

# 2019 SIGNATURE AND VOLUNTEER EVENTS



## JANUARY

- ▶ **JANUARY 18-21, 2019**  
**Martin Luther King, Jr. Days of Service**  
(In partnership with Volunteer Memphis)  
Volunteer around the Mid-South community to be the change we want to see in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- ▶ **JANUARY 21, 2019**  
**Free Tax Prep Super Sites OPEN – VOLUNTEERS Welcome!**  
Volunteer to create a community of financial empowerment by helping individuals and families receive a "tax time boost".
- ▶ **JANUARY 26, 2019**  
**TAX-A-THON (Shelby County)**  
Tax-a-Thon increases the number of individuals and families receiving free tax help and raises awareness about tax credits for working families by providing tax services in a 12-hour blitz. The event includes additional community resources, refreshments and activities throughout the day for visiting taxpayers.

## FEBRUARY

- ▶ **FEBRUARY 2, 2019**  
**TAX-A-THON (Crittenden & Desoto Counties)**  
Tax-a-Thon increases the number of individuals and families receiving free tax help and raises awareness about tax credits for working families by providing tax services in a 12-hour blitz. The event includes additional community resources, refreshments and activities throughout the day for visiting taxpayers.

## MARCH

- ▶ **MARCH 1, 2019**  
**Read Across America Day & Dr. Seuss' Birthday**  
Read aloud to Mid-South children during this annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading.
- ▶ **MARCH 6, 2019**  
**Community Impact Town Hall**  
The Community Impact Town Hall is a community-wide gathering that features a national keynote speaker to heighten local awareness on alleviating poverty. The speaker shares national successes and best practices on ways we can attain economic prosperity and wealth creation in our community. In true town hall fashion, the event will close with a participatory audience dialogue around solutions to advance from poverty to prosperity.

[www.uwmidsouth.org](http://www.uwmidsouth.org)  
901.433.4300

## APRIL

- ▶ **APRIL 5, 2019**  
**NIGHT TO UNITE: 95th Anniversary Party**  
Night to Unite celebrates the 95th anniversary of United Way of the Mid-South. Attendees will enjoy local eats and dance the night away to one-of-a-kind tunes. The entire community is invited to join us in our fight against poverty and celebrate 95 years of creating lasting impact in this community!
- ▶ **APRIL 7-13, 2019**  
**National Volunteer Week**  
Celebrate the opportunity to serve this community by signing up for volunteer needs.

## MAY

- ▶ **MAY 22, 2019**  
**DAY OF ACTION: New [ALMOST] Century of Service**  
Day of Action mirrors the work that United Way of the Mid-South does year-round: empowering people to affect positive change on issues that matter most – issues like poverty. Join Mid-South volunteers by helping residents and nonprofits during the city of Memphis' Bicentennial Celebration!

## JUNE

- ▶ **JUNE 18, 2019**  
**Best of the Best Awards**  
The "Best of the Best" Awards is a celebration of our workplace campaigns and all of our wonderful corporate, agency and community volunteers! Guests will walk the blue carpet, dine on delectables and unite together for a reception-styled event to honor and recognize the people and businesses who boldly invested and volunteered in OUR community.

## JULY

- ▶ **JULY 1-31, 2019**  
**Stuff The Bus School Supply Drive**  
Collect school supplies to ensure academic success for area youth.
- ▶ **JULY 21, 2019**  
**Live United Nite Out - Levitt Shell**  
The LIVE UNITED Night Out is a family-friendly event of appreciation where United Way celebrates the outstanding achievements and commitment to our community by corporate and community volunteers.

## AUGUST

- ▶ **FALL 2019**  
**Exposure (In partnership with New Memphis Institute)**  
In honor of 901 Day and a celebration of all things Memphis, join us for Exposure. This is an opportunity to get involved and give back. Meet 150+ local nonprofits, organizations and businesses, and partake in the fun with musical performances, yummy local bites, and sips to fuel the fun.

## SEPTEMBER

- ▶ **SEPTEMBER 5-7, 2019**  
**Days of Caring**  
Days of Caring is the community's largest volunteer-driven service opportunity with approximately 1,700 volunteers and growing. Volunteer with local nonprofits during some of the most impactful projects of this community.

## OCTOBER

- ▶ **OCTOBER 1-18, 2019**  
**Trunk or Treat Candy Drive**  
Donate bags of candy to supply sweet treats for the annual "Trunk or Treat on Tillman Street" Fall Festival.
- ▶ **OCTOBER 26, 2019**  
**National Make a Difference Day**  
Take a moment to make a difference in someone's life. A celebration of neighbors helping neighbors.
- ▶ **OCTOBER 26, 2019**  
**Trunk or Treat on Tillman Street**  
The annual "Trunk or Treat on Tillman Street" Fall Festival is a safe, family-friendly event hosted by United Way of the Mid-South to connect our neighboring community and the community-at-large. This fun festival allows our funded agency partners and other community groups the opportunity to uniquely showcase their incredible work by decorating the trunks of cars and by passing out treats to local youth.

