



United Way
of Metro Chicago

2023/2024 YEAR-IN-REVIEW

JULY 2023



Connecting with Secretary Buttigieg in Bronzeville

- United Way of Metro Chicago President & CEO Sean Garrett

and our partners in Bronzeville met with [Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg](#) to discuss a vision for building thriving communities on the South Side of Chicago.

AUGUST 2023

Campaign Heroes Celebration

- The annual event honored United Way's [Top 25 Corporate Partners](#) and welcomed 2023/2024 Campaign Chair David C. Blowers, Vice Chairman of Northern Trust.

Associate Board Basics Seminar

- The professional development opportunity brought together [young professionals](#) to learn how they can make a difference through service on a nonprofit associate or junior board.



Latinos Progresando Opens Community Center

- Our Little Village Neighborhood Network partners celebrated the [ribbon cutting](#) of their new building to welcome neighbors and provide essential immigration services and resources.

SEPTEMBER 2023

9/11 Day of Service

- Hosted by Women United and Young Leaders United, volunteers prepped the [gardens and grounds](#) at Garfield Park Community Council Garden Project with The Trotter Project.



Office Open House at THE MART

- United Way welcomed our partners to our [new office](#) in the Merchandise Mart.

OCTOBER 2023



BMO Day of Action

- 1,300+ employees from our [#1 corporate partner](#)

volunteered with United Way at their national leadership conference in Rosemont.

Young Leaders United Speaker Series

- CEO of Reactivate [Utopia Hill](#) shared the impact of renewable energy development in our local communities.

A Toast to Tocqueville

- [Tocqueville Society](#) members networked and heard from a panel of prominent leaders about the business community's role in investing in our neighborhoods.

NOVEMBER 2023

United Neighborhoods Equity Fund Cohort 3

- [Nine small, local organizations](#) on the South and West Sides of Chicago and south suburbs were selected to receive a \$50,000 unrestricted grant over two years, plus capacity building and networking.



DECEMBER 2023

Uniting for the Holidays

- [Thousands of meals and gifts](#) were distributed to 2,000+ individuals and families in six suburban communities.



JANUARY 2024



Martin Luther King Jr. Day with Chef Maya-Camille Broussard

- The star of the Netflix series *Bake Squad*, author, and owner of Chicago bakery [Justice of the Pies](#) shared her story and success as an entrepreneur.

JANUARY 2024



One Year of 211 Metro Chicago

- The free 24/7 helpline celebrated its [one-year anniversary](#) connecting Cook County residents with critical health and social services.

FEBRUARY 2024

National ALICE Summit

- United Way and 2-1-1 staff attended the [National ALICE Summit](#) in New Orleans and hosted a session on using ALICE data to engage corporate partners and invest in communities.

Be United Bash

- Young Leaders United hosted the [happy hour fundraiser](#) for young professionals at Molson Coors Taproom.

Brighton Park Community Center Groundbreaking

- Community leaders and partners broke ground on the [Brighton Park Neighborhood Network Service Center](#), which will provide youth programs, counseling, workforce development, legal assistance, and more.



MARCH 2024

2-1-1 Advocacy Day

- 211 Illinois and 211 Metro Chicago staff met with legislators in Springfield to [advocate for state funding](#) to build the 2-1-1 network and connect more people to essential services.



Women United Purposeful Transitions

- The [annual breakfast event](#) featured a conversation with Grace B. Hou, Deputy Governor for Health and Human Services, and Linda Coberly, United Way of Metro Chicago Board Chair and Chair of the Appellate and Critical Motions Practice at Winston & Strawn LLP.

APRIL 2024

April Food Day

- Volunteers collected and sorted [100,000+ pounds](#) of food at the annual event supporting food security for our neighbors in the Southland.



Little Village-South Lawndale Quality of Life Plan

- Enlace Chicago and the Little Village Neighborhood Network celebrated the launch of the [2024 Little Village-South Lawndale Quality of Life Plan](#), which will guide the coalition's transformative work.



MAY 2024

DEI Conversation with Jenner & Block

- United Way's Chief People & Equity Officer Tamiya Aurel and Jenner & Block's DEI Protection Task Force Co-Chair Ishan Bhabha shared their insight and expertise on [pressing DEI issues](#).

Community Anchors: The Social Services Response to the Migrant Crisis

- [Expert panelists](#) from local nonprofits discussed how the social services sector is supporting new arrivals.



Neighborhood Network Initiative Expands in Summit

- United Way and Cook County's Transforming Places announced an [investment in suburban Summit](#), becoming the 18th Neighborhood Network.

MAY 2024

2-1-1 Attends Inform USA's Grand Gathering

- The 211 Metro Chicago team led a session on "[2-1-1 as a Community Utility](#)" at the conference for information and referral professionals from across the U.S. and Canada.

2024 Stronger Neighborhoods Awards

- The [annual awards luncheon](#) honored David Casper, Nicor Gas, and Don V. Villar and raised more than \$1 million.



JUNE 2024

ITW Day of Action

- ITW hosted their annual [staff volunteer day](#) at David Speer Academy in our Austin Neighborhood Network.



Juneteenth Conversation with Dr. Andre M. Perry

- The nationally respected scholar and educator discussed [structural inequality and economic inclusion](#).

Pride Parade with the Chicago Federation of Labor

- United Way and the Chicago Federation of Labor marched in the [Chicago Pride Parade](#), celebrating our vibrant LGBTQ+ community.

Follow us on social media to stay up to date on all of our programs, initiatives, and events throughout the year!

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