MISSION UNITED supports the men and women who served our country as they transition from military to civilian life.

www.unitedwayli.org/missionunited

“The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.”

General George Washington, 1789

MISSION UNITED is a critical program supporting US military veterans and their families on Long Island by helping them re-acclimate to civilian life. Key focus areas include employment readiness, education, health, legal assistance, emergency financial aid, and housing. Through MISSION UNITED, United Way of Long Island is aligning existing services and creating solutions where there are gaps in support.
United Way of Long Island’s Mission United initiative supports programs that serve Long Island’s military, veterans and their families in the areas of case management, career training and emergency financial assistance.

PARTNER AGENCIES

Mental Health Association of Nassau County:
516.489.2322 ext. 1202
Provides supportive case management connecting veterans to available services and emergency financial assistance.

United Veterans Beacon House: 631.665.1571
Provides supportive case management and emergency financial assistance. Screens and enrolls veterans in United Way’s VetsBuild job training program.

Advancing in the Ranks

Romann served two tours, totaling seven years, in the U.S. Navy – one world tour and one West Pacific tour – before entering the U.S. Navy Reserves and serving an additional tour in Kuwait. Having traveled the globe, Romann was accustomed to spending limited time with his family. However, during his deployment, Romann’s wife gave birth to their firstborn. Being away for the birth and infancy of his daughter was heartbreaking, but he continued his duties to serve his country.

In 2013, Romann graduated VetsBuild. The occasion marked not only a milestone for personal achievement, but also a family milestone - his second daughter was born a couple of weeks prior and the VetsBuild graduation marked Romann’s first family outing as a unit of four. Thereafter, he entered the construction industry installing residential and commercial solar panels. Capitalizing on the technical skills and networks he created while in VetsBuild, Romann transitioned into a new job as an OSHA safety officer.

Most significantly, Romann notes that VetsBuild helped him gain a job with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as a federal grounds caretaker. He credits the skills he learned in VetsBuild with giving him the edge on his resume to land the job, in particular his OSHA Certification and ability to read blueprints. Three years later, he is still employed at the VA and is flourishing. He lives happily with his wife and two daughters, now ages 5 and 11.

He is the 2019 John Kominicki Memorial Rising Star Scholarship Recipient in recognition of his integrity, perseverance and commitment to advancing his education and leadership skills. This Scholarship recognizes an individual who, like John Kominicki, displays excellence in leadership and a zest for learning.

Romann was promoted in October 2019 to Administration Officer within the VA and relocated to South Carolina with his family.

Upon return to civilian life on Long Island, the transition for Romann - like many veterans - was not as easy as anticipated. Looking to further his career and prepare for the future, he enrolled in college. While obtaining his veteran ID card to receive tuition assistance, Romann was introduced to VetsBuild, United Way of Long Island’s program that provides career training for veterans (at no cost) in the green construction industry. He immediately enrolled while remaining a full-time student at NYIT. During VetsBuild, his support system grew instantaneously describing the staff as expert as well as understanding, “In addition to the instruction, if I needed transportation, they were there to help.”
MISSION UNITED is a critical funding source for programs supporting United States military veterans and their families as they transition to civilian life. MISSION UNITED focuses on case management and emergency financial aid, career training and employment and connection to available local resources. The need for these services is particularly significant on Long Island where more than 95,000 veterans live.

VetsBuild Training at United Way’s E3 SmartBuild Training Center, a state-of-the-art facility equipped with the latest technology and equipment, provides students with hands-on training in Green Construction, Weatherization and Facility Maintenance.

Veteran Resources are available through 211LI.org, United Way’s online resource to find information on a wide array of local services especially for veterans. Together with our supporters, United Way of Long Island’s MISSION UNITED is helping our local heroes write the next chapter of their journey.

www.unitedwayli.org/missionunited
Do You Need Help?

There are hundreds of Long Islanders in need of essential human care services everyday, but people often don’t know where to turn. If you or a loved one needs immediate assistance, United Way of Long Island can help. Dial 2-1-1 (or toll free at 1-888-774-7633) to reach the 2-1-1 Call Center. A trained call specialist will help assess your needs and refer you to the most appropriate community resources in up to 200 languages. Just dial 2-1-1.

