

Why Your Support Matters

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What is United Way?

United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County works to ensure young children are happy, healthy and ready for school, give students the resources they need to succeed, strengthen families and individuals and provide a safety net of resources so people in need can get back on track. Your gift ensures that help is there when it is needed the most.

Is United Way a local or national organization?

While affiliated with a national service and training center, United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County is a local organization. It is independent and separate from all other United Ways in the country. The local community volunteers who lead United Way come from all walks of life and reflect the cultural diversity of our area.

United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors composed of key business and community leaders. It is guided by an Advisory Committee that includes beneficiaries, nonprofit partners, funding organization representatives as well as civic, education and volunteer leaders.

I always receive solicitations from other charities and organizations to give, so why should I give to United Way?

Your United Way gift has a farther reaching impact than a gift to any other organization. United Way's advocacy efforts, volunteers and partners leverage your investment to drive meaningful impact. You will help remove barriers to success for millions in our community.

How much of my money goes to helping people?

You can rest assured knowing that your contribution will be effectively used to make a real difference for residents in San Antonio. We are diligent about our fiscal responsibility to help the most people in need as possible. Good management practices, volunteer participation, in-kind donations and United Way's tradition for efficiency combine to improve more lives and create a greater impact for our community.

Is my contribution tax deductible?

Yes, your contribution is tax deductible if you itemize deductions on your annual taxes.

Since my spouse gives at work, I believe our family is already counted.

Your gift is just as important and our community needs all the support it can get. The health and human care needs in this city are growing. When we all come together, we make a real difference towards living united. Couples with a combined gift of \$1,000 or more are eligible to be recognized as Leadership Donors.

Our employees and their families are struggling. How can we ask them to give?

Almost universally, people want to help others. Even a small amount can give an employee a sense of belonging to a larger community – of making a difference. Every gift, however large or small, makes a lasting difference. Often, employees at the lower end of the pay scale are more likely to understand and appreciate United Way's impact.

How much influence do I have over how my gift is invested?

You have complete control over where your donation is invested: A) You can choose to make your donation to United Way where it will make real changes; B) You can designate to any of our Impact Areas; C) You can designate directly to a United Way program or any of our Impact and Community partners.



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What happens once I donate to United Way?

Many committed volunteers – business professionals, retirees and other individuals – monitor United Way-funded programs before deciding where to invest your contribution. To become a Standards Review volunteer visit uwsatx.org/standards-review.

How is United Way held accountable?

There is nothing more important to United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County than upholding the trust of our donors, volunteers, and all other members of the community. We maintain the most stringent operating and accounting procedures.

Our standards for accounting for revenue and expenses are in compliance with those issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), an organization that sets recommended accounting standards for nonprofit and for-profit businesses. We are audited annually, the results of which are reviewed by community volunteers who represent the full spectrum of the financial and accounting professions. Every audit report has been completely clean of recommendations to improve or make changes to the accounting system.

Is giving to United Way voluntary?

Whether to give and how much is entirely up to you. United Way does not support any form of coercion or pressure on donors to give or requirements regarding how much to give. Education about how United Way programs help is the best way to encourage contributions for the biggest impact.

Who's who for 2026?

Laura Vaccaro, CEO of the Kronkosky Charitable Foundation, presides as United Way's Board Chair. Michael Kiolbassa, CEO of Kiolbassa Smoked Meats, is the 2026 United Way Campaign Chair.

What other services does United Way offer?

The United Way 211 Helpline is an information, referral and crisis intervention service. Callers receive information on alcohol and drug rehabilitation, crisis intervention, suicide prevention services, parenting, transportation, rent/utility assistance and much more. It's free, confidential and available 24/7/365 and available in Spanish.

For military members, veterans and their families, MISSION UNITED Navigators assist with general resources and those unique to the military.

The UWSA Volunteer Center is the central hub for community engagement opportunities and connects people and businesses who want to help with local nonprofit organizations.

How can I find out more about United Way?

Visit uwsatx.org for the latest news on how United Way works in our community and to sign up for our monthly newsletter. You can follow us on social media @unitedwaysatx on Facebook, Instagram, X and LinkedIn for real-time updates.

