



A Historical Summary: 1936 to Present

1936 United Campaign established in Spartanburg County.

1937 First official community campaign held with the slogan “The Drive to End All Drives” and a goal of \$41,805 in order “to care for all of Spartanburg’s needy and ensure support for the charitable institutions so necessary to our social structure.”

1939 First name change to The Welfare Federation of Spartanburg.

1946 Name changed to Community Chest of Spartanburg County.

1962 Name changed to United Fund of Spartanburg County.

1973 Name changed to United Way of Spartanburg County. An enlarged philosophy and purpose to become the leader in collecting community needs information and identifying best practices to address those identified needs was established.

1985 Officially renamed United Way of the Piedmont (UWP) with a newly adopted mission “increasing the capacity of people to care for one another.”

1986 General Daniel Morgan Leadership Society established with matching funds from the Milliken Foundation to recognize donors of \$1000 or more.

Morgan Award established to honor a leadership donor possessing a true spirit of caring, inscribed “One Who Cares.”

1990 UWP began the Early Head Start Grant pilot program to work with children from low socio-economic levels placing them in a positive learning environment to impact school readiness.

UWP awarded the newly created Excellence in Service Quality Award by United Way of America in recognition for accomplishments in customer satisfaction, accountability, and productivity.

1994 UWP transitioned from agency to program funding.

2001 Imagination Library program launched as the first in South Carolina.

2002 Union County United Way merged with UWP at the request of its Board.

2003 UWP became an active partner in the Community Indicators Project.

2005 Federal grant awarded to establish the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program for Spartanburg County.

2006 Young Leaders Program created to expand awareness and engagement within the under 40 population regarding the United Way's work and role in the community.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program established to ensure residents were utilizing the Earned Income Tax Credit.

2007 At the request of United Way of America, United Way of Cherokee County merged with UWP.

The Walter S. Montgomery Award for Young Leadership was established to recognize and celebrate the contributions the next generation makes in our community.

Corporation for National and Community Service awarded a \$300,000 AmeriCorps VISTA grant to UWP to place 16 college graduates in nonprofit organizations full-time for one year to work on program development, fund development, and volunteer recruitment.

2009 In partnership with Wal-Mart, UWP established the United Way Gifts in Kind Center which provides more than \$20 million in product annually to its 180 nonprofit members.

2011 Women's Leadership Council established to recognize, thank and further engage women who are giving a minimum gift of \$1,000 to support the UWP work in the areas of education, financial stability and health.

2012 Board of Directors adopted a new vision, "Live united as an educated, financially stable and healthy community" and a new mission "Connect, engage and inspire people to transform our community." Reflects UWP's move to be more than a fundraising organization; a community impact organization seeking collaborative opportunities and solutions for complex community issues.

After a study commissioned by the Joint Funders and in response to overwhelming need and high costs (both hard and soft) to our community, UWP established the Behavioral Health Taskforce to increase access to behavioral health services by 20% by 2018.

2013 In partnership with other South Carolina United Ways and the United Way Association of South Carolina, UWP launched 211, a sophisticated health and human service information and referral system accessible to all residents in the three-county footprint.

UWP loaned \$104,000 from an unrestricted estate gift to support the Northside Initiative, an ambitious and significant development project in the City of Spartanburg's Northside neighborhood to establish a thriving community of choice in an area once riddled with crime and poverty.

Union County Nonprofit Partnership Center opened because of the collaborative effort of UWP and Union County Administration. Donated office space in the Union County Health Department enabled five nonprofit agencies and UWP to establish a physical presence in Union County and increase access to services for clients.

2014 Cherokee County Nonprofit Partnership Center opened in space donated by the family of Dr. Jay Hammett enabling six nonprofit agencies to establish a physical presence in Cherokee County and increase access to services for clients.

The Youth Philanthropy Board was created to provide high school students the opportunity to: 1) learn about community indicators; 2) develop critical thinking & leadership skills; 3)

connect with community leaders; 4) and gain hands-on experience with fund development and grant-making.

2015 Cherokee County Nonprofit Partnership Center expanded in additional space donated by the family of Dr. Jay Hammett increasing the number of nonprofit partners to eight.

2016 Financial Stability Initiative was established to better address poverty in our three-county footprint in a collaborative and innovative way. A goal was set the goal to move 2,000 people on to the path of self-sufficiency in 2,000 days.

We were designated *Mission United, United Way*, the 12th United Way in the country to receive this designation by United Way Worldwide. *Mission United* provides our community the ability to direct prioritized initiatives and programs specifically at veterans and their families.

Born Learning Resource Centers were opened in two housing complexes to help mothers and caregivers learn how to interact with their children to promote brain development and increase school readiness.

2017 First ever Housing Summit held in Spartanburg to highlight affordable housing issues and initiate conversations regarding possible strategies and solutions.

AmeriCorps grant (\$101K) received to embed 16 part-time Financial Stability Navigators in nonprofits to support the 2000 in 2000 Initiative and a Financial Stability Navigator was embedded within a funded partner to better case manage clients.

Transportation to Work launched as a pilot program providing an “Uber-like” service to and from work to remove the barrier of transportation. Over 1,500 rides were provided to 82 people. Ninety-eight percent were unemployed prior to this service.

2018 In partnership with the City of Spartanburg and Spartanburg Housing Authority, a Community Advocate was embedded in the Highlands Community to work with families removing barriers and increasing access to supports to move them onto the path to self-sufficiency.

June 28 was Day 820 of the 2000 in 2000 Initiative, and 2,341 families were on the path to self-sufficiency – over three years ahead of schedule.

2019 Announced Bold Goals to address financial stability.

Decrease the number of individuals below self-sufficiency by 11,000 (10%) in 10 years (2030).

Sub-goal: Decrease the number of cost burdened low-income households by 6,000 (10%) in 10 years (2030).

Sub-goal: Decrease the number of individuals living in poverty who are unemployed by 75% (3,700) in 10 years (2030).

2020 Established the United for All Fund – A fund activated during times of crisis.

As a pilot in partnership with the City of Spartanburg, opened a Financial Opportunity Center in the old Northwest Community Center.

Launched the Union County Vision Council.

Launched the African American Leadership Society as our newest donor network.

Moved Cherokee County Partnership Center to a new location with greater visibility.

Refreshed our brand launching a new website to align with a Modern United Way.