Metro United Way Has WIDE-REACHING IMPACT

in Jefferson County and Beyond





By Adria Johnson, President & CEO, **Metro United Way**

As one of the greater Louisville region's largest nonprofits, Metro United Way

strives every day to support thriving kids, strong households, and an equitable community. But what does that mean exactly?

It means working with hundreds of community partners to advance kindergarten readiness, support the success of school-aged young people, and help young men of color get into and complete college.

It means addressing families' basic needs and improving their financial stability, investing in programs that help families buy homes for the first time, and offering home repairs to keep families housed and protect their generational wealth.

It also means offering educational opportunities to the community

to learn about the need for equity and how historical policies still negatively affect our neighbors.

It means direct community investments to historically underserved areas, like the California neighborhood in west Louisville, that empower residents to make decisions on what they need most.

And it means advocating for better policies at every level of government to support these goals.

Metro United Way does all of that, and more. And not just for Jefferson County. The organization also serves communities in Bullitt, Oldham, and Shelby counties in Kentucky, and Clark, Floyd, and Harrison counties in Indiana.

There are several ways to get involved with this important work!

The first is to share resources with those who may need them. Metro United Way's 2-1-1 helpline is available to assist with non-emergency needs such as housing, transportation, food, child care, and more. The 2-1-1 helpline answers calls 24/7, 365 days a year.

Refer parents to sign up for Metro United Way's free developmental screening tool for children from birth to age 5:

Ages and Stages. It provides caregivers with free books, learning activities, and specialist referrals to ensure their children have what they need to thrive.

If someone wants a more hands-on activity, individuals and families can visit volunteer.metrounitedway.org to find dozens of current opportunities to help area nonprofits.

Have some fun for a good cause at our inaugural United Spirits Bourbon Fall Festival on Thursday, October 24 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Progress Park. The event will feature local

> distilleries, samples and tastings of rare spirits, a silent and live auction, culinary experiences, live music, and more! Tickets start at \$250 and will be available soon. Visit metrounitedway. org/united-spirits to learn more.

> Register online for Beyond Buzzwords with Alejandra Campoverdi, author of First Gen, for a free discussion with the author on topics of race, class, and immigration. That will happen Tuesday, October 8 from noon to 1 p.m.

Follow Metro United Way on Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube to get highlights of the organization's widereaching impact and stay up to date on special events and more ways to get involved.



