

Frequently Asked Questions

What type of organizations or agencies does United Way of Lincoln County support?

United Way's focus is on health and human services, particularly those for children and their families. We support 14 local non-profit agencies based on the direct impact the services they provide have on this community.

Do we need a United Way here in Lincoln County?

Yes, for several reasons: The United Way allows these agencies to spend more time actually helping the people of Lincoln County rather than devote time to fund-raising. Also, a single community appeal reduces the number of solicitations on local companies. Companies contributing in any facet will receive a "We support United Way" sticker or sign to display that indicates they have contributed.

Why should I give to United Way instead of just making a contribution to a single agency?

When you give through the United Way, you are making one gift really count!! You are giving to 14 agencies whose work is vital to our community.

How much of my money actually goes to the agencies supported by United Way?

78 cents of every dollar goes directly to the agency programs and services. This is an ongoing goal that everyone at United Way is committed to achieving. United Way of Lincoln County prides itself on keeping fundraising, administrative and agency relation costs to a minimum.

Encourage anyone who asks this question to ask the same of every one who solicits funds from them.

Who decides where the money goes?

The Budget and Allocations committee comprised of at least 6 volunteers from across Lincoln County meet to review agency budget requests. These volunteers talk with agency staff members and carefully scrutinize agency budgets. Their funding recommendations are based on community needs and the value of the services provided.

What is a United Way "Participating Agency?"

A participating agency has an ongoing relationship with the United Way of Lincoln County. They have passed a long list of criteria set forth by the Board of Directors of United Way of Lincoln County and have been deemed eligible for funding through the allocations process.

Are agencies accountable for the money they receive from the United Way?

All United Way agencies are required to have a broad based volunteer board of directors and keep accurate, up-to-date financial records with an annual audit. Each year, an independent audit is conducted of UWLC's finances by an out side accounting firm. This audit is also reported directly to the volunteer Board of Directors.

Can I designate my donation to specific agencies or to a United Way in another county?

United Way of Lincoln County honors designations to agencies its participating agencies and to United Ways in other counties. These designations should be indicated on the pledge card.

How does United Way feel about workplace pressure to give?

We are strongly opposed to coercion in the workplace. Giving is a personal decision and we know that many personal and economic factors influence what someone might decide to pledge in a given year.

How does Payroll deduction affect pledges?

When money can be paid conveniently through payroll deduction, donors pledge more – considerably more. Offering payroll deduction pledges is a way that employees can really help United Way and the community.

Can you really expect low-wage workers to make a pledge?

Surprisingly, those who don't earn a lot of money often give more in proportion to what they make than those with higher incomes. Maybe they're closer to basic needs and difficult times, or perhaps United Way services have made a difference to their children or other family members. Every pledge or gift, however small, is vital to our future.

Doesn't giving to my church accomplish the same good as giving to United Way?

There are many organizations that we individually support: our schools, environmental organizations, and other charities. A donation to your church is just **one** important part of your charitable giving. United Way giving is another part – it's a commitment to our community that we share with all our neighbors here in Lincoln County. We respect those other commitments and still ask that you consider the rest of the community where needs continue to grow throughout the year.

Why are some agencies, like Christian Ministries, not a United Way member agency?

Not all agencies want, nor need, the funding assistance of the United Way. Christian Ministries, for example, has achieved what is considered the ultimate goal of a United Way agency. Christian Ministries is financially stable enough not to come under the United Way umbrella. The Board of Directors of Christian Ministries graciously decided to make room for more needy agencies in the county by not becoming a United Way Member agency.

Why does the United Way of Lincoln County need a paid staff?

UWLC operates much like a business on a year round basis. The staff consist of one 30 hour per week Executive Staff , one 10 hour a month Finance Administrator and we contract services 10 hours a week for marketing and social media that is responsible for year round fund distribution, public education, marketing and accounting. The Executive Director oversees the budget, reports directly to the volunteer Board of Directors, gives numerous hours of time serving on committees to assist and support other community organizations and activities.

The United Way of Lincoln County is a non-profit organization. The United Way of Lincoln County has been serving this community for over 100 year's. We are governed by a board of directors. We hold each and every agency we serve to a level of accountability and responsibility to serve the citizens of Lincoln County.

Our agencies are required to have a current 501 C3 and yearly audit..

If you would like any additional information please call the United Way office. 704 732-8055