

THE NEED IS GREAT AND YOU CAN HELP!



The Community Need

All communities can be described by various social and economic factors that are strong determinants of health outcomes and community vitality, like poverty and education. Our local zip code, 63121, and most surrounding zip codes are ranked of highest need on the [2023 Health Equity Index](#).

Social Determinants of Health Facts

St. Louis Missouri

Over 20.4%
of our
population
is in Poverty

Over 11.7%
of our
population
live with a
disability

Over 23.3%
of our
population is
food insecure

Over 67% of
third graders
are not
proficient in
English

Donating to a charity supporting social determinants of health can help improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities. It can also have positive effects on your own health by reducing stress and improving mood. – EveryDayHealth.com

How You Can Help

Nonprofit organizations help meet the community needs that are not fully addressed by government and private sector. That's why we annually host the *UMSL Month of Community Giving* – to enrich the lives of people in the most under-resourced communities in St. Louis. [Give](#) to the causes that matter most to you through payroll deductions, credit card, or check.

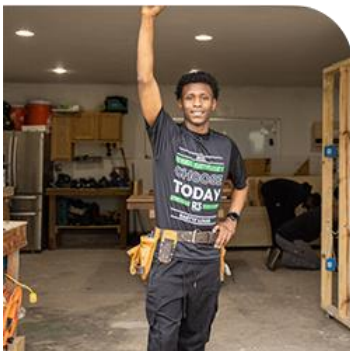
Donors can make contributions to either or both the United Way of Greater St. Louis and CHC: Creating Healthier Communities on one site. [Click here](#) to donate or go to www.umsl.edu/monthofgiving/ for further information.

Give Now



Two days after Christmas 2019, baby Oaklee was unresponsive when her mom tried to wake her. She was airlifted to an area hospital for emergency surgery, which removed about 75% of a tumor found in her brain. The day she turned 14 months old was the day they found out it was cancer. Oaklee's mom sought a referral to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital®, where Oaklee began receiving chemotherapy. "She is the happiest child," said her mom, "and she's been that way since she was born.

I mean, smiling 24/7." And that's no small feat, given all she's been through. Oaklee was born at 33 weeks and spent time struggling to survive in the NICU. "We've always, from day one with her, had to fight, but she's just the strongest-willed child that I've ever met in my life."



Community stability and crisis response is one of five impact areas of focus at the United Way of Greater St. Louis. Last year, they helped over 44,000 people prepare for or successfully recover from an emergency or disaster.

The devastation from last year's flooding seemed overwhelming, but as always, United Way got to work, working hard to find solutions and make use of valuable resources and partnerships. One of the nonprofit organizations that was instrumental throughout this process was partner agency, R3 Development. [Read how this United Way safety net agency helped Zenda from losing her home](#)

after last year's devastating flood. "They were absolutely amazing, they were very gracious with making sure my kids and I had our needs met," said Zenda. "They came in, looked at things, and immediately knew what to do, they really went above and beyond."

\$

WHAT A DOLLAR BUYS

- \$3/pay period provides comfortable bedding and towels for a woman seeking safety at a domestic violence shelter.
- \$3/pay period gives 20 people access to an anonymous online mental health screening so that can better understand their mental health.
- \$5/pay period covers the cost of one day in a virtual family program, offered free of charge and provides resources and support for family members impacted by addiction.
- \$5/pay period provides a mobile meal delivered to 40 seniors.
- \$500/year provides 10 hours of employment training or job coaching to an unemployed or underemployed neighbor.

Help Us Help Each Other!

If you have any questions or would like to assist with the campaign, please contact Patricia Zahn, Director of Community Engagement & Outreach at zahnp@umsl.edu.

UMSL Month of Community Giving
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