

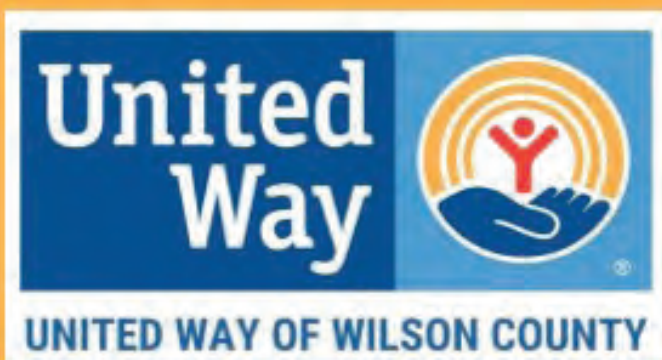
GREAT THINGS

HAPPEN WHEN WE

LIVE UNITED!



EDUCATION • HEALTH • FINANCIAL STABILITY



252.237.3194
WWW.UNITEDWAYOFWILSON.ORG

2022

United Way Campaign



UNITED WAY
OF WILSON COUNTY

United, We Lead the Way!

As a community we can work together in the fight for the health, education and financial stability of every person in Wilson County. If you're interested in donating, volunteering, or advocating please email: development@unitedwayofwilson.org.



SERVING THE GREATER GOOD

A CORE PRINCIPLE OF THE BARTON EXPERIENCE

WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE UNITED WAY IN THEIR SERVICE TO WILSON COUNTY SINCE 1959.

#BARTONBOLD



United Way

Community Impact Voices

Volunteering with the United Way and their Meals on Wheels program through the Wilson County Office of Senior Citizens Affairs, taught me the importance of giving back to the community I have come to love during my 3 years at Barton College. I learned that the meal delivery may be the only contact for the person receiving the meal, so adding conversation to the visit makes the delivery even more important. Delivering meals is meaningful for both the volunteer and the program participant. – Barton College Volunteer, Shane Catherman.

Success is made possible because of your donations to the United Way. Recently, a young mother, leaving a life of domestic violence, sought refuge at the Wesley Shelter. She was quickly provided with a safe place to live, a volunteer advocate and a case manager who connected her with resources to help her find a job, to learn budgeting skills and to help her reconnect with her children. After 101 days of support from the Wesley Shelter, the young mother secured a job, had money in the bank, a place to live and a solid safety plan all because she wanted a better life for herself and because she had the Wesley Shelter and United Way donations supporting her.
Dr. Cherie D. Lindsay-Chapman, PhD, MPA, MHS Wesley Shelter - Executive Director.

2021 Campaign Cabinet



Pictured top left to bottom right: Charles Jeffers, Chief Scott Biddle, Jessica Griffin, Rhonda Nixon, Lisa Skinner, Tracy Mitchell - 2021 Campaign Chair, Amber Lynch and Nancy Sallenger. Not pictured Crawford Bolton

United Way of Wilson County, Inc.
Executive Director - Judi Thurston
Assistant Director - Betty Baker
Director of Finance - Mona Lamonds
Director of Resource Development - Kathy Berni




252- 237-3194

unitedwayofwilson.org



United Way Now located at 316 Douglas St. Wilson, NC 27893
Mailing address - PO Box 1147 Wilson, NC 27894-1147



WILSON CRISIS CENTER

24-HOUR HOTLINE 237-5156

- Daily Hello Calls and Med Calls Programs - 237-5156
- Teen Help Line - 4-8 PM Monday-Friday - 243-6444
 - Centro De Crisis/Linea De Ayuda Hispanã
- 24-Hr. Spanish Information Hotline - 237-7626

If you need to talk, we're there to listen!

Up To Date Resources & Referrals

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

A UNITED WAY AGENCY

2022 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

DEAR FRIENDS,

When I reflect on the past year, there is so much that comes to my mind. The highs and lows, the challenges and the adjustments we made to how we work and live and how together we faced another year that was anything but ordinary.

What I remember most is how our community showed unity and resilience. Selflessness, goodness and kindness continued to shine as we saw many acts of generosity through donations, volunteering and advocating for others so we could provide assistance to our most vulnerable citizens.

Your support of the United Way provided warm meals to the elderly, children had the opportunity to attend after-school and summer learning programs, shelter was provided to the homeless and families found the support they needed to find relief from a life of poverty.