Connect to such services as:

- Job Training
- Family Counseling
- Education and Training
- Food Assistance
- Health Services
- Heating Assistance
- Legal aid
- Child Care
- Substance Disorder Counseling
- Senior Services

The 2-1-1 Long Island database is a free, online directory of health and human service agencies and programs on Long Island — services for children, teens, adults, veterans, families and seniors in both Nassau and Suffolk Counties. With detailed information on over 10,000 community resources. Visit www.211longisland.org.

For more information on 2-1-1 Long Island, contact:

United Way of Long Island
631.940.3700
United Way of Long Island, 819 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, NY 11729
Safe at Home

Helping Seniors Stay Safe at Home

- Do you need help with everyday tasks such as stocking up on groceries, ordering meals and prescriptions?
- Are you having trouble coordinating appointments?
- Are you having issues staying in touch with loved ones and are you staying safe?

WE CAN HELP

Safe At Home for Seniors is United Way’s COVID-19 health and safety outreach program in partnership with a network of agencies. Our Community Navigators help seniors remain in the comfort and safety of their home, where they are best protected while maintaining social relationships. We are here to help you continue to live an active and full life as we all adjust to a “new normal”. unitedwayli.org/safeathome

For more information on Safe at Home, contact:

Trish Rivers, Community Impact Program Director
631.940.3719  •  trivers@unitedwayli.org
United Way of Long Island, 819 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, NY 11729
ALICE data identifies the number of working households on Long Island where the family members do not earn enough to meet the very basic needs of housing, food, transportation, health care, taxes, and, for families with small children, the cost of child care. Because these struggling families lack sufficient income to cover basic living expenses, they most certainly are not able to save for emergencies, their children’s education, their own retirement or for their future long-term care needs. ALICE households are largely a forgotten population. Their income is above the Federal Poverty Level, so they do not qualify for government assistance programs such as food stamps, housing vouchers or Medicaid. These are the families who have to choose between buying food or paying for heat; who endure periodic homelessness if the rent wasn’t paid; who put off seeing a doctor until they’re forced to visit the emergency room.

- On Long Island, an incredible 26% of households live at ALICE levels.
- ALICE households have no choice but to live paycheck to paycheck.
- In 2018 more than half of Long Island jobs paid less than $20/hour.
- In 2018 on Long Island, 302,520 households, or 31.5% of all working families, fall below the set income threshold needed to work and live. (American Community Survey Factfinder-US Census).

www.unitedwaylialice.org

UWNYS compiles the cost of living and income data for every NY county. UWLI uses the ALICE data for Nassau/Suffolk to strategically plan the programs and support it offers to the community.

ALICE New York State
www.unitedwayalice.org
The DREAMS for Youth Scholarship Program grants awards in these areas:

- **Academic**: Assists with costs associated with educational goals at a college, university, private or vocational school. Applicants must be in grade 12, demonstrate financial need and show a commitment to community service. Financial awards up to $5,000.

- **Enrichment**: Assists with costs associated with activities that enrich the mind, body and spirit. Examples may include music, singing, dance, art lessons, computer graphics training, acting, photography, fashion design, specialized summer camps, etc. Funds may be used for enrollment fees and/or supplies. Applicants must be in grades 7-12, demonstrate financial need and show a commitment to community service. Financial awards range from $100 to $2,500.

Since its inception in 2002, United Way of Long Island has awarded grants totaling over $1,000,000. The DREAMS for Youth Advisory Board, comprised of grade 7 to college age student volunteers, work under the guidance of United Way staff to make award decisions.

For an application go to: www.unitedwayli.org/dreamsforyouth

**Funded by:**
- The Banyan Tree Roots Foundation
- The Dreams R Us Foundation

For more information on DREAMS for Youth or other scholarship programs, contact:

**Patricia Rivers, Community Impact Program Director**
trivers@unitedwayli.org • 631.940.3719
United Way of Long Island, 819 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, NY 11729
YouthBuild Long Island is a signature program of United Way, dedicated to changing the path of Long Island’s at-risk young adults by addressing the core issues facing low-income communities: housing, education, employment, crime prevention, and leadership development. At YouthBuild, low-income young men and women, ages 16 - 24, work towards their TASC High School Equivalency Diploma while learning essential job skills. Serving young adults from Brentwood, Central Islip and The Incorporated Village of Hempstead.

