

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2024-2025



FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF CHESTER COUNTY UNITED WAY,

Looking back on the past year, what stands out isn't just the programs or the numbers, it's the people. The stories. The sense of possibility we've helped create across Chester County.

This was a year of walking beside our neighbors. Of showing up, not with all the answers, but with helping hands and open hearts. And through your generosity, your partnership, and your belief in our work, we reached over 132,000 individuals. That is more than one in every five Chester County residents, with stories that remind us why this work matters.

As you'll read throughout this publication, we invested in solutions that made a real difference. We did this by supporting families, strengthening nonprofits, and building connections that ripple across our community.

Chester County does not wait for change. Together, we create it. Thank you for believing in what's possible when a community comes together and for being part of this journey.



Christopher Saello President & CEO



Carolyn J Beam

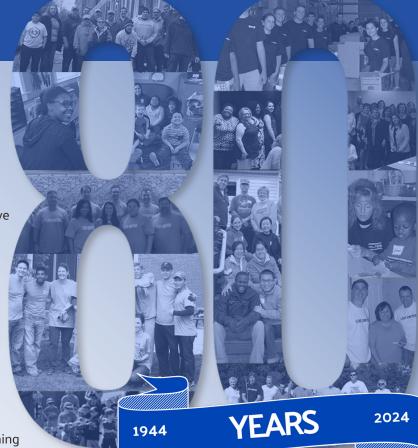
Carolyn Beam Chair of the Board

80 YEARS OF IMPACT

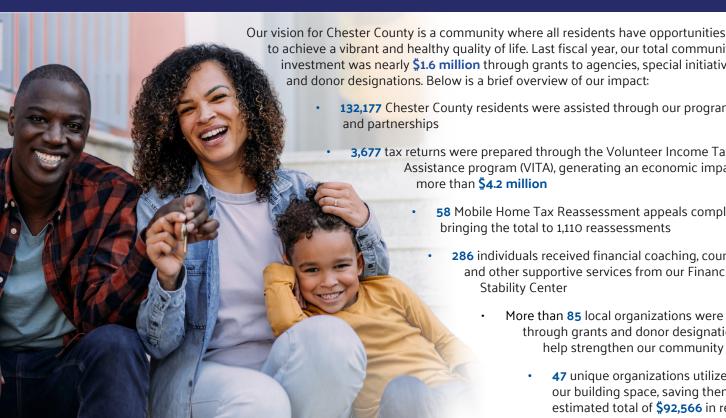
On September 22, 1944, Coatesville District United Charities was established, planting the seeds of what would grow into today's Chester County United Way. Over eight decades, our organization evolved, expanded, and responded to the changing needs of our community, always guided by the belief that we are stronger when we work together.

From early mergers that unified local efforts to record-setting campaigns, groundbreaking needs assessments, and innovative programs like the Financial Stability Center and the Mobile Home Tax Reassessment Project, we consistently led with purpose and partnership. Along the way, thousands of volunteers and donors fueled this progress, making possible everything from Days of Caring to countywide relief funds during times of crisis.

In 2022, we moved into our permanent headquarters in Exton, home to a Social Innovation Lab, Arlene T. Bentley Leadership Training Center, and Financial Independence Hub, spaces created to drive solutions for the challenges ahead. Last fall, as we celebrated our 80th anniversary, we honored the generations who built this foundation and looked forward with determination to the next 80 years of strengthening financial security, expanding youth opportunity, and building a healthier community for all.



INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY



Our vision for Chester County is a community where all residents have opportunities to achieve a vibrant and healthy quality of life. Last fiscal year, our total community investment was nearly \$1.6 million through grants to agencies, special initiative funding

132,177 Chester County residents were assisted through our programs

3,677 tax returns were prepared through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA), generating an economic impact of

58 Mobile Home Tax Reassessment appeals completed,

286 individuals received financial coaching, counseling, and other supportive services from our Financial

- More than 85 local organizations were funded through grants and donor designations to
 - 47 unique organizations utilized our building space, saving them an estimated total of \$92.566 in rental fees and related expenses



22 students graduated from Leadership Chester County and gained valuable business, leadership and entrepreneurial skills

\$254,000 raised for our Community Impact & Innovation Fund through two special events, Live United in Music & Annual Golf Classic



Maria used to pay \$300 just to file her taxes, money that could have gone toward groceries and other essentials.