It is important to remember and thank our United Way Agencies who developed new programs and increased their services so that they could better meet the changing needs facing families.

Meaningful lasting change does not happen with one donor, one nonprofit agency, one volunteer or one workplace campaign. Together, UNITED, we are accomplishing amazing things with the Wilson Crisis Center who provides reassurance and re-

sources through their "Hello and Med Calls." Great things happen in Wilson County because of United Way donations for our population of children and adults with developmental disabilities through Camp Sunshine with the Arc of Wilson and Diversified Opportunities.



United Way donations collectively make a tremendous impact on our work to end food insecurity, and to provide safe shelter for homeless families, victims of domestic violence and those recovering from addictions.

Last year a \$25 donation, combined with donations throughout the county, turned into \$800,000+ of assistance for Wilson County nonprofits serving our community.

We live UNITED, now more than ever so that TOGETHER we can make positive lasting change for those who are struggling to find a better life.

So, in another year of change, one thing remained the same and that is the hope that your United Way donation gave to people right here in Wilson County.

A special thank you to Tracy Mitchell - 2021 Campaign Chair and the Campaign Cabinet for helping us raise awareness about the United Way and an additional thank you to our United Way staff and the hundreds of volunteers for helping us throughout the year by connecting our do-



Charles Jeffers, 2022 Campaign Chair

nors and community supporters with vital information on how important the United Way Campaign is to our nonprofits and community.

"We make a living by what we get; but we make a life worth living by what we give."

— Winston Churchill

To you, our donors and supporters, we offer our heartfelt appreciation for your love of our community and for living UNITED, now more than ever. We have officially kicked off our 2022 Campaign and look forward to a fantastic season of giving. We are thrilled to announce Charles Jeffers as our 2022 Campaign Chair.

Judi Thurston
United Way of Wilson County —
Executive Director

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A snapshot of the United Way

		UNITED WE LEAD	UNITED WE LEAD	UNITED WE LEAD	UNITED WE LEAD
 Services		30,558 services were provided to help people in Wilson County	Budgets and Allocations Committee Volunteers make funding decisions for our programs and services.		
		Audrey Watson - Chair, Bill Adams, Jim Anderson, Daydra Allen, Lesley Barnes, Carolyn Wester, Michelle Holler, Cecilia Hottovy, Kym Jackson, Charles Jeffers, Frances Ellis-Lynch, Chris Sauls, Jeff Hamilton, John Robl, Rhonda Nixon, Rena Corbett, Steve Stillman and Lynne White.			
 Education Success	\$ 223,446 Invested	6,887 Wilson County children ages 0-19 participated in United Way programs.	Partners like our Wilson County Schools help strengthen after school learning.	A+ for summer camps! At-risk students may see a full grade drop when not attending summer camp.	300+ children attend United Way after school programs.
 Income & Independence	\$ 229,927 Invested	14,875 people 55 and older receive assistance through our United Way agencies.	70,000+ meals are provided to senior citizens, helping them to continue to live at home.	21% of our community lives below the poverty rate and can benefit from United Way services.	48.6% of calls made to 2-1-1 were requests for assistance with housing and shelter.
 Health Success	\$ 163,967 Invested	9,900 lives have been impacted by 3,300 units of blood donated in Wilson County.	24/7 Crisis Hot Line for emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence.	2-1-1 and the Crisis Center connect people to resources in our community and beyond.	30,000+ Hello and Med Calls were made to seniors, disabled, and challenged citizens in 2021.

American Red Cross



UNITED ARE WE

The Northeastern Chapter of the American Red Cross maintains its presence in the Wilson area through the support of the United Way of Wilson, and our dedicated volunteers. Because of this support we can deliver services that impact the lives of our neighbors and friends in Wilson.

When disasters strike such as fires, power outages due to storms, we go to aid those in need with financial support referrals and resources or opening shelters. The Red Cross is able to assist those most in need often in their darkest moments. To prepare our communities we provide life-saving courses and preparedness presentations. We continue to work to ensure much needed services in times of crisis and times of calm. The power of our volunteers, donors and community partners, such as the United Way, is the cornerstone to the success of our mission.

IMPACT: With every pint of blood collected from individual donors during our blood drives, we have the opportunity to save three lives.

Diversified Opportunities

When Uniqua graduated from Beddingfield High School in 2011, she wanted to join the workforce, but she didn't know how to go about finding a job.

