



United Way  
of Southwest Oklahoma

# 2021-2022 IMPACT REPORT



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*No one has ever  
become poor by  
giving.*

*- Anne Frank*



# OUR MISSION & VALUES



## OUR MISSION

Leading the fight to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power within our community to address education, income stability, health and basic needs of every person in Southwest Oklahoma.

## OUR VALUES

**Collective Impact** - We are better together; United Way encourages people to join the movement to share goals and focuses on achieving results - better-quality community lives.

**Volunteering** - We recognize volunteering as a way to transform our communities

**Community Connection** - We develop relationships to strengthen our ability to collaborate, organize, influence and achieve community change.

**Passion and Commitment** - We are continually devoted to creating a better community and building a United Way model to drive positive social change.

# OUR TEAM



**LAUREN  
ELLIS**

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PRESIDENT & CEO



**JUDY  
DIAL**

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DONOR MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR



**FRANK  
MYERS**

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER



**TANNA  
VU**

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DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT



**ROXANNE  
WISEMAN**

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

*Thank you* TO OUR 2021-2022 COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS!



**2021 CAMPAIGN CHAIR**

**Hossein Moini**

*Adventure Travel*



**2022 CAMPAIGN CHAIR**

**Mark Scott**

*Arvest Bank*

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Chairman

David Vinall

## Vice Chairman

Jennifer Ellis

## Vice Chairman Elect

Natalie Fitch

## Treasurer

Jason Hensley

## Campaign Chairman

Hossein Moini

## Immediate Past Chairman

George Porter

## Community Investment Chairman

Aaron Russell

## Community Investment Co-Chairman

Cynthia Johnson

## Board Members

Dr. Sylvia Burgess	Gloria Martinez
Councilman Jay Burk	Chase Massie
Christy Clark	John Noel
Cody Dupler	Robert Rayburn
Kelly Edwards	Emily Smith
Taylor Farmer	Chief James Smith
Lorie Garrison	Pastor Willie Smith
Dustin Hilliary	Cynthia Sosa
Casey Honeycutt	David Stringer
Rhonda Mahaffey	

*Philanthropy is commendable, but it must not cause the philanthropist to overlook the circumstances of economic injustice which make philanthropy necessary.*

*-Martin Luther King, Jr.*

# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



In the time of our community's greatest need, you not only stayed with us, you increased your support of our annual fundraising campaign! Through your generosity, United Way of Southwest Oklahoma raised \$1,230,591.73 to invest in local solutions to improve the lives of our neighbors and friends who need it the most.

This report highlights the accomplishments of the past year and honors the people who made them possible. 2021-2022 was a productive year, even as we continued to navigate through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. We did not stop, because our partners and our neighbors needed us more than ever before. Instead, we pivoted, adapted, tried new things, and powered through the chaos and uncertainty.

Our 2021 fundraising campaign, led by Hossein Moini, was a great success! We worked with 197 workplace campaigns, launched our internal Family Empowerment Program with Success by Six, brought on two new local non-profit partners, and experienced an increase in new donors. All incredible wins for us and those we support.

We know that the challenges and staggering effects of the pandemic are far from over. We also know that we (and our 20 funded partners) will not stop working to provide the resources, support, and assistance that our community needs. We appreciate YOU for standing with us as we continue to fight for the education, financial stability, health, and basic needs of every person in our community. Thank you for LIVING UNITED.



