

BERKSHIRE UNITED WAY IMPACT REPORT

4,005
donors

\$3.59
million invested

80,462 lives impacted

*Totals include Community Impact work plus COVID-19 Fund efforts

Bathroom
Bathroom
Outside M. Thur. Fri)
Bathroom
Snack



JULY 2019-JUNE 2020

18 DEGREES EMERGENCY CHILD CARE
PHOTO BY JOHN DOLAN

#HereForGood



In this unprecedented year, Berkshire United Way has doubled its efforts to ensure that all children continue to reach critical developmental and educational milestones, and families and individuals have the support they need.

YOU HELPED

11,383 individuals in **42** programs across **28** agencies in central & southern Berkshire County



Early Childhood Development

2,232

children served

► with **81%** demonstrating development of social/emotional skills



Postive Youth Development

711

youth served

► with **74%** developing career readiness skills

Economic Prosperity

124 individuals enrolled in internships

► with **96%** meeting workplace expectations



142 individuals receiving job skills training

► with **68%** gaining employment



Family Engagement

3,191 adults served

► with **62%** engaged in home-based learning activities for children and youth



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

680 federal returns resulting in **\$1.1M** to Berkshire County residents

► Increasing dollars to low-income households



3,485 volunteer hours

Lexi's* father passed away in a car accident, leaving her without a parent or guardian. Sharon*, the mother of Lexi's half-brother, agreed to foster her, but struggled to care for two young children on her own. She needed help.

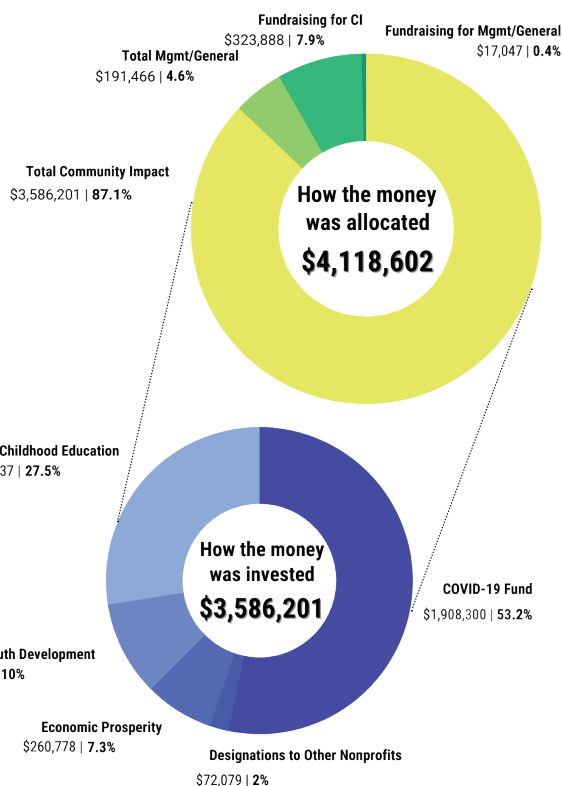
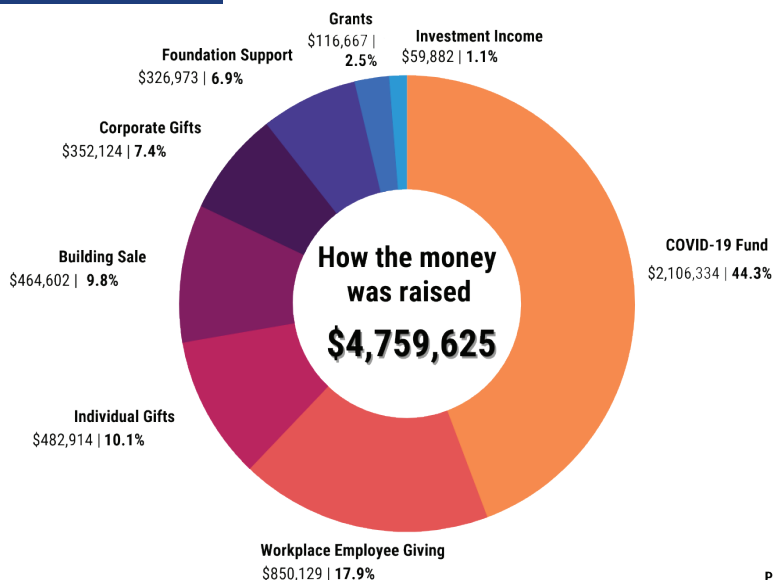
In the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the significant loss 8-year-old Lexi was experiencing, Sharon knew it was important to create stability for this young child. She was able to enroll Lexi in an emergency child care program three days a week and eventually full-time care. In this stable environment, Lexi was able to interact with other children and participate in Zoom calls with her therapist. Having child care enabled Sharon to get a new job to support her larger family.

After several months, Lexi was able to enroll in summer camp and is now attending the fall program and doing great. The structure and support she continues to receive is helping her deal with the loss of her father and the challenges of COVID-19 while preparing Lexi for her future.