She had heard one of her high school teachers mention that a place called Diversified Opportunities helped people find jobs. After submersing herself in a few months of job skill classes at Diversified, Uniqua interviewed and got her first-ever job working in housekeeping at Wilson Medical Center.

"I was open to any type of job, but I needed help," Uniqua said. "At first, I worked in the emergency department, but now I work in the operating room. I like to clean and help people out."

Diversified Opportunities, Inc. is a community rehabilitation program that empowers people with disabilities aged 16 and older to live and work as independently as possible. It provides vocational evaluation, job training and placement, and developmental vocational programs. Being a United Way partner agency means that not only is Diversified one of the benefactors of the United Way of Wilson's annual campaign fund drive, but its mission and program information are distributed throughout the Wilson community via the United Way's marketing and public relations

efforts.

"We are always willing to help our clients, whether it's finding a new job or a whole new career," said Ericka Simmons, program manager for Diversified Opportunities. "If you need help finding a job, job interview skills, or maybe you want a job but don't know what you want, we will assist you. We have lots of conversations with our clients and ask questions such as 'do you want a job where you work by yourself or would you like to be around other employees.'"

Greg Hebron, HHS Environmental Services Director at Wilson Medical Center states, "Over the past 1.5 years, I've had the pleasure and opportunity to work with Uniqua. During this time, Uniqua has displayed traits that align with our core values such as team oriented, quality driven, adaptive and dedicated just to name a few. Her ability to maintain consistency with attendance, attitude and work is second to none. We are glad to have her as a part of our team."

IMPACT: One year after starting work at the hospital, Uniqua moved out on her own. She pays rent and utilities, got her driver license, bought a car and obtained insurance. She's been on her own successfully for 10 years.



"We are always willing to help our clients, whether it's finding a new job or a whole new career."

**WILSON COUNTY OFFICE OF
SENIOR CITIZEN AFFAIRS**
237-1303

Home Delivered Meals • Congregate Meals
General Transportation • Information & Referral

Wilson Focal Point On Aging



Thank you,
UNITED WAY
of Wilson County!

Hope Station is proud to be a member of the United Way, and grateful to share in partnership to serve those in need:

- Families and single men experiencing homelessness
- Families needing food
- Persons struggling in a financial emergency

Wilson County Interfaith Services, Inc dba HOPE STATION
309 Goldsboro Street East · Wilson, NC 27893
P.O. Box 2164 · Wilson, NC 27894-2164
252.291.7278 | contact@hs-wilson.org | www.hopestation-wilson.org
www.facebook.com/hopstationwilson.org

Flynn Home

For more than 50 years, the Flynn Christian Fellowship Home has offered a place for men to rebuild their lives after detox treatment for substance use disorders. Now we provide the same opportunity for women.

On Aug. 1, 2021, the organization closed on the purchase of a home in the Wilson community and immediately began renovations with help from Truist Bank, Wilson County, ABC Board and United Way of Wilson County.

Community volunteers spend a great of time caring for the men's home and we anticipate the same support for the women's center.

The home is being transformed into a residence for six women, with a communal gathering area as well as an office for the program manager.

"There are numerous treatment centers in North Carolina but individuals need ongoing support to continue their rehabilitation. We cannot thank the community enough for seeing the need for a women's home supporting this effort." says Earl Reaves



of the new Wilson recovery home.

Our women's home has seen two former residents successfully move on to the next phase of their lives as well as forming positive relationships.

They are happy to have found a place like Wilson to restart their lives and the Flynn Home, the Board of Directors and the United Way of Wilson are dedicated to helping in this process.

IMPACT: In one year over 30% of the residents have successfully built new lives by getting jobs, paying rent, and becoming self-sufficient.

United Way recognizes volunteers, companies

*"Because of you,
we are united more than ever."*

The focus for the United Way is creating lasting change through education, income and health.

By Olivia Neeley

The United Way of Wilson County celebrated another year of helping those who need it most.

Volunteers and companies were recognized Thursday during the United Way's 62nd annual impact report and awards celebration at Farmington Heights Surge Center.

"Because of you, we are united more than ever," said Judi Thurston, the United Way of Wilson County's executive director. The United Way

currently funds 25 nonprofit agencies with a focus on creating lasting change through education, income and health.

