



UWSCC CommUNITY Chronicles

a monthly newsletter for the community

A Message from the CEO



Dear Friends,

September marks the beginning of a new programming year for United Way of Southern Chester County, and with it comes an exciting opportunity to deepen our commitment to the people and families who call our community home. This year, we are focusing on practical solutions that help ALICE—our neighbors who are Asset Limited, Income Constrained, and Employed—move toward greater financial stability and a stronger quality of life.

We are especially excited about several new and expanded initiatives that reflect what we are hearing

from our community. Through our partnership with AHHAH and its Basket of Love campaign, we are helping connect local families with meaningful support and resources related to childhood literacy. This collaboration is another example of how organizations working together can create a broader network of care for our neighbors.

Transportation access is an important part of helping individuals and families maintain stability. Through Ride United, eligible Southern Chester County residents can receive free Lyft rides to access essential services, including medical care, employment, food, education, and housing. For individuals without reliable transportation, getting to a job, a medical appointment, or even a grocery store can be a significant challenge. Ride United helps remove that barrier by providing access to the places and opportunities people need to stay healthy, employed, and moving forward.

Learn More: [United Way of Southern Chester County](#)

We are also launching Lift ALICE Up, a new initiative that provides financial assistance to low-income, employed Southern Chester County residents who need critical vehicle repairs to maintain reliable transportation and employment. For someone living paycheck to paycheck, an unexpected vehicle repair can quickly become a threat to their ability to get to work and support their household. By helping address these urgent transportation needs, Lift ALICE Up can help local workers stay on the road, remain employed, and avoid a setback that could have lasting financial consequences.

Learn More: [United Way of Southern Chester County](#)

Financial stability is at the heart of another new effort we are introducing this year: our Financial Education initiative for Oxford-area residents. This program will provide tools and education to help individuals and families build credit, increase savings, and strengthen their financial foundations. Building long-term financial security takes knowledge, opportunity, and support, and we are proud to be part of that process.

We invite you to learn more about all of these initiatives at our United in Action meeting on October 6, 2026, from 9:00–10:00 AM at the Kennett Library. This event is open to the public and will be an opportunity to hear more about our vision for the new programming year, the needs we are working to address, and how these initiatives will help us better serve ALICE throughout Southern Chester County.

A new programming year is more than a new calendar—it is a chance to assess what our community needs and respond with purpose. We are grateful to our partners, volunteers, donors, and community members who continue to make this work possible. Together, we can build stronger pathways to opportunity and ensure that more of our neighbors have the resources they need to move forward.

We look forward to sharing what's ahead and, most importantly, continuing this work alongside you.

With gratitude,
Darcie Martin
Chief Executive Officer
United Way of Southern Chester County

Your Gift Makes a Difference

Thank you for helping us reach our unrestricted fundraising goal. Let's start off strong so we can continue to help serve **ALICE households!**

Together, we can create a stronger, more resilient community.

Make your gift today [HERE](#)

In the CommUNITY



NEED A RIDE?

FREE
Transportation Access

RIDE UNITED

- ❑ No App Required
- ✓ Must Be 18+
- ✓ Must Meet Criteria
- ⌚ Scheduled rides only

Learn More and Schedule a Ride Today!
website. QR code



United Way of Southern Chester County is very happy to announce Ride United: Transportation Access, a program designed to help close critical transportation gaps for residents who need access to employment, medical care, healthy food, education, housing, and other essential services. Eligible Southern Chester County residents can request free Lyft rides for qualifying needs by completing an eligibility application. After approval, typically within 48 business hours, riders receive a text when their driver is on the way—and no Lyft app is required. Ride United helps ensure transportation barriers don't stand in the way of reaching essential appointments and services.




United Way of Southern Chester County is providing low income, employed residents of Southern Chester County funds to cover a portion of the cost for car repairs in order to stay mobile and employed

Program made possible by the Marshall Reynolds Foundation

How it works United Way will provide up to \$500 in funding towards the labor and/or equipment to repair a participant's vehicle.	In partnership with 	Requirements Applicants must fill out application, meet income requirements, residential requirements, and all necessary vehicle documentation.
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United Way of Southern Chester County is proud to introduce Lift ALICE Up, a program providing financial assistance to low-income, employed residents of Southern Chester County who need critical vehicle repairs to remain mobile and employed. Through the program, eligible participants may receive up to \$500 toward labor and/or equipment for necessary car repairs. Applicants must complete an application, meet income and residency requirements, and provide the necessary vehicle documentation. This program is made possible through the generous support of the Marshall Reynolds Foundation and in partnership with Oxford Neighborhood Services Center.




Basket of Love Campaign

12 organizations.

One shared mission.

A stronger future for Chester County's children and families.

United Way of Southern Chester County is proud to be part of the Basket of Love Campaign.

Learn more. Get involved. Make a difference.