Live United,  
*Lauren Ellis*  
President & CEO  
United Way of Southwest Oklahoma

# YOUR INVESTMENTS



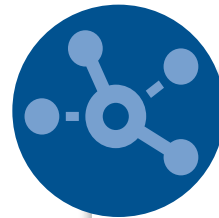
**69,918**

People Served



**\$862,626.33**

Invested in the  
Community in the  
Past Year



**19**

Partner  
Agencies

**23**

Programs Supported  
in the Community

*I have found that  
among its other  
benefits, giving  
liberates the soul of  
the giver.*

*-Maya Angelou*



# HOW FUNDS ARE ALLOCATED

## Education

Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma		\$12,450
Last Frontier Council, Boy Scouts of Oklahoma	Comprehensive Youth Development	\$33,000
Salvation Army	Boys and Girls Club After School Program	\$33,000
Teen Court	Delinquency Prevention	\$44,000
Success by Six	Youth Readiness	\$5,888.08

## Financial Stability

Catholic Charities	Lawton Family Support Services	\$22,125
Family Promise of Lawton	Guest Assistance Program	\$13,061.25
Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma	Lawton Support Services	\$12,480

## Health

CASA of Southwest Oklahoma		\$40,000
Christian Family Counseling Center	Professional Outpatient Mental Health Counseling	\$40,000
Hearts That Care Volunteer Health Clinic	Patient Care Program	\$35,000
Oklahoma Parkinson's Alliance	Support Network	\$3,470
Oklahoma Parkinson's Alliance	Voice Therapy Program	\$3,586
Oklahoma Parkinson's Alliance	Wellness Recovery PWRI Moves Physical Therapy Program	\$3,586
Roadback, Inc.	Rehabilitation Recovery Program/Residential Inpatient Services	\$52,000
Roadback, Inc.	Outpatient Behavioral Health Counseling	\$30,000

## Basic Needs

Center for Creative Living	Senior Health, Wellness and Nutrition Program	\$98,000
Family Promise of Lawton	Interfaith Hospitality Shelter	\$20,214
C. Carter Crane Center for Empowerment & Advancement		\$90,000
Lawton Food Bank	Emergency Food Assistance Program	\$86,166
Marie Detty Youth & Family Services	New Directions Domestic Violence Shelter	\$68,000
Marie Detty Youth & Family Services	Children's Emergency Resource Center	\$83,000
Salvation Army	Shelter & Soup Kitchen	\$33,600

TOTAL ALLOCATION

\$862,626.33

# OUR FUNDED PARTNERS & PROGRAMS



# CORPORATE GIVING



## WORKPLACE CAMPAIGNS

197

## AMOUNT RAISED

\$1,230,758.64



# TOP 5 WORKPLACE CAMPAIGNS



**GOODYEAR  
TIRE & RUBBER  
COMPANY**



**LAWTON PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS**



**CITY  
NATIONAL  
BANK**



**ARVEST  
BANK**



**CITY OF  
LAWTON**

# THE FUND DISTRIBUTION PROCESS



How an Agency  
Receives Funding  
from UWSWOK

START



United Way Campaign  
to Gather Community  
Support & Funding

Committee Reviews  
Applications &  
Recommends Funding



Agencies Apply for  
Funding from UWSWOK



The Board Reviews  
Recommendations &  
Approves Funding

Funding is Distributed  
to Our UWSWOK  
Partner Agencies



Check out our video detailing this process!

Use your smartphone's camera to scan the code to  
the left to watch on YouTube.

# THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

## Committee Chairs

Cynthia Johnson  
Aaron Russell

## Panel Chairs

Gloria Martinez  
Jonna Turner  
Jennifer Layman  
Jenna Alston  
John Noel  
Woogie Burgess  
Natalie Fitch

## Committee Members

Tabitha Cochran  
Jayne Mattice  
Christina Woodson  
Robert Munoz  
Cody Dupler  
Elizabeth Bentley  
Chase Massie  
Dave McDermott

Carey Monroe  
Krista Ratliff  
Zachary Ellis  
Kari Garza  
Samantha Lankford  
Rebekah Pullicar  
Vincent Saylor  
Juanita Jackson  
Bryan Cauthon  
Shawn Freie  
Robyn Nottingham  
Benne Brewer  
Taylor Poindexter  
Kelly Edwards  
Natasha Fillmore  
Kaley Patterson  
Fred Fitch  
Melissa Griego-Kastner  
Kelly Harbert  
Leslie Cothren  
Ryan Smith

LIVE UNITED



## 1 OF THE HIGHEST

Oklahoma has one of the highest death rates linked to heart disease in the country.

