

Vanessa Carranza

Social Welfare Policy and Services

Professor Herrera

Date February 24, 2023

United Ways

Donations are charity or gifts aimed to benefit a cause. As Mother Teresa once said, “never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time and always start with the person nearest you.” (Hall, 2022). God has called us to love our neighbors as ourselves, as written in scripture Mark 12:31 (Bible Gateway, n.d.). Such love for others is reflected in an international organization known as United Ways. Consisting of 1,800 local nonprofit fundraising affiliates whose purpose is to improve lives within communities. Thousands of individuals are helped based on their needs, due to the donations of the public. Rather in fact, it could be noted that the public loves its neighbor, as mandated in scripture.

Communities are served through challenges being faced with the help of nonprofit partners. Regardless of individuals toughest situations, United Ways purpose is to seek to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities around the world to advance the common good (United Way Worldwide, n.d.). Improving lives through childhood success, youth success, financial stability and access to health resources. Statistics demonstrate that 95% of U.S. communities and 37 countries and territories, humanitarian aid supports 48 million people every year (Perry, 2022). The organization serves those in need in an international and national level.

While researching locally, United Way of Westchester and Putnam have proved to be committed to my community. Individuals and entire families are provided with resources for them to stop living under poverty level in Putnam County. It should be noted, that people are

being provide with education, training programs and services. Due to donations, the underprivileged communities are given the opportunity to succeed. Statistics provided by United Way of Westchester and Putnam state that, 40% live paycheck to paycheck (United Way, 2021). Families are provided with financial stability through greater access to the bank system. Such step leads to finding solutions to lightening debt and creating saving habits. As well, basic good for a safe living environment are provided to the community from local partners. Additionally, one can help by becoming a foster parent for newborn babies and teenagers whose parents are unable. Being able to have a first-hand experience by helping future generations is to be applauded. Donations and ones interest in our community makes a great impact.

United Ways of Westchester and Putnam greatly supported its community. Latest annual report of 2021 indicates that \$24,444,787 was invested (United Ways, 2021). Due to donations and 358 community partners involved, such as schools, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations those in needs were served (United Ways, 2021). Donations contribute to programs and services being provided but money was also used for campaign, investment, bequests, public support and other incomes. Financially United Ways of Westchester and Putnam had a total revenue of \$13,900,762 and expense of \$13,100,1589 from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 (United Ways, 2021). Many could argue that United Ways sets priorities without adequately engaging the people in need. Personally, I believe that it is effective as it does provide to community needs.

United Way's mission is to improve the lives of individuals by providing services. With the contribution through charity from the public, those in need are provided with resources. The poor, children, and communities are impacted with living a better life. Vulnerable people are given the opportunity to having a better future. As well, United Ways is providing for future

generation educational resources in which they can reach their full potential. Our communities are being influenced due to charity provided by the public, leading to a better future.

Reference

Bible gateway passage: Mark 12:31 - new international version. Bible Gateway. (n.d.). Retrieved February 24, 2023, from <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+12%3A31&version=NIV>

Hall, L. (2022, March 31). These pearls of wisdom from mother Teresa will inspire love, Faith, and hope. Country Living. Retrieved February 24, 2023, from <https://www.countryliving.com/life/a39155616/mother-teresa-quotes/>

Our mission. United Way Worldwide. (n.d.). Retrieved February 24, 2023, from <https://www.unitedway.org/our-impact/mission>

Perry , R. (2022, October 5). United Way Launches Disaster Response and Recovery Fund. United Way Worldwide. Retrieved February 24, 2023, from <https://www.unitedway.org/the-latest/press/united-way-launches-disaster-response-and-recovery-fund#:~:text=United%20Way%20brings%20people%20together,48%20million%20people%20every%20year.>

Alice. United Way of Westchester and Putnam. (2021, May 14). Retrieved February 24, 2023, from <https://www.uwwp.org/alice/>

United Way . (2021). United Ways of Westchester and Putnam 2021 Annual Report. White Plans New York 10606.