

# How is United Way addressing today's top issues?

United Way's system of care is working to address the Mid-South's most critical challenges.

**Some examples of United Way's network of nonprofit agencies and programs working to address today's top issues:**

## INCOME

United Way helps families and individuals retain more of their own money through our leadership in the Earned Income Tax Credit Alliance (EITCA). Last year, trained EITCA volunteers helped people file nearly 14,000 tax returns for free, which resulted in over \$2.7 million in additional tax credit income to local families. In all, over \$8 million in tax refunds came into the local economy through this program.

## EMPLOYMENT

United Way's partnership with Seedco brought the CareerSteps program to the Mid-South. CareerSteps is an innovative welfare-to-work initiative which has prepared 730 workplace training opportunities for local people with little or no job skills. This training helps people currently on government assistance find work and become more self-sufficient. United Way is also funding 7 local nonprofits that provide job training for our region.

## HOUSING

In a proactive approach to the area's current foreclosure crisis, United Way has invested an additional \$90,000 with nonprofits who are creating and providing services that prevent foreclosure. United Way is also funding 8 Mid-South nonprofit agencies with \$240,000 to educate potential home buyers and to assist home owners who are at risk of losing their homes.

## HUNGER

United Way provides funding to food services across the region that make certain our citizens do not go hungry. This year, \$130,000 is being distributed to 10 local nonprofit agencies that provide emergency food services. Based upon increased demand due to changes in the economy, United Way has provided an additional \$25,000 to the Food Bank to support local food pantries and has designated another \$55,600 for additional community safety net services. United Way is also the administrator of local Emergency Food and Shelter Grants that helped feed 17,443 people just last year.

**Your support of United Way throughout the year allows us to improve the Mid-South's education, income and health everyday. Thank you for caring about our community, and for giving to the United Way network of care so people facing challenges have services in place to help during times of serious need.**



**United Way  
of the Mid-South**