



UNITED WAY
Long Island



United Way of Long Island

REFLECTIONS 2025





ALICE 2025

2025 Impact Report

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ASSET LIMITED, INCOME CONSTRAINED, EMPLOYED



33% of households on Long Island are ALICE, our programs support these families everyday across Long Island.

Programs like Project Warmth, Safe at Home For Seniors, Older Adult Home Modification Program, Family Support Project, DREAMS Scholarships, Workforce Training Academy and YouthBuild

Population: 1,381,715

Number of Households: 458,162

Median Household Income: \$141,568 (state average: \$82,095)

Labor Force Participation Rate: 63% (state average: 63%)

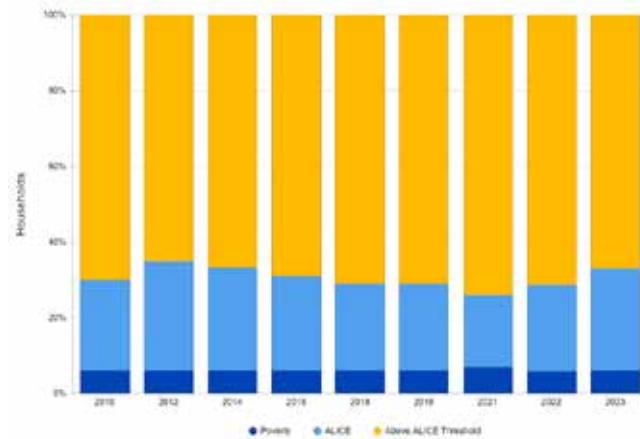
ALICE Households: 27% (state average 33%) • **Households in Poverty:** 6% (state average 14%)



ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed — households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county. While conditions have improved for some households, many continue to struggle, especially as wages fail to keep pace with the rising cost of household essentials (housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and a basic smartphone plan). Households below the **ALICE** Threshold — **ALICE** households plus those in poverty — can't afford the essentials.

Financial Hardship Has Changed Over Time in Nassau County

As circumstances change, households may find themselves below or above the **ALICE** Threshold at different times. While the COVID-19 pandemic brought employment shifts, health struggles, and school/business closures in 2021, it also spurred unprecedented public assistance through pandemic relief measures. In 2019, 128,463 households in Nassau County were below the **ALICE** Threshold; by 2023 that number had changed to 151,193.



Household Survival Budget, Nassau County, New York, 2023

Monthly Costs	Single Adult	One Adult, One Child	One Adult, One In Child Care	Two Adults	Two Adults, Two Children	Two Adults, Two In Child Care	Single Adult 65+	Two Adults 65+
Housing	\$1,859	\$2,222	\$2,222	\$2,222	\$2,662	\$2,662	\$1,859	\$2,222
Child Care	\$0	\$586	\$1,562	\$0	\$1,172	\$3,229	\$0	\$0
Food	\$573	\$970	\$870	\$1,051	\$1,783	\$1,556	\$528	\$967
Transportation	\$201	\$402	\$201	\$402	\$804	\$402	\$201	\$402
Health Care	\$196	\$452	\$452	\$452	\$775	\$775	\$559	\$1,119
Technology	\$86	\$86	\$86	\$116	\$116	\$116	\$86	\$116
Miscellaneous	\$292	\$472	\$539	\$424	\$729	\$874	\$323	\$483
Taxes	\$599	\$769	\$956	\$759	\$1,100	\$1,501	\$687	\$1,171
Monthly Total	\$3,806	\$5,959	\$6,888	\$5,426	\$9,121	\$11,115	\$4,243	\$6,480
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$45,672	\$71,508	\$82,656	\$65,112	\$109,452	\$133,380	\$50,916	\$77,760
Hourly Wage	\$22.84	\$35.75	\$41.33	\$32.56	\$54.73	\$66.69	\$25.46	\$38.88

The Cost of Basics Outpaces Wages

The Household Survival Budget reflects the minimum cost to live and work in the current economy and includes housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, technology, and taxes. It does not include savings for emergencies or future goals like college or retirement. In 2023, household costs in every county in New York were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$14,580 for a single adult and \$30,000 for a family of four.