Participants can choose from a variety of vocation training paths including:

- Building Trades & Weatherization
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Home Health Aide
- Food Manager Certification
- Manufacturing
- Medical Billing & Coding
- Digital Skills
- Early Child Care
- Food Manager Certification

YouthBuild Long Island graduates take away the skills that are necessary to succeed on any career path: • Customer Service • Computer Literacy • Career Readiness

Support YouthBuild: Gives young men and women a second chance to establish a productive life. [www.unitedwayli.org/youthbuildli](http://www.unitedwayli.org/youthbuildli)

Lead Funder: U.S. Department of Labor
Supporting Funders: AT&T • Bank of America Charitable Foundation • The Banyan Tree Roots Foundation
Bethpage Federal Credit Union • Byron T. & Ruth D. Miller • BNY-Thomas F. Ryan Fund • Capital One
Countess Moira Charitable Foundation • Deloitte • Flushing Bank • Island Outreach Foundation • MSC Industrial Direct Co. Inc.
National Grid • NYSERDA • NYS Office of Children & Family Services Pritchard Charitable Trust • TD Charitable Foundation
Santander • Sterling National Bank • United Way Worldwide • Veronica B. Renken • Wells Fargo

United Way of Long Island is an equal opportunity employer and YouthBuild is an equal opportunity program.
The YouthBuild Long Island program offers auxiliary aid, services and activities upon request, to individuals with disabilities. The YouthBuild program is federally funded by the United States Department of Labor.
United Way of Long Island’s annual Stuff-A-Bus program partners with Long Island bus transportation companies including Suffolk Transportation Service, Educational Bus Transportation, Huntington Coach Corporation and East End Bus Lines to collect and deliver a record of over 750,000 school supplies from companies, organizations and individuals across Long Island. Since 2009, more than 32,000 local elementary school students have received supplies.

The Stuff-A-Bus program provides students with new school supplies, prepares them for their academic studies, builds their self-esteem, and sets them up for success.

Each August, United Way of Long Island collects supplies that young children require in order to excel in their studies.

www.unitedwayli.org/stuffabus

Supported by:
• The Banyan Tree Roots Foundation
The goal of VetsBuild Long Island is simple … to prepare our Long Island veterans for employment opportunities in fields of Green Construction and Energy Efficient Weatherization. Training opportunities include:

- Construction and energy retrofit training at United Way’s E3 SmartBuild Training Center (Energy/Efficiency/Education) in Deer Park
- Basic training in the building sciences of home performance and weatherization in the green industry field
- A 10-hour entry level OSHA certification training
- Introduction to construction site math, tools and blueprints
- Course includes sessions on social media skills, financial literacy, workforce readiness, resume and job search techniques

VetsBuild graduates who intend to work in the Green Construction/Energy field will have an opportunity to apply and interview for subsequent advanced certification classes, such as natural gas HVAC technician, energy auditing and building project management.

unitedwayli.org/vetsbuild

Inaugural Founding Partner: Bank of America
Program Sponsors: Amazon • BNB Bank • Bethpage Federal Credit Union
Bob Woodruff Foundation/National Veterans Intermediary • Flushing Bank • MSC
Mother Cabrini Health Foundation • NYSERDA • National Grid • The Lawrence Foundation

For more information on VetsBuild, contact:

Deanna Dentici, Case Manager
DDentici@UVBH.com • 631.665.1571
United Veterans Beacon House, 1715 Union Blvd., Bay Shore, NY 11706
This Home Safety Modification program provides with older adults with home renovations so they are able to remain in their homes as they age.

Our Older Adult Home Modification Program begins in January 2022 offering qualified seniors:

- Home safety adjustments
- Small home repairs
- Accessibility modifications
- Hazard and health modifications

Eligibility requirements include:

- Be 62 years of age or older
- Own your home or have a mortgage
- Proof of income

For more information contact United Way at 631.940.3700
The Emergency Rental Assistance Program assisted households that were behind on their rent due to financial hardship from COVID-19. The program provided temporary rental assistance and assistance with unpaid utility bills.