In 2021, nearly 31,000 services were provided to help people in Wilson County. Last year, more than \$800,000 of assistance was given for Wilson County nonprofits, officials said.

AWARDS

- The Inaugural Campaign Award went to Smithfield Foods in Wilson. Plant employees and management pledged their support for the 2021 campaign. Not only was the local Wilson plant a contributor to the United Way, but Smithfield corporate has a matching grant that doubles the dollars pledged by employees.

- The Corporate Excellence Award designation was given to Bridgestone Americas and Truist for their continued support through funds and volunteer services.

- The Community Spirit Award was given to the band Street Revival, who held a free concert at Casita Brewing Company to bring awareness to the work United Way does every day.

- The Humanitarian Award was given to Casita Brewing Co. owners, Mahalia and Ryan Witter-Merithew, for their kindness and compassion for others. Casita Brewery gives nonprofits an opportunity to raise money for their causes and have fun while doing it each month. Nearly \$10,000 was raised for nonprofit agencies.

- The Campaign Coordinator of the Year Award was given to Becky Over of Bridgestone. Over, who has been a supporter of United Way for many years and involved in various projects, led 203 leadership contributors who pledged \$195,000. Officials said 67 of those gave more than \$1,000.

- The Nancy Sallenger Spirit Award was designated to Purdue Pharmaceuticals and city of Wilson employees. The award, which is in honor

of Wilson Crisis Center Executive Director Nancy Sallenger, is given to those who have demonstrated great enthusiasm and commitment to the United Way during the campaign. Purdue Pharmaceuticals employees raised \$48,500 with a \$172 per capita gift. The company reached out to their past contributors and encouraged them to give an additional 10%. Most employees increased their pledges, officials said. The company also offered incentives to its donors. City of Wilson employees celebrated their 60th anniversary with United Way of Wilson and raised more than \$134,000, which topped the city's previous high mark set in 2019.

Officials also acknowledged that the city of Wilson and Purdue Pharmaceuticals received the 2021 Spirit of North Carolina Awards in how they led the way in meeting community needs through fundraising, volunteer and advocacy efforts during the pandemic.

Hope Station

In the fall of 2019, just a few months before COVID swept through the U.S., Hope Station opened its new Westview House Family Shelter. Throughout the pandemic, the shelter has remained open most nights. The four-bedroom house in Wilson's historic district has been a respite for all types of families who were experiencing homelessness – single women, elderly sisters in their 80s, couples with children, single parents with children (including infant twins!), and couples without children.

Westview House client Danielle Morley wrote to thank us saying, “I just wanted to thank you for letting me stay here when I needed [to]. I’m thankful that Hope Station was able to get me a bed and a place to stay. The staff here are very kind and they care... It is my first time in a shelter and it’s not bad at all. I love the staff here and this place is very clean! I also want to thank you for using the best communication to be able to communicate with me. Not a lot of people are willing to do that. This shows efforts in communicating

with someone who’s deaf/hard-of-hearing. The staff here has done an excellent job on that! Again, thank you so much.”

Hope Station also has operated a Men’s Shelter for single men, serving men from age 18 into their 80s since 1987, plus a Food Pantry that distributes food three days a week. Both have been open continuously since the beginning of COVID. Hope Station also administers the federal grants to help Wilson County residents experiencing homelessness move into stable housing.

Hope Station is grateful for its partnership with United Way and for their support in making these services possible.

IMPACT: In the past year, Hope Station has sheltered 156 persons (126 adults, 30 children); moved 166 persons into stable housing; prevented evictions for 162 persons; and provided groceries to an average of over 500 persons a month.

“I’m thankful that Hope Station was able to get me a bed and a place to stay. The staff here are very kind and they care.”




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Store proceeds help build Habitat homes for local partner families.

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Call 252-234-0009 for pickup of large items.

Wilson Area Habitat for Humanity is a designation-only agency.

You must designate WAHFH if you want your donation to go to Habitat.





PAL

Captain Reggie Smith – the true representation of “if PAL was a person” The EPITOME of what PAL represents. He had the heart of a servant and his passion for the youth shined through his eyes, his love for the youth spread loudly through the bass of his voice, and his enthusiasm was contagious through his smile. He kept the youth, department, and others in the community uplifted, encouraged, motivated, and involved.

Captain Reggie Smith

- Motivated and inspired others to think beyond what was in front of them and see the purpose and impact of working with youth within the City of Wilson.

