



UNITED WAY OF THE MID-SOUTH

# DRIVING THE DREAM

POVERTY to PROSPERITY NEWS

June 2020



## DTD 2Gen Learning Community

Please join us **Wednesday, June 24 at 1:00pm** for the virtual quarterly 2Gen Learning Community. For more information, contact [Cassandra.Brown@uwmidssouth.org](mailto:Cassandra.Brown@uwmidssouth.org).

Join us online or by phone!  
[meet.google.com/ayc-mafw-raz](https://meet.google.com/ayc-mafw-raz)  
224-999-1736 PIN: 332 704 364#

## United Way's Relief Call Center powered by Driving The Dream

- 149 requests total (April - June)
- 56 calls received June 1-12
- Top requests:
  - Income (50)
  - Shelter/Housing (27)
  - Food & Nutrition (19)
  - Employment (10)
  - Healthcare (9)

## Helping Children Thrive During a Pandemic and Social Justice Movement

*First 8 Memphis*

**Care for yourself:** Children look to the adults in their life to tell them how safe they are. Parents and caregivers model how to handle stress and how to care for oneself. Do what helps you care for yourself – listen to music, pray, meditate, and reach out to family and friends – so that you can be there for the children you care about.

**Tell children what is going on:** People think that children are too young to understand what is happening in the world. But they know. Babies know when their caregiver is not responding to their cry, toddlers know when they are being shushed because their caregiver is stressed, and older children obviously know when their parents are stressed. We need to explain to kids – in a way they would understand – what is going on. It is also important to be honest and explain that you may not know when things will get better, but that you will be there for them as best you can.

**Let children know what to expect:** One thing we know about children is routine helps them know what to expect from the adults in their lives. Young children, especially those under the age of five, thrive on routine. Routine helps them understand what is happening next. It helps them feel calmer and more in control. If you have a routine to read to your children every night, keep going. If your children nap, pillow fight or watch a certain tv show every day, try to continue with that. Help them know what to expect.

## Building a Trauma Informed Community

Last year United Way partnered with University of Memphis began a project called Building a Trauma Sensitive Community. We met with a cohort of 12 nonprofit agency executives once a month for the year providing training and facilitating discussions on the elements of a trauma sensitive organization.

These executives took their learnings back to their agencies to plan and implement organizational changes making their organizations more trauma sensitive. United Way is extending an opportunity to you to participate in the Building a Trauma Sensitive Community project. Participants must commit to the concept of trauma sensitive services, to having an executive level staff person attend the 90-minute monthly meetings, and to participating in the pre- and post- organizational Assessments.

If interested, please contact Diana at [Diana.bedwell@uwmidssouth.org](mailto:Diana.bedwell@uwmidssouth.org) for additional information.

## Upcoming Training Opportunities

**Driving The Dream Systems Training: CaseWorthy - Register**  
For assistance with the CaseWorthy system, including training and login issues, please contact [Candace.Sanders@uwmidssouth.org](mailto:Candace.Sanders@uwmidssouth.org). For all other questions or concerns related to DTD technical systems, please contact [Eric.Burden@uwmidssouth.org](mailto:Eric.Burden@uwmidssouth.org).

**Leadership Memphis** invites you to join our Virtual Conversations as we talk about Leadership during COVID-19. View upcoming webinars and archives [here](#).

**Momentum Nonprofit Partners to host virtual training opportunities - Register** for an upcoming session

**Southwest Tennessee Community College** - Southwest Workforce & Community Solutions is offering **10 free online, self-paced tutorial courses** to uplift businesses and individuals. Offer ends June 30, so [sign up](#) today!

## Partner Agency Updates

For now, almost all of our DTD partner agencies are staying put and have not yet implemented plans to reopen. We will share status and reopening plans as they become available from our partners.

- **Binghampton Development Corporation** - The BDC desires to provide emergency financial assistance for Binghampton residents who have experienced a loss of income during the COVID-19 pandemic. Qualifications and application can be found [here](#).
- **Economic Opportunities** - We have resumed working from the offices a few weeks ago as we are deemed an essential business through our job placement opportunities. We have added new policies around office protocol, PPE, receiving new applicants, telecommuting when necessary, etc. For more information, call (901) 529-7294.
- **Knowledge Quest** is partnering with the Mid-South Food Bank to host a mobile food pantry on Wednesday, June 17th from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. The first 500 families will be served. Pantry will be located at Knowledge Quest's Family Stability Center, 1044 S. Third Street, 38106.
- **Memphis Jewish Community Center** - We are back in the office full-time at FJFS, and MJCC is carefully and thoughtfully phasing in services and programs. The Senior Meals program is NOT yet reopened.
- **Mid-South Vet Help Desk** - MSVHD has rejoined the network and is receiving referrals. They are listed in CaseWorthy as a referral partner.
- **United Way's Free Tax Prep Program** - Individuals and families who qualify for Free Tax Prep – with incomes less than \$56,000 in 2019 – can file their taxes using the Drive-Thru Drop-Off operation at the United Way Plaza, located at 1005 Tillman Street. There will be volunteers to direct traffic through the process. This service will continue through to July 15, 2020 with holiday closures on Friday, July 3rd and Saturday, July 4th. Our operating hours will continue Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Click [here](#) for more information.

## DTD Updates

If your agency has an update to share, please email [Chelsea.Brock@uwmidssouth.org](mailto:Chelsea.Brock@uwmidssouth.org) or [Karlescia.Brookins@uwmidssouth.org](mailto:Karlescia.Brookins@uwmidssouth.org) so we can maintain accurate information. Additionally, you can contact your associate to provide, or receive, updated information.

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