This public health crisis is challenging for many families. Child care programs help meet the short- and long-term needs of children, like Lexi, who are growing up during a time of stress and uncertainty but need support for growth and development. Lexi needs our support NOW, as does every child struggling in Berkshire County.

From grantee Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center. *Names changed for privacy purposes.

YOU GAVE



All figures from 2019 Form 990.
For a complete financial report, visit berkshireunitedway.org/financial-info.

See our community funded programs and COVID-19 Fund grantees at www.berkshireunitedway.org/impact-report

COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund for Berkshire County

Berkshire United Way, together with other community partners, created this new fund to deploy resources to our most vulnerable residents who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

69,079 lives impacted and 133 grants distributed to 102 organizations

Food | 46 grantees, 38,121 reached

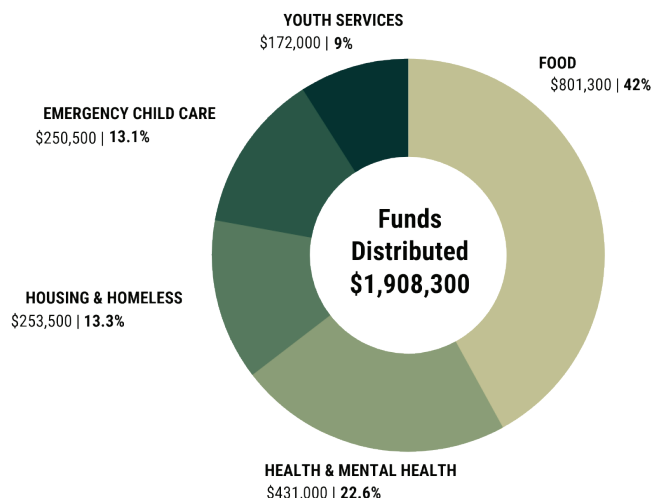
Health & Mental Health | 23 grantees, 25,938 reached

Housing & Homeless | 12 grantees, 2,757 reached

Emergency Child Care | 9 grantees, 538 reached

Youth | 12 grantees, 1,725 reached

\$2,106,334 contributed to the COVID-19 Fund



Shifting Perspective: From longtime donor to COVID-19 emergency grant recipient

My husband, Chris, and I have been donors to and supporters of Berkshire United Way for the past two decades. We have always felt a strong responsibility to give back and our personal values align closely with BUW's mission to strengthen the long-term health and stability of our community through impactful investment to create sustainable change.



Just over a year ago, I formed a nonprofit to reduce food insecurity for low-income students and families in the Central Berkshire Regional School District. With the operation up and running, the CBRSD Weekend Backpack Program was providing 103 bags of kid-friendly, non-perishable food weekly.

Then COVID-19 hit.

The sudden closure of school meant students immediately lost access to breakfast and lunch, and families were hit with huge personal and financial hardships. We needed emergency funding immediately to meet their increased needs. Thankfully, we received an expedited grant from BUW's COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund for Berkshire County.

At one of the distribution sites, a single mom working in the service industry shared with us that she had just lost her job. With two boys, one with a significant health issue, she said "this program was a godsend and lifeline for my family."

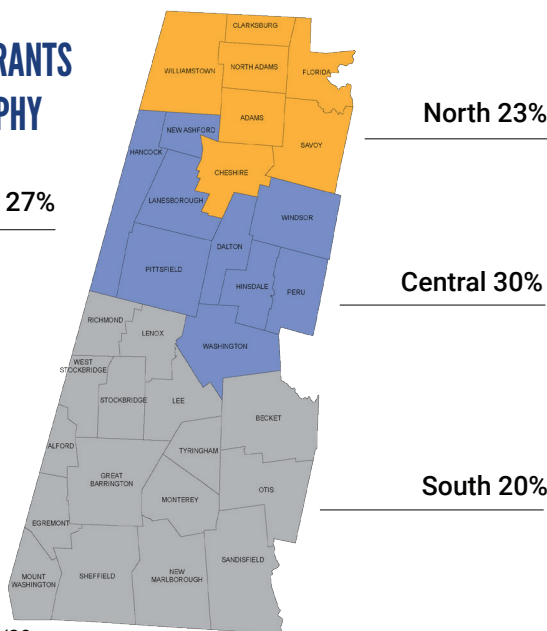
The shift in perspective from a BUW donor to grant recipient afforded me the unique opportunity to observe first-hand the significant impact BUW funds have on vulnerable populations in our community. This has strengthened my commitment both as a BUW donor and community advocate.

I hope you will join me in this important endeavor to improve lives across the Berkshires by supporting Berkshire United Way.

Kim Mathews
BUW donor and founder of CBRSD Weekend Backpack Program Inc.

COVID-19 GRANTS BY GEOGRAPHY

Countywide 27%



COVID-19 Fund numbers as of 6/30/20

Learn more about the COVID-19 Fund at www.berkshireunitedway.org/berkshirecountycovid19fund

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* Deceased * Leadership Donor organizations who also ran CY19 Workplace Campaigns • COVID-19 Emergency Fund for Berkshire County Donor

♦ Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Fund

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Listings represent donations and gifts in kind to Berkshire United Way from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing we apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact us at 413.442.6948 with any adjustments.