## HEALTH QUALITY

Oklahoma ranks 44th in the quality of our health.

Source: *AmericaHealthRanking.org*

## PRIMARY CARE

Oklahoma ranks 49th in access to primary care providers, with only 81.7 physicians per 100,000 people.

Source: *OKpolicy.org*

## MENTAL HEALTH

Oklahoma ranks #1 in the nation for residents with mental disorders.

Source: *United Health Foundation "America's Health Rankings 2019 Annual Report"*



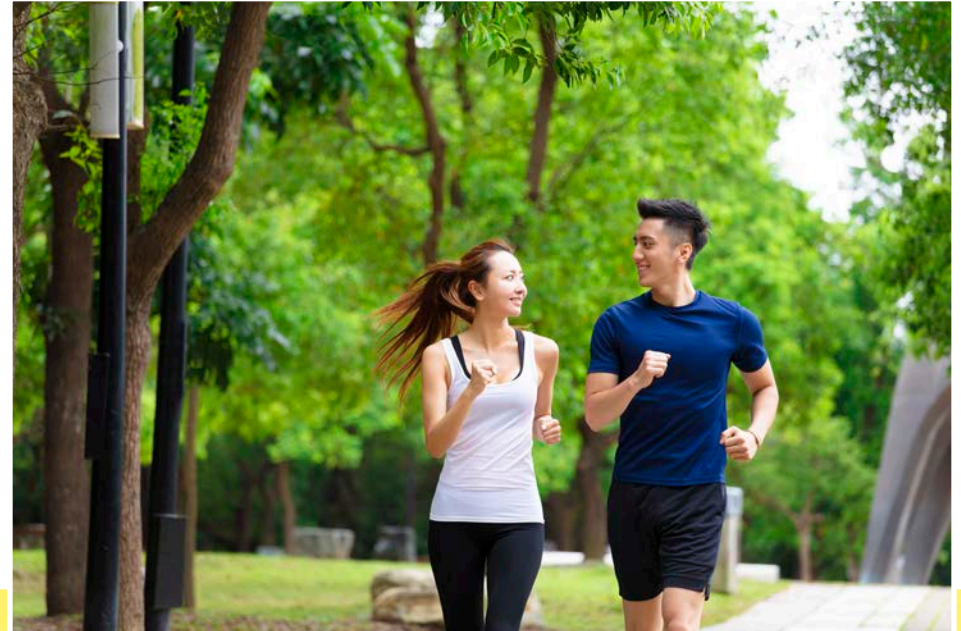
# HEALTH

# 4,831

People Served in Our Community



Scan this code to read success stories on our website!



# HEALTH



**Mental illness** is the number one cause of disability and the second leading cause of premature death in America. This past year, the *Christian Family Counseling Center* conducted 9,011 counseling sessions, helping 1,362 clients. Results of those sessions reported 375 marriages **SAVED**, over 200 people at significant risk of suicide chose **LIFE**, and many others received the help they needed to recover from the effects of divorce, the global pandemic, and other situations. *Hearts that Care Clinic* provided life-saving medication to 346 patients

*The Parkinson's Foundation of Oklahoma* works to inspire hope and transform life for Parkinson's patients and families in Oklahoma. They do this through many programs, including the Parkinson's Support Network (served 600 last year), Voice Therapy Program (served 1,470), and PWR! Moves Physical Therapy Program (490).

At last data collection, there are 7,200 Oklahoma children in state custody. *CASA of Southwest Oklahoma* works to specially select and train compassionate volunteer advocates to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children who are wards of the juvenile court. Children who are represented by CASA are more likely to achieve permanency, become adopted, and report significantly higher levels of **HOPE**, while also being less likely to reenter the child welfare system.



**68.1%**

The percentage of students in our service area that are eligible for the free and reduced lunch program.

