UNITED WAY Southeast Missouri

May 2025 Newsletter

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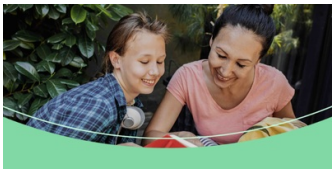
Welcome New Partners!

From the UWSEMO Blog



Partner Highlights

Heartland Tornado Relief Fund

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

We have New Partners!

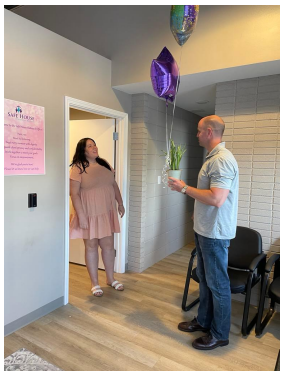
We're excited to welcome a new group of partners who are joining us to build stronger, more resilient communities. These organizations are taking action to create lasting change, addressing root causes and working side by side with us to ensure every person has the opportunity to thrive. Together, we're not just meeting needs, we're moving forward with bold, community-led solutions.

Returning as funded partners serving UWSEMO's four-county footprint are:

American Red Cross, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Clubs of SEMO, Cape Girardeau Adult Education & Literacy, EPIC, FosterAdopt Connect, Jackson Senior Center, Lutheran Family & Children's Services, Mississippi Valley Therapeutic Horsemanship, The Cottage - Domestic Violence Shelter (formerly Regional Family Crisis Center), Safe House of Southeast Missouri, SMART Senior Services, The Salvation Army, and Voices for Children/CASA.

Only two new organizations were added to the United Way network. These include Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) at Central Junior High School, and the Co-Responders Unit of the Cape Girardeau Police Department, which responds with police officers to mental and behavioral health calls.

UWSEMO will continue to fully fund internal programs that include: First Call For Help information and referral service, Read to Succeed early literacy program, United We Work transportation program, and United for Childcare, launching later this year to support parents, employers, and childcare providers. **Stay tuned for upcoming opportunities to learn more about these partners and our plans for the future.**



Reflections in Service

AmeriCorps has helped strengthen our partner network, increase our capacity, and

deepen our impact across Southeast Missouri. Ciera Schlie, our former VISTA who is now our part-time marketing coordinator, shares reflections on two years of service and a lifelong calling to serve others. **Ciera's story is a powerful reminder of why national service matters—and what we risk losing without it.**

Read the Blog

Partner Highlights

May is National Foster Care Month, and we're celebrating the everyday heroes working to give every child the safety, support, and stability they deserve.

Our incredible partners, FosterAdopt Connect Cape Girardeau, Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri, and Voices for Children / CASA of Southeast Missouri, Inc., are champions for foster youth in our region.

With help from donors like you, United Way of Southeast Missouri supports programs that provide mentorship, advocacy, mental health services, and meet urgent needs like food, clothing, and toiletries. Because every child deserves to feel seen, cared for, and supported. **Together, we're helping foster kids not just get by, but grow and thrive.**

Tornado Relief

We've received many kind messages from people asking how they can help those affected by the recent tornadoes in southern Scott County and in St. Louis. Your compassion speaks volumes about the strength of this community.

While United Way of Southeast Missouri doesn't provide support to those areas, we're proud to stand alongside those who do; Sikeston/Bootheel Area United Way and United Way of Greater St. Louis are actively supporting recovery efforts in their communities.

Here at home, recovery is still underway in parts of our own service area. If you'd like to support ongoing disaster relief, please consider making a gift to our Heartland Tornado Relief Fund, supporting families in Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Perry, and northern Scott Counties

Help Now

Events & Opportunities

United Way WINSdays with the Cape Catfish are around the corner! This year's WINSdays games are **June 4 & 18, and July 9 & 30.**

This year we are excited to offer an exclusive opportunity to engage your customers and employees while supporting United Way and the Cape Catfish. Your business or organization can **sponsor one of our United Way WINSdays** for just $350. In return, you will get great exposure at the game and in social media, photo opps with Captain Catfish, designated seating, and **25 tickets to share with your team or with a funded partner serving folks who might not have the opportunity to attend a game.**

Want to learn more? Email Mark.Stone@unitedwayofsemo.org.

Is Your Business Invested in this Community?

We could not do the work we do without our donors, especially our Corporate Investors. These organizations understand that a strong economy needs a strong community, and United Way builds the foundation.

Now is the time to support UWSEMO. Not only do we invest in programs supporting all ages, we fill gaps. **If your employees struggle with transportation or childcare, invest in the organization creating solutions. Contact Mark Stone** to help.

Register Now!

Ready to hit the green for a great cause?

Our **38th Annual Golf Tournament** is teeing off before you know it — mark your calendar for October 10th! It might feel far away, but spots go fast, and this popular event always sells out. Don't wait to secure your team's place on the course!

Looking to boost your business while supporting the community?

Sponsorship opportunities are available from $225 to $4,000 — a perfect way to showcase your brand to a broad audience of community-minded participants.

Join us for a day of fun, networking, and impact — we can't wait to see you there!

Welcome, 2025-2026 UWSEMO Funded Partners!

American Red Cross Southeast Missouri

Big Brothers Big Sisters Eastern Missouri

Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Missouri

Cape Girardeau Adult Education & Literacy Center

Co-Responder Unit CRU Cape Girardeau Police Department

EPIC Every Person Impacts Community

First Call for Help

fosteradopt connect

O.A.K.S. Center of Jackson Older Adults Keep Serving Jackson Senior Center

JAG Jobs for America's Graduates

LFCS Growing Hope Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri

S.M.A.R.T. Senior Services

Mississippi Valley Therapeutic Horsemanship

Safe House of Southeast Missouri

United for Childcare

United We Work United Way of Southeast Missouri

Read to Succeed

The Cottage Domestic Violence Shelter

The Salvation Army

Voices for Children CASA

Student Emergency Funds at regional public schools

Thank You, 2024-25 Corporate Investors!

Want your business featured in our monthly newsletter, website, on our Investors Wall along N. Spanish St, and in other prominent UWSEMO communications? Email Mark.Stone@unitedwayofsemo.org to become a 2025-26 Corporate Investor today.

First State Community Bank **Southern Bank**

Century Casino **Chris Hutson, CLU® CFP® ChFC®**

Innovative Orthodontics

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