- Worked tirelessly on improving camps and enrichment programs for the PAL participants to better the relationships between law enforcement and citizens and more importantly their overall life.

- Had a mission and dream to ensure every kid encountered grew up to be exactly who they wanted to be.

- Made PAL participants part of his family by becoming a mentor, father figure, and spiritual motivator.

When children and adults hear his name, their worlds light up because he shared his heart with everyone he encountered. Words will never describe Captain Reggie Smith and his dedication to the betterment of our Wilson Youth. He was a believer in what can be done

through love and was always grateful for the support from the United Way of Wilson.

Being able to work side by side with Captain Smith was a rewarding experience for all. If anyone had the honor and privilege to watch him interact with our community, everyone would have seen how passionate and caring he was when dealing with participants. He paved the way for us and opened the door to continue to build these lasting relationships with the community. His influence is forever lasting.

IMPACT: Captain Reggie Smith was involved with the implementation of the Wilson Police Department PAL Program. He was able to touch over 2000 PAL participants.

*Celebrating 40 Years of Serving
Wilson County Youth 1982-2022*

Y.O.U.T.H.
of Wilson County
Youth Oriented Understanding Through Help

**CHANGE THE ODDS FOR OUR YOUTH OF TODAY!
CHANGE TWO LIVES BY MENTORING A YOUNG PERSON!**

*Contact us to make a difference!
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The late Captain Reggie Smith

SJCDC and Save-A-Youth Program

The St. John Community Development (SJCDC) Corporation and the Save-A-Youth (SAY) Program have been actively serving the citizens in Wilson Community since 2004. SJCDC and SAY work with at-risk youth to provide a safe haven for students through our afterschool programs, summer camp, and vocational programs.

A few years ago, several of our buses and vans were vandalized. The United Way of Wilson stepped in and made it possible for us to repair our vehicles so that we could continue providing transportation each day to support our students and parents.

United Way of Wilson is a caring and supportive member of the Wilson community and to SJCDC and the SAY programs.

The SJCDC and the SAY programs continue to provide services to our families here in Wilson and Wilson County through our afterschool programs. During the pandemic, our numbers decreased but we continued to provide a virtual afterschool and



vocational program, including meals to the students. Our staff worked with the students and their parents to make sure that each student completed their homework assignments, including any assignments that were missing due to the pandemic.

The SJCDC/SAY programs continue to be a beacon of hope for our youth and their families. We will continue to support the youth through our afterschool, summer camps, vocational programs, and to be that safe place for working families.

IMPACT: The SJCDC and the SAY programs have provided a safe learning environment for the youth of Wilson for over 18 years and have served more than 5000 youth and families. We want to especially thank the United Way of Wilson.

Donation project a worthy celebration for our United Way

THUMBS UP to the United Way of Wilson County, which took what's normally a celebration of its donors, partner agencies and volunteers and turned it into an opportunity to help Wilson's less fortunate.

The nonprofit devoted time during its annual meeting on Thursday to assemble 10,000 dried meal kits for Wilson County food pantries, with teams of United Way supporters forming an assembly line at the Surge Center to pack the boxes for a United Way Day of Caring project.

"It's a critical time for our community," Executive Director Judi Thurston said, explaining that food pantries face high demand during the summer when schoolchildren are on vacation. Kathy Berni, the agency's resource director, led the effort after proposing the idea during a United Way conference. Sponsoring businesses chipped in to purchase the ingredients from Florida-based Meals



of Hope.

Participants eagerly rolled up their

sleeves and divvied up the dried food packets, enjoying the experience

more than being feted at a black-tie banquet.

While service took center stage, the United Way also took time Thursday to recognize some of its top contributors, fundraisers and volunteers. Thanks to their efforts, the agency said it raised more than \$800,000 to help Wilson charities in 2021.

Honorees included Smithfield Foods, receiving the Inaugural Campaign Award; Bridgestone Americas and Truist, which each claimed the Corporate Excellence Award; the band Street Revival, accepting the Community Spirit Award; Casita Brewing Co. owners Mahalia and Ryan Witter-Merithew, who earned the Humanitarian Award; Becky Over of Bridgestone, who was named Campaign Coordinator of the Year; and Purdue Pharmaceuticals and the city of Wilson, which jointly claimed the Nancy Sallenger Spirit Award.