## EDUCATION QUALITY

Oklahoma is ranked 43rd in the nation for the quality of education for grades PreK-12.

*Source: OKPolicy.org*

## SUCCESS BY 6

Success By 6's mission is to ensure all Oklahoma children will enter school healthy and ready to succeed in school and in life. Our Family Empowerment Program brings parents, children, community leaders, educators, and health and human services professionals together to provide educational sessions at no cost to underserved families in our community. In addition, we are able to provide gift cards to 40 families a month for basic household and life necessities.

## SCOUTING LIFE SKILLS

Scouting teaches kids camping, hiking, survival skills, and a variety of outdoor education programs, teaching them how to be resourceful and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

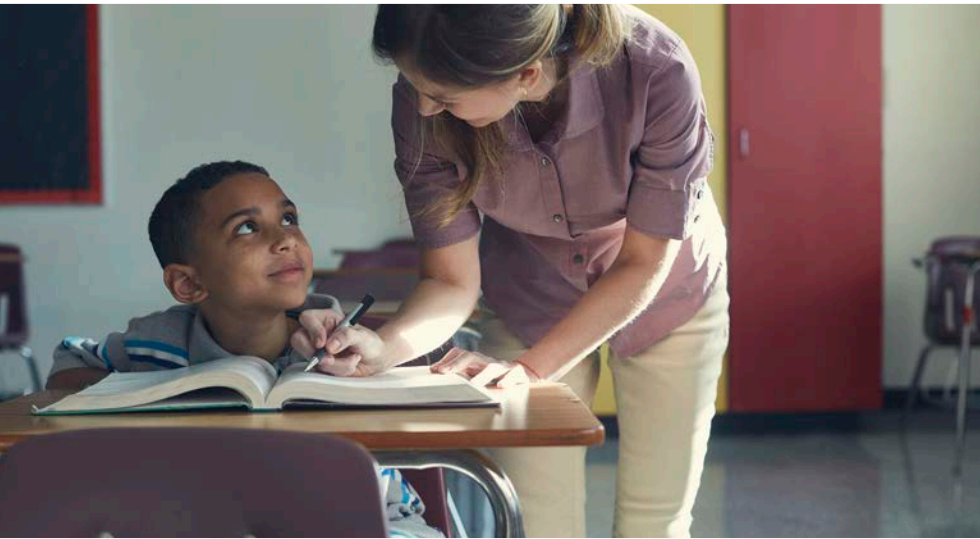
# EDUCATION

**4,370**


People Served in Our Community



Scan this code to read success stories on our website!



# EDUCATION



*The Boy Scouts Last Frontier Council* prepares youth with the ability to make **ethical life choices** over their lifetime. Scouts engage in a variety of activities designed to address their physical, mental, and spiritual needs. *The Boy Scouts Last Frontier Council* served 444 participants in 2021.

*The Girl Scout Program of Western Oklahoma* provides girls with the tools to build confidence, life skills, leadership traits, and self-esteem. Girl Scouts practice **collaborative learning** to promote sharing of knowledge, skills, and learning in an atmosphere of respect and cooperation as girls work together on goals that can be accomplished with the help of others. *The Girls Scout Program of Western Oklahoma* served 509 girls in 39 counties across central and southwest Oklahoma in 2021.

*The Boys and Girls Club* is a safe and positive environment where kids can have fun and learn how to become a **productive citizen** in their communities. They build supportive relationships with children through current learning opportunities and an appreciation for expectations. *The Boys and Girls Club* in Lawton, OK served 240 members in 2021.

*Teen Court* put 1,072 students through peer court sentencing in 2021. Their delinquency prevention program serves as an alternative to formal charges being filed against a first-time offender, as well as **educating youth** on faulty thinking, substance abuse, and conflict resolution and anger management. Teen Court helps build self-esteem through public speaking, education on our judicial system, and giving back to the community through **volunteerism**.

## 8TH HIGHEST

Oklahoma has the 8th highest rate of poverty in the nation.

