

THE UNITED



As we enter this season of gratitude, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our donors, dedicated volunteers, and valued partners. Your unwavering commitment to building a community where everyone can thrive and be resilient inspires us every day.

Because of your generosity and your belief in our mission, we can create meaningful, lasting change for individuals and families across our region. Your support enriches our community in ways that endure well beyond the holiday season.

Save the Date

December 5

Women United Volunteer Project

December 18

YLS Season of Giving Dinner

January 22

Tocqueville Toast

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyous, safe,
and peaceful Thanksgiving.

February 17

**Cocktails &
Conversations**

May 14

**Annual
Celebration**



Leadership Giving Association Celebration: Illuminating Impact



UWCF Leadership Giving Association members had a blast at this year's LGA Celebration: Illuminating Impact. Thank you to everyone who joined us for a joyful evening filled with fellowship, delicious food, and a spectacular fireworks show. Your presence helped make the night truly special.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to White Horse Venue, Millenia Catering, Amazon, Nineteen61, Lugo's Craft Distillery, and Bernie Little Distributors for their generous support in bringing this event to life.



A special thank you also goes to our mission partners, Publix Super Markets, Publix Super Markets Charities, Polk County, and the George Jenkins Foundation, whose continued commitment makes a meaningful difference in our community.

Last year, our Leadership Givers collectively invested more than \$5.2 million into our community. These investments are illuminating pathways to a brighter future. Thank you for your leadership and dedication.

[Renew Your Gift or Join LGA Today](#)

Music & Movement Class in Lake Wales



MUSIC and MOVEMENT
A magical journey through rhythm and sound.

Join us for our Music and Movement class! This class is designed to help your child connect sounds and movement in a group environment.

Geared for children ages 2 - 5 with their guardians!

Wednesday, November 19 and December 10 at 11:30AM
1001 Burns Avenue, Lake Wales, FL, 33846

Families who attend classes will receive a FREE Day Pass to the Lake Wales Family Rec Center!

UNITED WAY
Central Florida

Lake Wales families — you're invited!

Join us on December 10 at the City of Lake Wales Recreation Center for a free, fun, and interactive class designed for you and your little one.

Each child will receive a free book, and parents will receive a complimentary day pass to the rec center. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, play, and connect!

[Sign Up Today!](#)

RARE Kids Holiday Event



The Carol Jenkins Barnett United Way Children's Resource Center will host its RARE Kids group on December 15 from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., featuring a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus! Join us for a festive afternoon of joy, connection, and holiday fun.

Hardee & Highlands News

Women United for Highlands County



Thanks to the generosity and heart of our community, Women United in Highlands County collected an incredible 716 boxes of cereal for the Heartland Food Bank!

Women United remains committed to supporting families and strengthening our community, and this success is proof of what we can accomplish when we unite for a cause.

Get Involved

ReadingPals Needs Volunteers



ReadingPals are volunteers who spend one hour each week in kindergarten classrooms throughout Polk County, helping students read.

Volunteers are still needed! Interested in joining us? We would love to have you be a part of this program. [Learn more.](#)

[Sign Up!](#)

Young Leaders Society Season of Giving Dinner

Join us for an elegant evening of holiday cheer at the YLS Season of Giving Dinner on December 18 at The Club at Eaglebrooke. Enjoy a festive dinner, network with fellow young professionals and United Way supporters, and experience our live Celebrity Mixology Showdown—all while raising critical funds to support United Way of Central Florida's mission. Tables and sponsorships are available now!

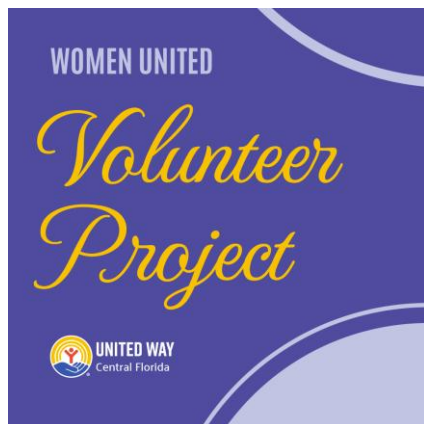
[Purchase a Table or Ticket Today](#)



Our Young Leaders Society has officially launched its Season of Giving peer-to-peer fundraising campaign supporting United Way of Central Florida. This year's featured mixologists — Tayler Baldick, Ben Greenman, and Derek Oxford — are leading the charge and rallying their networks to help us reach our goal.

[Support a Mixologist](#)

Join Women United for a Volunteer Project



Help us assemble book bundles for ReadingPals students and make a lasting impact in our community.

December 5, 2025

10:00 AM – Noon (or until we finish)

United Way of Central Florida Office

Optional lunch to follow.

Questions? Email WU@uwcf.org.

Find Help

End Hunger Initiative



Are you struggling to put food on the table? With 20 healthy food pantry sites around Polk, Hardee, and Highlands counties, UWCF is helping to supply families with boxes of frozen meat, fresh produce and dry goods at no cost!

[Find Your Nearest Healthy Food Pantry](#)

Thank you to our Polk County Food Pantry Sponsor, The George Jenkins Foundation, our Highlands County Food Pantry Sponsor, AdventHealth and our Hardee County Food Pantry Sponsor, the State of Florida.

211 Get Connected. Get Help.



United Way's 211 is the most comprehensive source of human and social services information in the country. Our teams of compassionate, highly trained specialists are available 24/7 to connect you with the best services available in Polk, Hardee and Highlands counties.

[Find Help Now](#)

[MAKE A
DONATION](#)

[LOCAL
RESOURCES](#)

[VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES](#)

Our mission is to inspire our community to give, advocate and volunteer by identifying needs and mobilizing vetted resources to create positive, local change.



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