United Way of Southern Chester County is proud to be part of **Arts Holding Hands and Hearts's (AHHAH) Basket of Love Campaign**, a yearlong collaboration bringing together 12 local organizations to strengthen support for children and families across Chester County. AHHAH works to empower youth, strengthen families, and mobilize communities through literacy, mindfulness, and the arts. The Basket of Love Campaign celebrates the idea that it takes a village to help every child thrive, with each participating organization highlighted throughout the year and given the opportunity to share its "Basket of Love Wishes"—ways the community can support its work. United Way of Southern Chester County is honored to be one of the campaign partners and was the featured organization in July 2026.

[Learn More](#)

MEASLES

Cases of measles are increasing.

It may be time to re-evaluate your risk and decide if the measles vaccine is right for you.

Stay informed about measles:
visit pa.gov/measles



Chester County Health Department
Protecting you and your environment

United Way of Southern Chester County encourages our community to stay informed and protected as measles cases rise across Pennsylvania.

Measles is highly contagious and can cause serious complications, but the best protection is vaccination with two doses of the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, which is more than 97% effective at preventing infection.

Contact your doctor, pharmacy, or local health center to schedule a vaccine; many locations offer no-cost vaccines, and most insurance plans cover them.

Click the link below to learn more.

[Learn More](#)

Pampered Chef Fundraiser Recap



**Thank you from
United Way of Southern Chester County**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our recent Pampered Chef Fundraiser in support of United Way of Southern Chester County! We are thrilled to share that we reached our fundraising goal, thanks to the incredible support of our community. We are truly grateful to everyone who placed an order, shared the fundraiser, and helped make it a success!

CommUNITY Calendar

September

14

Monday, September 14 | 12:30pm-7:00pm | Kennett Square Golf & Country Club

Day of Promise Golf Tournament 2026

Please join the Annual Willow House Advisors and Family Promise of Southern Chester County. Because every child deserves a home. Learn info [here](#).

September

17

Thursday, September 17 | 2:00pm-4:00pm | Kennett Square - Community Building

Threads of Independence

Throughout 2026, The Wardrobe will host free events that bring together community members to learn how they can support or benefit from The Wardrobe's clothing and confidence-building services, empowering people on their journey to independence. Learn info [here](#).

September

17

Thursday, September 17 | 5:00pm-8:00pm | BELFOR Property Restoration

3rd Annual Cheers to CVC: Battle of the Badges

Watch your favorite chiefs battle it out — behind the bar! Grab your tickets now to Cheers to CVC: Battle of the Badges and enjoy a night of friendly competition and even greater impact. Who will take home the bragging rights? Be there to find out! Learn info [here](#).

September
20

Sunday, September 20 | 2:00pm-6:00pm | Sovana Bistro

Sip, Savor, & Support

Join LCH for an inspiring afternoon crafted to celebrate Open Doors. The event will feature a VIP wine tasting with Adam Junkins and a masterful, synchronized live violin duet. Guests can also participate in LCH's celebrated wine pull while enjoying a locally sourced, expertly crafted menu paired with a seasonal specialty cocktail. Learn info [here](#).

September
23

Wednesday, August 23 | 11:30am-1:00pm | Virtual

Fall 2026 Chat n Chew Trainings

The Arc of Chester County offers FREE virtual trainings covering a variety of topics which empower people to learn about education and systems advocacy. Learn info [here](#).

September
23

Wednesday, August 23 | 12:00pm-1:00pm | Virtual

Lunch & Learn Series: September is Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month

Join Chester County Drug & Alcohol Services for a lunch & learn series where you will build foundational knowledge around FASD & foster understanding for individuals & families impacted. Learn info [here](#).

September
26

Saturday, September 26 | 8:00am-2:00pm | The Gathering Place at Kennett

Indoor Yard Sale Fundraiser

Our area's largest indoor yard sale. Something for everyone at GREAT prices. Learn info [here](#).

September
26

Saturday, September 26 | 4:00pm-8:00pm | Retreat at St. Thomas

RSVP's Designer Bag Bingo

Enjoy a fun night full of fabulous prizes and bingo games to support RSVP's programs. All proceeds benefit RSVP's education and wellness programs that serve over 10,000 community members annually. More info [here](#).

September

27

Sunday, September 27 | 1:00pm-3:00pm | Top Golf in King of Prussia

FUN and FUNDRAISING at Top Golf!

Get ready for an afternoon of fun at Top Golf in King of Prussia, complete with food, beverages and a silent auction all to benefit Meals-on-Wheels! More info [here](#).

October

1

Thursday, October 1 | 8:30am-11:00am | The Farmhouse at People's Light

Annual Breakfast

Maternal and Child Health Consortium's annual breakfast fundraiser returns for an inspiring morning dedicated to supporting families when it matters most. More info [here](#).

October

1

Thursday, October 1 | 6:00pm-9:00pm | Casa Carmen Winery

Harvesting Hope

Join YoungMoms for Harvesting Hope, a special evening of connection and celebration that brings our community together to create lasting impact for young mothers. More info [here](#).

October

6

Thursday, October 6 | 9:00am-10:00am | Kennett Library

United in Action

Join us to learn about the exciting ways United Way of Southern Chester County is changing to better serve ALICE. More info [here](#).

For a comprehensive list of all upcoming Community events, please visit the [events calendar](#) on our website.



UNITED WAY
Southern
Chester County

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