Source: Census.gov & USNews.com

## 1.6% MORE

Lawton has 1.6% more individuals below the poverty line than the state average

## 100%

Bridges Out of Poverty works to address generational poverty and leads the Comanche County Community Health Improvement Plans Poverty Work Group. They have efforts at all levels of city and county government to increase poverty alleviation. 100% of their program participants have decreased debt load and many have decreased in receiving assistance.

## LEGAL SERVICES

Last year, Legal Aid of Southwest Oklahoma closed 653 civil cases that provided legal services to financially disadvantaged or vulnerable Oklahomans.

# FINANCIAL STABILITY

# 1,588


People Served in Our Community



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# FINANCIAL STABILITY



*Catholic Charities* provides long term case-management to individuals and families to address needs including **financial management**, education, wellness, employment, affordable housing, and mental health needs. Through their Emergency Rent and Utility Assistance Program, *Catholic Charities* assists clients by paying a portion of their housing or utility payment to prevent eviction and utility disconnection, resulting in future **homelessness prevention** in the community. *Catholic Charities* was able to serve 954 individuals and families in 2021.

*Family Promise* is a full-time shelter that provides homeless families with children a safe and stable environment in which to learn and achieve **sustainable independence**. They equip families with the knowledge necessary to manage their money, sustain employment, set long-term goals for their families, and how to achieve their goals. *Family Promise* was able to serve 35 families in southwest Oklahoma in 2021.

Last year, *Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma* closed 599 civil cases and provided legal services to financially disadvantaged and vulnerable adults. They ensure fairness and secure justice for low-income Oklahomans by removing barriers to equal justice and disrupting the poverty cycle by removing barriers to **stable and productive lives**.

## FOOD INSECURITY

14.6% of Oklahoma households experience food insecurity, meaning they do not know where their next meal will come from.

## 1 IN 6

1 in 6 senior citizens struggle with hunger

## HUNGER

1 in 5 children struggle with hunger

## HOMELESSNESS

There were an estimated 3,932 people experiencing homelessness on any given day in Oklahoma in 2020, with 165 of those in Southwest Oklahoma.

Source: [EndHomelessness.org](http://EndHomelessness.org)



# BASIC NEEDS

**59,130** People Served in Our Community



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# BASIC NEEDS

Last year, 373 individuals experiencing homelessness received support and case management through the services of *C. Carter Crane Center for Empowerment and Advancement*. Clients reported increased **self-worth, self-confidence, and stability** during their time there.

At least 10% of Senior Citizens in Comanche County live in poverty, often **forcing them to choose** between purchasing food or medications. The *Lawton Food Bank's Emergency Food Assistance Program* provides food delivery for many of these homebound and disabled seniors who otherwise would go without food. They provided food to over 19,777 families through the Emergency Food Assistance Program.

*Marie Detty Youth & Family Services; New Directions* provides a safe haven for women, men, and children who are escaping the trauma of domestic violence, sexual assault and/or stalking. 1,774 survivors received shelter, case management, counseling, job placement assistance, protective order assistance and prevention services. Nearly 1 in 4 were victims of domestic violence. Domestic violence reports to police from 2006 until now have increased by 220.9% in Comanche County alone. Their Emergency Youth Shelter is the only adolescent shelter in Southwest Oklahoma and 89.75% of youth **returned home or to a stable placement** after crisis in 2021, and the shelter served 200 troubled youth in 2021.

85% of participants who entered the program at *Family Promise's Interfaith Hospitality Shelter* without employment **secured and maintained employment** last year. 100% of Family Promise program graduates secured housing.

In 2021, *The Center for Creative Living* served 7,437 healthy meals to senior citizens through their Senior Health, Wellness and Nutrition Program. 95-105 meals are delivered to homebound seniors 3 times a week, and a total of 90,831 meals were served this past year.

At the *Salvation Army Shelter & Soup Kitchen*, 30,575 shelter nights, meals and case management were provided to homeless individuals through the Shelter.





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