The program also paid up to 12 months of past due rent and up to 3 months of future rent. For some households, the program paid up to 12 months of overdue electric or gas bills.

PROGRAM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be a resident of Town of Brookhaven, with proof of residency, and residing in the property that is in arrears.
- One of more adults in the household must have qualified for unemployment benefits or has experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs or experienced other financial hardships due directly to COVID-19.
- Must be able to provide a fully executed rental lease or agreement where the lease is in the Applicant’s name and the Applicant is responsible for monthly rent payments.
- Household income must be 80% or below Area Median Income.

www.unitedwayli.org/ERAP
Project Warmth

United Way of Long Island partners with foundations, the corporate community and labor unions to administer PROJECT WARMTH, Long Island’s only non-governmental emergency fuel fund. PROJECT WARMTH provides one-time grants to oil and utility companies during the winter months on behalf of eligible residents facing heating emergencies.

Through a network of partner agencies, struggling Long Island families can apply to PROJECT WARMTH for heating assistance and receive information on other local resources to help them address greater financial stability. Last year the program distributed grants to over 930 families. For a referral to a PROJECT WARMTH intake site, contact United Way of Long Island’s 2-11 Call Center by calling 211, seven days a week from 9am-5pm. PROJECT WARMTH is a seasonal program from December - March/April.

United Way of Long Island Needs Your Help
Due to the pandemic and loss of employment United Way is bracing for higher-than-usual demand for emergency fuel fund assistance and has authorized an extraordinary effort to raise $1 million to strengthen PROJECT WARMTH’s ability to provide critical safety-net services across the region. These funds will allow PROJECT WARMTH to stay open all winter and accommodate thousands of Long Islanders in need.

For more information on Project Warmth, contact:

Patricia Rivers, Community Impact Program Director
trivers@unitedwayli.org • 631.940.3719
United Way of Long Island, 819 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, NY 11729
**Power Up!**

**Wind, Solar & Renewables Career Training**

**Power Up Wind, Solar & Renewables** is a FREE United Way of Long Island training program and certification that will help you secure a career in the renewable energy industry. Power Up! is a forward thinking Workforce Development Program that creates a pathway for participants to secure careers in the fast growing renewable energy, smart grid and green construction industries.

**The 4 Week Program Includes:**

- Introduction to Wind Turbines and Renewables
- Energy and Environmental Building Alliance (EEBA) Entry Level Certification
- Building Science Principles
- Career Placement Assistance

Positions available to those who complete the program include:

- Weatherization Technicians
- Building Performance Technicians
- Green Construction Project Managers

For more information or to register for an upcoming session: [www.unitedwayli.org/powerupcareertraining](http://www.unitedwayli.org/powerupcareertraining)

This program is supported by Bank of America Charitable Foundation
United Way of Long Island’s Healthy Homes Long Island initiative works to build homes that are both good for the environment outside and promotes the well-being of those living inside the home itself, like Jeffrey and his service dog, Romeo. When retrofitting existing homes, or building new ones, United Way’s Housing and Green Building department puts strong emphasis on using sustainable materials that do not deteriorate or cause chronic health concerns, especially asthma in children.

Helping families stay healthy is part of our core mission at United Way of Long Island - which is why our Healthy Homes Long Island initiative works to inform families of the importance of maintaining a home that is not only energy efficient but fosters the well-being of those living inside. We arrange for a certified Long Island professional to conduct a comprehensive Healthy Home Energy Assessment of your home to identify any efficiency or health and safety-related issues your home may have. Visit unitedwayli.org/healthyhomes for more inforamtion.

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, almost 6 million U.S. homes have moderate to severe physical infrastructure problems - such as water leaks and intrusion; injury hazards; pests; and heating, plumbing and electrical deficiencies. In addition, an estimated 30 million homes have indoor environmental hazards, including physical safety hazards, lead-based paint hazards, and pests.

www.unitedwayli.org/healthyhomes

Supporting Organizations:

For more information on Healthy Homes, contact:

Stephen Muzyka, Program Instructor
stephen@unitedwayli.org • 631.940.3773
United Way of Long Island, 819 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, NY 11729
HOPWA is a HUD funded program allowing agencies to purchase and develop energy efficient housing units that provide safe, healthy, affordable and sustainable solutions for low income HIV-positive individuals and families. The towns of Islip and Brookhaven receive the funding and United Way of Long Island administers the HOPWA program for the region.