Household Survival Budget, Nassau County 2023



Town	Total HH	% ALICE +Poverty	Town	Total HH	% ALICE +Poverty	Town	Total HH	% ALICE +Poverty	Town	Total HH	% ALICE +Poverty	Town	Total HH	% ALICE +Poverty	Total HH	% ALICE +Poverty	
Albertson, CDP	1,680	30	Garden City Village	7,646	21	Long Beach city	14,790	39	Plainedge, CDP	2,829	28	Upper Brookville Village	665	14			
Atlantic Beach Village	539	29	Glen Cove city	10,603	54	Lynbrook Village	6,899	35	Plainview CDP	8,767	24	Valley Stream Village	12,248	38			
Baldwin, CDP	10,785	32	Glen Head, CDP	1,626	33	Malverne Park Oaks, CDP	241	6	Plandome Heights Village	309	12	Wantagh, CDP	5,818	26			
Barnum Island, CDP	884	36	Glenwood Landing , CDP	1,567	30	Malverne Village	3,040	30	Plandome Manor Village	217	13	West Hempstead, CDP	6,053	29			
Baxter Estates Village	471	24	Great Neck Estates Village	881	24	Manhasett, CDP	2,598	34	Plandome Village	445	17	Westbury Village	5,303	34			
Bay Park, CDP	625	52	Great Neck Gardens, CDP	431	53	Manhasett Hills CDP	1,161	19	Point Lookout CDP	509	44	Williston Park Village	2,468	34			
Bayville Village	2,580	29	Great Neck Plaza Village	3,919	47	Manorhaven Village	2,597	55	Port Washington CDP	5,947	27	Woodbury, CDP	3,138	27			
Bellerose Terrace, CDP	697	34	Great Neck Village	3,335	35	Massapequa, CDP	7,242	22	Port Washington N. Vill.	1,499	37	Woodmere, CDP	4,994	20			
Bellerose Village	338	19	Greenvale, CDP	369	52	Massapequa Park Village	5,828	23	Rockville Centre Village	10,010	32	Woodsburgh Village	306	14			
Bellmore, CDP	5,216	22	Harbor Hills,CDP	171	21	Matinecock Village	249	28	Roosevelt CDP	4,454	35						
Bethpage, CDP	5,961	34	Harbor Isle, CDP	460	33	Merrick, CDP	7,251	27	Roslyn Estates Village	468	16						
Brookville Village	774	9	Hempstead Village	17,304	59	Mill Neck Village	418	21	Roslyn Harbor Village	312	21						
Carle Place, CDP	1,921	35	Herricks, CDP	1,290	34	Mineola Village	8,618	38	Roslyn Heights CDP	2,145	24						
Cedarhurst Village	2,708	53	Hewlett Bay Park Village	107	6	Munsey Park Village	824	15	Roslyn Village	1,356	38						
Centre Island Village	129	30	Hewlett, CDP	2,432	30	Muttontown Village	1,107	24	Russell Gardens Village	356	25						
Cove Neck Village	103	27	Hewlett Harbor Village	359	6	New Cassel, CDP	3,362	36	Saddle Rock Estates CDP	101	29						
East Atlantic Beach, CDP	796	26	Hewlett Neck Village	137	12	New Hyde Park Village	3,535	32	Saddle Rock Village	322	24						
East Hills Village	2,252	16	Hicksville, CDP	13,440	30	North Bellmore, CDP	6,574	26	Salisbury CDP	4,398	25						
East Massapequa, CDP	6,966	32	Inwood, CDP	3,044	59	North Hills Village	2,337	22	Sands Point Village	837	16						
East Meadow, CDP	11,727	39	Island Park Village	1,789	49	North Lynbrook, CDP	222	57	Sea Cliff Village	1,759	25						
East Norwich, CDP	921	22	Jericho, CDP	4,279	21	North Massapequa, CDP	6,299	28	Seaford CDP	5,195	24						
East Rockaway Village	3,810	44	Kensington Village	467	29	North Merrick, CDP	4,106	27	Searingtown CDP	1,606	18						
East Williston Village	806	18	Kings Point Village	1,394	24	North New Hyde Pk, CDP	4,689	24	South Farmingdale CDP	4,685	27						
Elmont, CDP	9,964	37	Lake Success Village	750	13	North Valley Stream, CDP	5,340	31	South Floral Park Village	568	37						
Farmingdale Village	3,529	38	Lakeview, CDP	1,509	35	North Wantagh, CDP	4,173	27	South Hempstead CDP	1,144	20						
Floral Park Village	5,505	31	Lattingtown Village	701	18	Oceanside, CDP	10,887	29	South Valley Stream CDP	1,918	25						
Flower Hill Village	1,595	20	Laurel Hollow Village	584	9	Old Bethpage, CDP	2,169	25	Stewart Manor Village	723	31						
Franklin Square, CDP	9,736	34	Lawrence Village	1,998	28	Old Brookville Village	639	26	Syosset CDP	6,027	25						
Freeport Village	13,967	42	Levittown, CDP	16,992	33	Old Westbury Village	1,053	15	Thomaston Village	1,046	28						
Garden City Park, CDP	2,501	34	Lido Beach, CDP	1,173	27	Oyster Bay, CDP	2,775	48	Uniondale CDP	8,727	42						
Garden City South, CDP	1,326	36	Locust Valley, CDP	1,241	37	Oyster Bay Cove Village	702	15	University Gardens CDP	1,501	44						