## NOVEMBER

- ▶ **NOVEMBER 5, 2019**  
**Feast of Dreams**  
Feast of Dreams is a social innovation dinner party where an exchange of perspectives, ideas, and imagination is shared between people who normally wouldn't meet. Attendees are given the freedom to start re-imagining what the future could look like and form the collaborations that will eventually make change happen. Through these connections, novel initiatives emerge to help advance individuals from poverty to prosperity.

## DECEMBER

- ▶ **DECEMBER 5, 2019**  
**International Volunteer Day**  
Celebrate the joy of service with people all over the world.
- ▶ **DECEMBER 5, 2019**  
**Light the Night**  
During the most wonderful time of the year, United Way of the Mid-South shines a light on the community that welcomed it with open arms. Join us for an evening of fun, treats and all around merriment.

▶ **Signature Events** ▶ **Volunteer Events**

## BLUE TOTE BAG INITIATIVE

United Way of the Mid-South offers a wide variety of high-energy, high-impact volunteer events, designed to be both engaging and inspiring. Sometimes you just can't get away, but you want to serve in some way... Well, we have the answer! Join us in helping build the capacity of our local nonprofit sector and assist those in need through our Blue Tote Bag Initiative.

Contact us at [volunteer@uwmidsouth.org](mailto:volunteer@uwmidsouth.org) to get your bag(s) TODAY!

## FOOD/PANTRY DRIVES

**Items needed:**  
**Non-Perishable Foods:** canned beans, peanut butter, oatmeal, canned juice, canned vegetables, soup, canned tuna or chicken, nuts, shelf-stable milk, whole grain rice and pasta, cereal, olive or canola oil, dried fruits, granola bars, chicken stock, beef and vegetable broth, pudding cups, etc.  
**Household Supplies:** paper products, dish soap, dish towels, cookware, dishes, kitchen utensils, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, etc.

**United Way agencies that can use these items:** Catholic Charities, Friends for Life, Feeding Fayette, Olive Branch Community Food Ministry, Sacred Heart Southern Missions, Samaritans

## HYGIENE KITS

**Items needed:**  
**Adult Kits:** shampoo, soap, washcloths, small make-up bags, toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, deodorant, lip balm, feminine hygiene products, journal books, pens.  
**Children's Kits:** children's shampoo, brush/comb, small stuffed animals, children's book, crayons, coloring books.

**United Way agencies that can use these items:** American Red Cross, Grace House, Fayette Cares, Memphis Recovery Centers, Inc., The Salvation Army, Synergy

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

**Items needed:** 3-ring binders, calculators, colored pencils, composition notebooks, copy paper, crayons, earbuds, folders with pockets, glue sticks, hand sanitizer, ink pens (black, blue, red), loose leaf paper, pencils, pencil bags, spiral notebooks, tissue.

**United Way agencies that can use these items:** School Seed, Local Schools

## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

**Items needed:** Children's books, flashcards, puzzles, board games, educational toys, letter magnets, new stuffed animals, backpacks, arts & crafts kits, dry erase boards and markers, construction paper, crayons and coloring books

**United Way agencies that can use these items:** Porter-Leath, Knowledge Quest, LeBonheur Early Intervention and Development, Hope House

## DISASTER RELIEF

**Items needed:** Diapers, wipes, lip balm, combs/brushes, shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, first aid items, lotion, razors, sanitizers, reusable water bottles, soap, socks, sunscreen, toothbrushes/toothpaste, underwear, washcloths, towels, blankets

**United Way agencies that can use these items:** American Red Cross, Fayette County Technical Rescue Team

## COMFORT KITS

**Items needed:** Sheets, towels, kitchen items, blankets, socks, house slippers, reading glasses, scarves, devotional/inspirational books, handwritten encouraging notes, hand soap, lotion, seasonal items

**United Way agencies that can use these items:** Memphis Jewish Home, Meritan, Tipton County and Fayette County Commission on Aging

## WEEKEND BACKPACK MEALS

**Items needed:** Backpacks, canned proteins (tuna, chicken), peanut butter, granola bars, pudding packs, spaghetti/sauce, canned beans, whole grain rice and pasta, cereal, oatmeal, packaged fruit in water/juice

**United Way agencies that can use these items:** Mid-South Food Bank (serving Boys & Girls Clubs, Girls Inc. and others)

## BASICS FOR BABIES

**Items needed:** New mother books, diapers, wipes, baby ointment, burping cloths, bibs, thermometers, hand sanitizer, tissue.

**United Way agencies that can use these items:** Children and Family Services, Harwood Center, Inc., Hope House, Porter-Leath