— A Wilson Times editorial

The Arc of Wilson County



The Arc of Wilson County works to promote and support all activities in Wilson County that benefit the lives of citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) living in the community. The Arc promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.

252-237-8266
director@arcowilsonnc.org



The Arc of Wilson County has been a quiet force in Wilson County since 1971. The Arc of Wilson County serves individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and focuses on social activities and programs for these individuals. The Arc of Wilson County is a small chapter of The Arc of The US and The Arc of NC, yet we can successfully provide quality programs for individuals with IDD in Wilson County through our partnership with The United Way of Wilson and the support of our community.

The Arc of Wilson County's Camp Sunshine is a summer day camp for children with IDD. The Arc relies on its partnership with The SPOT, another United Way agency, to make Camp Sunshine successful. The SPOT generously allows Camp Sunshine to use one of their buses able to travel from our camp location to park, pool, and other activities each day. Camp Sunshine also travels to

The SPOT's campus for lunch.

One of the core values of The Arc states "people with IDD are part of and contribute to the fabric of society. Everyone benefits when people with IDD are present and participate." Each year, The Arc of Wilson County hosts a variety of activities, programs, and events for individuals with IDD. If you happen to go bowling on a Sunday evening or attend a Tobs game on a Thirsty Thursday, there's a chance you may see The Arc and its clients participating in our community. Feel free to come say hello and meet these incredible people.

The only way to move forward is by working together and by remembering that United Are We!

IMPACT: We provide over 300 hours of recreational and social activities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities every year.

The only way to move forward is by working together and by remembering that United Are We!

The SPOT

Gardner Thompson began as a volunteer in 2020 supporting our development and design of our Esports Room. Our goal was to engage a Barton student from their Esports team for about 2-3 weeks.

Well, weeks grew into months and years and “Mr. Gardner” grew into an im-

portant part of the SPOT’s team. The kids grew on him as they often do and the staff became a second family. Gardner is a productive and creative staff member serving as the Esport coordinator, 2nd grade teacher, bowling partner, swimming partner, summer camp leader and after-school teacher.

Mr. Gardner introduced esports, including integrated reading, communication skills and social & emotional wellness, to a new generation of gamers. Esports at the SPOT is more than fun and games, it’s a career path, a confidence builder and academic support program. Gardner graduated from

Barton College and will attend Campbell Law in Raleigh with the goal of becoming a lawyer. He was recently engaged to Bailey Murray and will be leaving the SPOT to pursue his next adventure. Mr. Gardner will be missed by the SPOT kids, staff and leadership team. The SPOT, a proud United Way of Wil-

son Agency, is a better place because of staff like “Mr. Gardner” Thank you for your service to the kids in Wilson.

IMPACT: Mr. Gardner, came to the SPOT, a United Way Agency, as a volunteer. In just 2 years he has served over 300 kids.



Gardner Thompson introduced esports, including integrated reading, communication skills and social & emotional wellness, to a new generation of gamers. Esports at the SPOT is more than fun and games, it’s a career path, a confidence builder and academic support program.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF YOUR UNITED WAY CONTRIBUTION

It is 7:30 a.m. and a mother is dropping her son off at the SPOT’s summer camp, where United Way funding provides a safe environment for her child to learn and play.	It is 8:30 a.m. on a sunny summer day and a father is dropping his daughter off at the Arc’s Camp Sunshine where she will interact with other children with disabilities throughout the day, learning songs, swimming, enjoying the park and making friends.	It is 11:50 a.m. and a volunteer is delivering a meal to a homebound woman. The woman is eager to enjoy a hot meal and is especially thankful to spend time with the friendly visitor. Last year the Wilson County Office of Senior Citizen Affairs served more than 55,000 hot nutritious meals.	It is 2:00 p.m. and an adult with developmental challenges is working. United Way’s focus on income provides vocational training and supportive services for adults with physical and mental challenges thanks to the programs provided through Diversified Opportunities, Inc.	It is 3:30 p.m. and a father is bringing his children to a comfortable home because of funding that the United Way provides to Hope Station’s Family Shelter, the Westview House. These children can play today and will not have to worry about being homeless.	It’s 4:00 p.m. and a family has groceries thanks to the United Way for providing funding to the United Way agencies who keep healthy food items in their food pantries. Agencies like S.A.Y. provide snacks to the children in their afterschool program as they prepare to learn and play.	It is 6:55 p.m. and a mentor is spending time with a young boy. Thanks to Y.O.U.T.H. of Wilson, the child is watching a movie at the theater for the first time.	It is 9:45 p.m. and a volunteer for the Teen Help Line, at the Wilson Crisis Center, is taking a call from a distressed teen, because of funding through the United Way the teen hears a warm and comforting voice and decides to not harm themselves.	It is 11:30 p.m. and a woman finds shelter for herself and her children. Thanks to United Way support, the Wesley Shelter can help keep women and their children safe from domestic violence.	It is 2:00 a.m. on a cold winter night and a family is receiving help from the American Red Cross after their home is destroyed by fire. United Way funding makes it possible for agencies to provide services to our community in times of disaster.	It is 5:00 a.m. on Christmas Eve and gifts are wrapped under the tree. Thanks to the many United Way Agencies like P.A.L. who provide gifts and food at Christmas to families in need.