After using the VITA program, she said, "you're really putting food on the table for us." With those savings, Maria can now cover everyday needs and stretch her income further.

COMMUNITY IMPACT & INNOVATION FUND

FUNDING

Chester County United Way gratefully acknowledges the corporate partners, nonprofit agencies, foundations and other organizations whose financial and in-kind support help us fight to improve lives in Chester County.

See the list of game changers by scanning the QR code below:





Below are the key categories funded through the Community Impact & Innovation Fund:







FOOD INSECURITY



To learn more about our impact, scan the QR code:





Alex was struggling to keep up with basic living expenses, including transportation and food, putting her job and housing at risk. With support from a United Way funded program, she now receives regular food assistance.

Alex shared, "because of the food I receive, I can afford my car payments. Because I have a car, I can keep my job. Because I have a job, I can pay my rent."

This support has helped Alex maintain transportation, employment, and housing, providing stability and independence.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS



From laptops for students to canned protein and feminine hygiene products for families, to holiday trees and a collection drive for Hurricane Helene relief, our community came together this year to meet real needs in meaningful ways.

With the support of partners, donors, and volunteers, we connected resources to the places they were needed most, showing once again that when we unite, no challenge is too great.

United is the Way™





THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

Chester County United Way facilitated the distribution of 240 laptops donated by QVC to support workforce and youth development programs across the county.

We partnered with Chester County OIC and Chester County Economic Development Council (CCEDC) to ensure the technology went where it's needed most. Chester County OIC is using the laptops in adult workforce initiatives, helping clients access education, skills training, and employment resources. CCEDC integrated them into youth programs, including STEM summer camps and afterschool enrichment.

By bringing partners together, we helped turn a generous donation into lasting opportunity for our community. **Thank you, QVC!**

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

Total Contributions \$1,867,137 In-Kind Contributions \$3,935 Investment & Other Income \$114,327 Uncollectable Pledges (\$32,730)

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\$1,807,830

Total Revenue & Support \$1,952,669

Community Investments \$1,473,996 Fundraising \$165,924 Management & General \$167,910

Total Investment & Expenses

Change in Net Assets \$144,839

Source: Audited Financials 2024-2025

See the Audited Financial Statements by scanning the QR code below:



SOCIAL INNOVATION LAB



In its second year, our Social Innovation Lab has grown from an

experiment into a trusted resource for nonprofit capacity-building in Chester County and beyond. We've helped **269 individuals from 209 organizations** move from curiosity about AI to practical applications that strengthen fundraising, strategy, and operations.

Through workshops ranging from beginner sessions to advanced topics like generative AI, fundraising strategy, and chatbots, participants consistently report immediate, useful impact. Our work is also reaching further, as United Ways and organizations across the region call on us for trainings and presentations.

The Ariene T. Bentley adership Training Center

We expanded innovation efforts by partnering with Penn State LaunchBox and i2n on the LionCage pitch competition, while also deepening ties with ITAG, Penn State Great Valley, and other leaders to connect nonprofits with broader tech expertise. Together, these

with broader tech expertise. Together, these efforts are creating a strong network and a clear path from "intro to Al" to sustained innovation. This positions Chester County United Way as a convener and capacity-builder for techenabled social impact.

2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Agent
State Farm Insurance

State Farm Insurance
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Retired Vanguard

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& Community Engagement
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Community Volunteer

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Founder/Owner
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CHESTER COUNTY UNITED WAY STAFF

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Christina Wagoner Senior Vice President, Financial Development

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Kelly Cockshaw
Director, Leadership & Innovation

Amanda Blevins
Director, Community Impact

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