Driving the Dream: Impacting Critical Needs

Shelby County Schools Provide Summer Meals for Local Students

Since the pandemic forced school closures across the state, country, and world, schools have made innovative adaptations to ensure our students are fed. The Shelby County School District (SCS) has been at the forefront of this effort, serving an average of 80,000 meals per day across the county. A testament to their dedication, SCS has already served more than 1.5 million meals. To support their efforts, the University of Memphis’ Center for Education and Leadership is partnering with SCS to conduct a survey of school meals programs in the country to better understand best practices and supports for success.

In addition to serving meals, SCS has expanded their distribution sites across the county. In doing so, SCS has also expanded their partnership with organizations like YMCA of Greater Memphis. In the summer of 2020, SCS partnered with the United Way of Greater Memphis to set up meal distribution sites across the city, but they need to continue to fill the gap to make sure our students are still receiving daily breakfast and lunch. In response to the continued need for meals, SCS has doubled the number of meal distribution sites across the city.

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.

For more information, please contact Candace.Sanders@uwmidsouth.org.

United Way’s Relief Call Center Powered by Driving the Dream

For almost a year now, the United Way of Greater Memphis has served as the Heart of the Community, providing guidance and resources to community members in need. Now we’re amplifying our efforts with the launch of our United Way’s Relief Call Center, a one-stop resource for people seeking help during these unprecedented times.

The United Way’s Relief Call Center is a comprehensive, free and confidential program with trained, bilingual counselors who connect people in crisis with local resources. The program is designed to assist with virtually any need - from food and shelter to utility assistance and more.

By calling 211 or visiting 211.org, individuals can receive immediate access to resources and support that may be needed. This service is available 24/7, in any language, and is currently accepting applications by drop-off, mail, or email.

Driving the Dream updates

Sign up or update your preferences so we can maintain accurate information. Additionally, you can find more information on our website: UWMIDSOUTH.ORG.

COVID-19 UPDATES

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