

HELPING KIDS BUILD BRIGHTER FUTURES

SQUARE
ONE
PROJECT

Ending poverty
starts in school.



United Way
California Capital Region

A LEGACY OF CHANGE

United
Way



United Way
California Capital Region

United Way California Capital Region has been serving our five county region for nearly 100 years to build stronger, healthier and more compassionate communities. We are dedicated to improving the lives of families and children, and strengthening communities in Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento and Yolo counties.



ENDING POVERTY STARTS IN SCHOOL.

Sacramento area kids who graduate from college are **62%** less likely to live in poverty than those who drop out of high school.

That's why in 2016, we launched a legacy project to create lasting change in our community and significantly reduce poverty in our region.

The **Square One Project** is our 20-year commitment to increase the number of kids who graduate from high school ready for college or career. Together with our community partners, we provide kids with the tools and resources they need to succeed in school and beyond.

Square One Project building blocks for success are:

KEEPING
KIDS IN
SCHOOL

SETTING
HIGH
EXPECTATIONS

KEEPING
KIDS ON
TRACK

ENSURING
STRONG
SUPPORT



LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW WE
ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

KEEPING KIDS IN SCHOOL

We help kids stay healthy so they can go to school every day.



1 IN 5 students in the Sacramento region is food insecure – higher than the national average. Students who go to school hungry are unable to focus and learn.

Our **HEALTHY MEALS PROGRAM** serves meals to thousands of students over the school year and during the summer to help kids learn, grow and stay healthy.



935,772
MEALS PROVIDED
SINCE 2014

198,959
MEALS SERVED
LAST YEAR

SQUARE ONE SUCCESS

In 2018, the rate of chronic absenteeism at Square One Project partner Robla School District decreased by **26%**.

KEEPING KIDS ON TRACK

We help kids reach important educational milestones.

If kids aren't reading at grade level by 4th grade, they will have a hard time keeping up across multiple subjects like math and science. Those who fall behind in early grades often stay behind.

LITERACY IS KEY! 

In partnership with AARP Experience Corps, our local United Way is changing students' lives.

Last year, we served **415** students and after only one year:

62% of students, who started below grade level, improved their reading and literacy performance



SQUARE ONE SUCCESS

In 2018, Square One Project partner Robla School District reported that more students were meeting and exceeding standards in English Language Arts compared to the previous year. The rate of annual increase was **3x** higher than state and county averages.

SETTING HIGH EXPECTATIONS

We help kids and their families aim high and achieve their goals.

Kids with at least \$1 in a college savings account are:

3x MORE LIKELY TO GO TO COLLEGE **4x** MORE LIKELY TO GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE

Our **KINDERGARTEN TO COLLEGE**

(K2C) savings program is making the dream of a college education a reality. Our local United Way seeds each K2C savings account with \$25 to help fuel kids' aspirations.



SQUARE ONE SUCCESS

Next year, we will expand the K2C program to reach more families and more schools throughout our region.

ENSURING STRONG SUPPORT

We help support families with tools and resources to get ahead.

Through our **FREE TAX PREP** program, we help families file their tax returns for free, saving them an average of \$200.

FOR THE 2018 TAX YEAR: **9,000** FAMILIES HELPED

\$1.8M TAX PREPARATION SAVINGS

\$11.3M FEDERAL REFUNDS



SQUARE ONE SUCCESS

Free Tax Prep volunteers help clients save their tax refunds in a savings account or US Savings Bond. In 2019, families invested **\$474,679** in their futures.



AND EVEN MORE...

VOLUNTEERS TAKING ACTION



UNITED WAY
WOMEN
UNITED®

This group of dynamic women is dedicated to ensuring local foster youth are prepared for a successful transition to independence.

RAISED
\$130,000

to support United Way's foster youth programs.

126 FOSTER YOUTH

Supported with matched savings accounts for educational purposes and basic necessities when they leave foster care.

United Way hosted its first ever **FOSTER YOUTH SUMMIT** in 2019, uniting 130 community members including foster youth, service providers, educators and public sector leaders. The summit uncovered significant gaps between the needs of local foster youth and the community services being provided. An action group led by United Way will identify and implement solutions to improve foster youth outcomes.

YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY

Our young professionals action group is making a difference in the region by helping more kids achieve and succeed.

RAISED
\$23,541 to support the Kindergarten to College savings program.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AARP EXPERIENCE CORPS

Together with AARP Experience Corps, United Way matches volunteer tutors ages 50+ with students to help kids become successful, confident readers.

58 VOLUNTEER TUTORS **1,950** HOURS



SMALL BUSINESS, BIG IMPACT

This year, our local United Way launched a **Small Business Program** to empower small business owners and their employees in giving back to the community. Designed by small businesses, the program makes it easy for members to find volunteer opportunities, enhance corporate philanthropy initiatives, and build stronger networks within the community.

CORNERSTONE MEMBER
MassMutual

FOUNDING MEMBERS

Delta Web
Digital Deployment
Cal-Vintage Roofing Co Inc.
Honey

Paul Baker Printing
Sagent Marketing
Szymanowski Orthodontics
River City Printers



VOLUNTEERS UNITED

United Way partners with over 150 nonprofits across the region to build stronger communities.

2,772
HOURS

1,098
VOLUNTEERS

91
COMPANIES

26
PROJECTS COMPLETED

VOLUNTEER CENTER

United Way makes giving back easier. With our new online Volunteer Center, we match volunteers with local causes and service projects all year round.

YourLocalUnitedWay.org/Volunteer

YOUR GIFT IN ACTION

\$5/MONTH



A book for a child for each month of the school year – to spark the joy of reading

\$10/MONTH

A summer literacy skills program for partner nonprofits



\$25/MONTH

Seed for a college savings account for a kindergarten student

\$50/MONTH

Support for a foster youth as they transition out of foster care



\$100/YEAR



A summer of leadership experience for a teen to provide academic enrichment activities for local kids

\$200/YEAR



Support for an at-risk family with housing or financial stability services through our Siemer Institute partners

\$300/YEAR

School backpacks for 20 students



THANK YOU

for supporting United Way and our Square One Project. Together, we are making a difference in families' lives today and long into the future. We look forward to increasing our collective impact in our community.

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United Way



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