- HOPWA is a permanent housing solution for low-income and homeless HIV-positive people on Long Island.

- Each housing project meets EPA Energy Star requirements and ZERH requirements, which recognize builders for their leadership in increasing energy efficiency and improving indoor air quality. By developing homes that are ZERO Energy Ready, will save significantly on operational expenses.

- Through the efforts of the United Way of Long Island, 66 HOPWA houses have been developed for more than 200 HIV-positive individuals and their families on Long Island.

www.unitedwayli.org/hopwa

For more information on the HOPWA, contact:

Amber Marshall, Program Coordinator
amarshall@unitedwayli.org • 631.940.3721
United Way of Long Island, 819 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, NY 11729
The E3 SmartBuild Training Center is a state-of-the-art lab where students learn building science, energy efficient, high performance home construction. A partnership between United Way of Long Island and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), the E3 SmartBuild Training Center, is the only one of its kind on the East Coast. This educational hub offers expanded career opportunities to students while providing tomorrow’s workforce with the skills needed to build a Long Island community that leaves a lighter footprint on the environment.

The E3 program includes:

- Weatherization
- Green Building Practices
- Sustainability
- Certification Courses
- Energy-Related Training Opportunities
- High Performance Zero Energy Home Building

The E3 SmartBuild Training Center is the cornerstone of United Way’s YouthBuild and VetsBuild Training Green Construction programs. For more information and to see a course list visit: www.unitedwayli.org/e3

Inaugural Founding Partner: • Bank of America

Program Sponsors: • Bethpage Federal Credit Union • National Grid Foundation • Knapp Swezey • GEICO • NYSERDA

For more information on the E3 SmartBuild Center, contact:

Stephen Muzyka, Program Instructor
stephen@unitedwayli.org • 631.940.3773
United Way of Long Island, 819 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, NY 11729
You Call the Shots connects people who need to be vaccinated and targets residents of all ages, with special emphasis on communities that have been disparately affected by Covid-19 and those who are hesitant and/or resistant to vaccination.

Community Navigators work one on one with individuals and families to help schedule appointments, as well as arrange free transportation through United Way of Long Island’s Ride United. Navigators will have a particular emphasis on the Hempstead, Elmont, Freeport, Brentwood, Bay Shore and Huntington Station communities.

Many residents are in survival mode and dealing with various situations, thinking about getting a vaccine that they don’t trust or have questions about, is not a priority.

For more information visit: www.unitedwayli.org/youcalltheshots
HIV/AIDS impacts all populations and all age groups on Long Island, from Elmont to Montauk, with an estimated 6,000 Long Islanders living with HIV/AIDS... the largest number of cases of any suburban area across the US.

Since 1997, United Way of Long Island has played a major role in ensuring that HIV/AIDS services are available and accessible to Long Islanders. United Way serves as the technical support agency for Nassau and Suffolk Counties for Ryan White Part A and Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) funds by contracting with and closely monitoring service providers, developing and implementing a quality management program for the region and through fiscal, administrative and programmatic oversight of the Nassau-Suffolk HIV Health Services Planning Council.

Each year, over 3,100 individuals living with HIV/AIDS and more than 71,000 units of critical medical and supportive services - such as Primary Care, Early Intervention Services, Medical Transportation, Legal Services, Oral Health Care, Mental Health Services, Medical Case Management, Medical Nutrition Therapy and Emergency Financial Assistance – are delivered.

For more information visit: www.longislandpc.org

This project is/was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number: H89HA00020- HIV Emergency Relief Project Grants at $5,644,802 with zero percentage financed with nongovernmental sources. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.
Distributed through United Way of Long Island, the SingleCare card lowers the cost of medicine by an average of 40% or more for people with or without insurance or who take medications not covered by their plan. You can keep using your card every time you need to fill a prescription. All you have to do is present a SingleCare card at a local pharmacy to receive the savings.

The SingleCare card is easy to use:

• The card is free
• For immediate and unlimited use
• Anyone can use the SingleCare card
• No registration or activation required
• Discounts applied automatically

www.unitedwayli.org/singlecare