LIVE UNITED

The Wesley Shelter

Recently, a young mother, leaving a life of domestic violence, sought refuge at the Wesley Shelter. She was quickly provided with a safe place to live, a volunteer advocate and a case manager who connected her with resources to help her find a job, to learn budgeting skills and to help her reconnect with her children.

After 101 days of support from the Wesley Shelter, the young mother secured a job, had money in the bank, a place to live and a solid safety plan all because she wanted a better life for herself.

Thanks to the United Way of Wilson's continued support, the shelter provides toiletries, food from the food pantry, orders of protection, domestic and sexual violence advocacy, legal services, court advocacy, therapeutic counseling, health education, educational services, resources to community resources, transportation and much more.

IMPACT: The Wesley Shelter has provided the Wilson community with 10,204 services over the past 12 months. Our volunteers have also worked 1079.5 hours providing Sexual Assault Response for the organization.



Your United Way dollars help DOI provide job placement and training services to those with disabilities in our community. **Thank you for your support!**



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We offer certificates, workforce training, and degrees that can set you up to get the career—and the money—you want. Make an investment in yourself that pays off.

Wilson County Office of Senior Citizens Affairs

Before moving to Wilson, Tom & Cheryl Waite had delivered home-delivered meals in Florida. Since moving here, they have been delivering for the Wilson home-delivered meals for the last two years. They have 35 substitute hours so far this year in addition to their regular route hours.

Their grandchildren enjoy delivering with them and clients are delighted to see them. When their daughter comes from Raleigh to visit, she delivers with them. Tom and Cheryl were instrumental in delivering the shelf-stable food boxes to clients during the pandemic, ensuring no one was without food. The agen-

cy would not have been able to deliver the extra boxes of food or the hot meals without the grants from the United Way to help pay for them.

Much gratitude and thanks go to Tom and Cheryl, and to all of our volunteers who enable us to feed the home-bound seniors in our community! Because the United Way of Wilson has believed in our agency, we have helped many seniors be able to stay in their homes instead of being in placement somewhere else.

IMPACT: Since March 1981, we have delivered 2,384,320 meals to senior clients in our community!



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Our teammates at Bridgestone's Wilson Plant supported the United Way with \$275,420.72.

THANK YOU for your caring and generosity.

LIVE UNITED
United Way 

N.C. KIDNEY CARE



Kidney Care
Dialysis Care



ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS



**R. William Bynum
IV, MD**



**Nirav M. Jasani
MD**



**Shiraz Sandhu
DO**

**Board Certified in Nephrology
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Volunteers deliver donated 'buddy buckets' to citizens served by the Crisis Center.

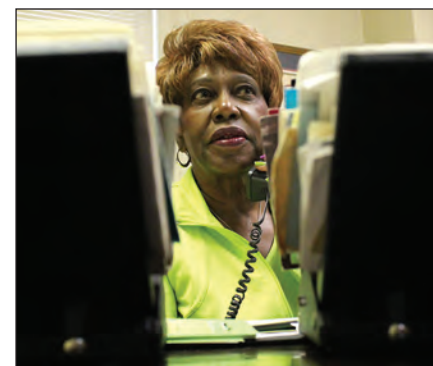
Wilson Crisis Center

For nearly 17 years, Kathy Graham has received medication reminder and “Hello” calls from the Wilson Crisis Center. Kathy suffered a brain aneurism and spent several months in a rehabilitation facility before moving to Wilson. She met Nancy Sallenger, director of the Wilson Crisis Center, at a Senior Awareness Day event and found out about the center’s daily medication calls.

