthalmologist.

She shared that she likes United Way because she is passionate about helping those who are less fortunate. Thank you, Graceann, for volunteering with us. We appreciate you!

Success Spotlight!

Thanks to our COVID-19 Relief Fund, we have assisted numerous families in Citrus County who were financially impacted through no fault of their own. One that comes to mind is a family of six: two adults and four children. The wife is a stay-at-home mom, and the husband is employed by a local restaurant. When the restaurant closed due to COVID-19, the family endured a financial crisis, as their only source of income had disappeared. The husband applied for unemployment immediately, but due to the overwhelming demand, he did not receive it for quite some time. The family had never asked for any type of assistance before, so reaching out to us was difficult for them. We are glad they did though. We were able to pay one month's rent, as well as their electric bill thanks to the generous donors and organizations who have given to our COVID-19 Relief Fund. He is now back to work and the family no longer requires assistance.

This is only one success story, and there are many more just like it. The people we are able to assist are beyond grateful for the support we provide and are happy that United Way has their backs!



Calling All Youth

If you know any youth interested in becoming pen-pals with a resident at a local skilled nursing facility, please contact Jess Maloney by emailing her at jess.maloney@citrusunitedway.org or by calling her at 352-795-5483. Stay tuned to our Facebook page for more details.



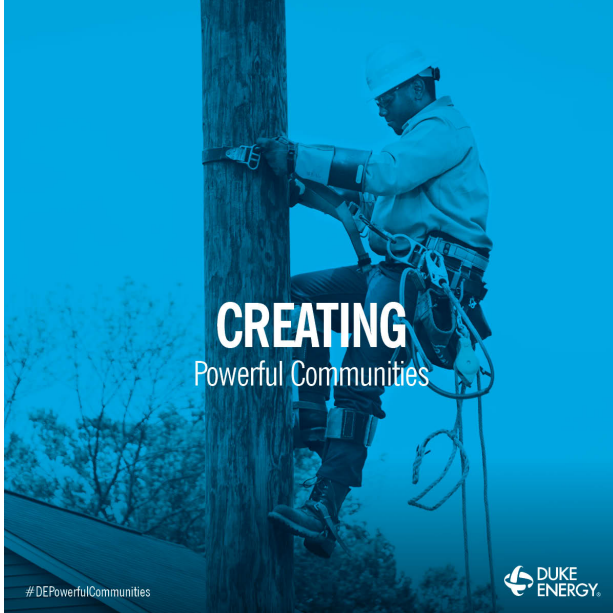
Feeding Citrus

United Way has partnered with The New Church Without Walls in their weekly Feed Citrus drive-through food drives. Families receive a variety of meats, fruits, vegetables, and more. This is all free and sponsored by generous individuals and businesses in the community.



Thank You Duke Energy

The Duke Energy Foundation recently awarded United Way's Prosperity Center a \$9000 grant to assist adults who are enrolled in training for energy industry careers. Those seeking to become welders, linemen, or relay technicians are among those who are eligible to apply for assistance. By providing support to this group, we are strengthening the workforce in our community, while changing the the lives of our clients. Duke Energy and United Way of Citrus County have a strong partnership and continue to work together to make Citrus County an even better place to live.



Small Businesses Make a BIG Impact

Our Small Business 365 Circle is back for the second year! This program engages local small businesses in the work that we do, and allows them to help us change the lives of our most vulnerable citizens.

In addition to changing the lives of many in need, businesses receive:

- shout outs on social media
- their picture in *The Citrus County Chronicle*
- quarterly Lunch & Learn opportunities to network with other members (suspended currently due to COVID-19)
- a window decal to display
- a listing and link on our website

Join us as we offer a "hand up" to those who are fighting to better themselves and their families.

[Click Here To Join Small Business 365](#)

Small Business 365 Members

- Mike Bays State Farm
- Chamber of Commerce
- Crackers Bar & Grill
- Cedar Creek Assisted Living
- Glenda Faye Photography
- Stanley Steemer
- Southern Event Planning
- Breakfast Station #7
- Citrus Builder
- Sound Decisions
- Black Diamond Alligator Tannery
- The Lakeside Ranches
- Citrus Sports & Apparel
- Do or Dye Hair Collective
- Insurance Resources & Risk Management
- Quality First Roofing
- Changes Hair Design Studio
- Marguerita Grill

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CEO Meghan Pitzer pictured with Small Business 365 member Jeremy Skinner from Earl's Well Drilling & Pump Service

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