Kathy, who does not drive and takes seizure medicine, now lives on her own in an assisted living community. “The Crisis Center calls me all the time reminding me to take my medication. I just love the Crisis Center and thank God every day for them,” Kathy said. “I just like to talk to people and to make sure I take my medicine and I have someone to call if something goes wrong.”

“We are her 24/7 security blanket. Kathy volunteers at our center and she wants to give back. She has made friends, and this promotes a positive mental state.” Sallenger said.

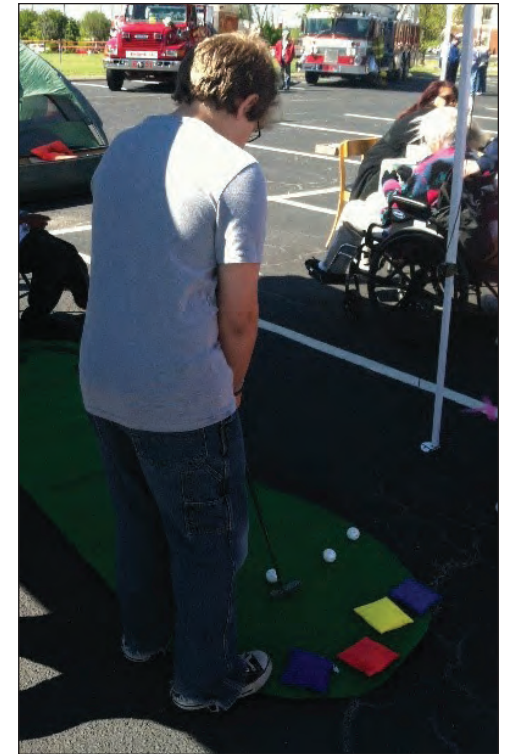
The Wilson Crisis Center is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year! We serve the citizens of Wilson 24/7 with a live human voice who is knowledgeable of resources, referrals and support groups and offers assistance to those in need. Our mission statement is Extending a Helping Hand to Those in Need...24 Hours a Day...Every Day. We are able to



serve people because of the generous support of the United Way of Wilson. The Wilson Crisis Center has been a United Way partner agency for as long as the agency has been open, forming a partnership that creates positive changes for those who need assistance in the Wilson community. We constantly see positive results with our relationships within our community, and not only with the persons we assist but also with our volunteers. Our key word when we talk to someone in person and on the phone is LISTEN.

IMPACT: The Wilson Crisis Center answered over 40,500 phone calls during the past 12 months and places wellness check phone calls to over 1400 seniors, disabled and challenged individuals every day, totaling 511,000 outgoing calls.

Y.O.U.T.H. of Wilson County



The Y.O.U.T.H. of Wilson pick up trash through the Adopt-A-Highway program. They also participate in activities with mentors.

The Y.O.U.T.H. of Wilson County has been serving youth ages 6 to 18 for the past 40 years our mission is to provide a Volunteer Mentoring Program (M.A.T.C.H.) for young people who need a positive role model and/or friend. These volunteers go through an evidence-based training program, background and reference checks and interviews. These volunteers have been responsible for “firsts” in many of these young people’s lives. One volunteer took a young man to his first college and professional football games, and one took a young lady to a local festival where she was able to play a banjo.

Rich, a long-time volunteer assisted another with obtaining their first job. Many of the activities, trainings for the volunteers and families are provided by our partnership with United Way of Wilson County.

Y.O.U.T.H. of Wilson County has been The Wilson County Community Service/Restitution Program for Wilson County as well as the referral agency

for Juvenile Court, Juvenile Services diversions and for Teen Court community service and restitution.

This program is a restorative program to provide youth under the age of 18, who are offenders of the law, a way to give back to their community and provide restitution to victims of juvenile crimes.

Our youth referred through this program, have provided services to many senior citizens by taking care of their yards, assisting with the City of Wilson Rose Garden, Adopt-A-Highway, Agriculture Center Gardens, Habitat for Humanity, local churches and many more projects across Wilson County.

IMPACT: Y.O.U.T.H. of Wilson has served over 10,000 youth, volunteers have provided over 100,000 volunteer hours, and over \$115,000 victim restitution has been paid since 1982. We have been making a difference in Wilson County for 40 years.

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