UNITED WAY
Long Island



ALICE IN SUFFOLK COUNTY

2023 Point-in-Time-Data

www.unitedforalice.org

Population: 1,523,170

Number of Households: 508,809

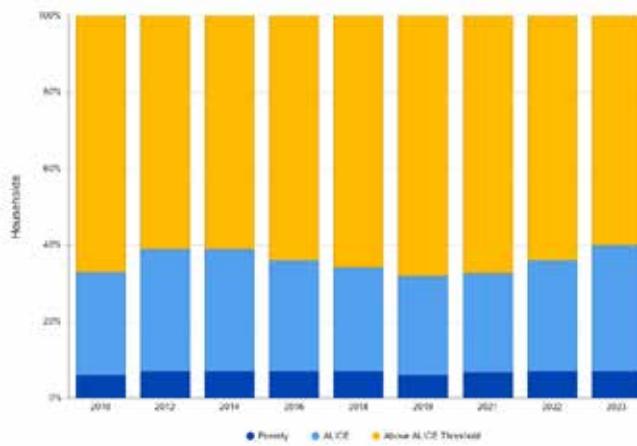
Median Household Income: \$124,045 (state average: \$82,095)

Labor Force Participation Rate: 65% (state average: 63%)

ALICE Households: 33% (state average 33%) • **Households in Poverty:** 7% (state average 14%)



ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed — households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county. While conditions have improved for some households, many continue to struggle, especially as wages fail to keep pace with the rising cost of household essentials (housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and a basic smartphone plan). Households below the **ALICE** Threshold —**ALICE** households plus those in poverty — can't afford the essentials.



Financial Hardship Has Changed Over Time in Suffolk County

As circumstances change, households may find themselves below or above the **ALICE** Threshold at different times. While the COVID-19 pandemic brought employment shifts, health struggles, and school/business closures in 2021, it also spurred unprecedented public assistance through pandemic relief measures. In 2019, 158,483 households in Suffolk County were below the **ALICE** Threshold; by 2023 that number had changed to 203,523.

Household Survival Budget, Suffolk County, New York, 2023

Monthly Costs	Single Adult	One Adult, One Child	One Adult, One in Child Care	Two Adults	Two Adults, Two Children	Two Adults, Two in Child Care	Single Adult 65+	Two Adults 65+
Housing	\$1,705	\$2,123	\$2,123	\$2,123	\$2,552	\$2,552	\$1,705	\$2,123
Child Care	\$0	\$586	\$1,562	\$0	\$1,172	\$3,229	\$0	\$0
Food	\$570	\$965	\$866	\$1,046	\$1,754	\$1,548	\$525	\$962
Transportation	\$435	\$558	\$558	\$654	\$983	\$983	\$371	\$526
Health Care	\$196	\$452	\$452	\$452	\$775	\$775	\$559	\$1,119
Technology	\$86	\$86	\$86	\$116	\$116	\$116	\$86	\$116
Miscellaneous	\$299	\$477	\$565	\$439	\$735	\$920	\$325	\$485
Taxes	\$621	\$783	\$1,026	\$800	\$1,117	\$1,665	\$691	\$1,178
Monthly Total	\$3,912	\$6,030	\$7,238	\$5,630	\$9,204	\$11,788	\$4,262	\$6,509
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$46,944	\$72,360	\$86,856	\$67,560	\$110,448	\$141,456	\$51,144	\$78,108
Hourly Wage	\$23.47	\$36.18	\$43.43	\$33.78	\$55.22	\$70.73	\$25.57	\$39.05

The Cost of Basics Outpaces Wages

The Household Survival Budget reflects the minimum cost to live and work in the current economy and includes housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, technology, and taxes. It does not include savings for emergencies or future goals like college or retirement. In 2023, household costs in every county in New York were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$14,580 for a single adult and \$30,000 for a family of four.



Household Survival Budget, Suffolk County 2023

Town	Total HH	% ALICE +Poverty	Town	Total HH	% ALICE +Poverty	Town	Total HH	% ALICE +Poverty	Town	Total HH	% ALICE +Poverty	Total HH	% ALICE +Poverty	
Amagansett, CDP	308	21	East Hampton North, CDP	2,058	53	Islandia, Village	1,241	49	North Patchogue, CDP	2,326	48	Shirley, CDP	8,498	49
Amityville Village	3,766	47	East Hampton Village	656	45	Islip, CDP	6,091	42	North Sea, CDP	2,227	28	Shoreham Village	167	28
Aquebogue, CDP	605	46	East Islip, CDP	4,679	32	Islip Terrace, CDP	1,736	29	Northampton, CDP	307	40	Smythtown, CDP	8,244	32
Asharoken Village	305	33	East Marion, CDP	751	40	Jamesport, CDP	757	36	Northport Village	3,050	30	Sound Beach, CDP	2,701	40
Babylon Village	4,633	36	East Moriches, CDP	2,095	40	Kings Park, CDP	6,401	42	Northville, CDP	634	35	South Huntington, CDP	3,497	30
Baiting Hollow, CDP	1,098	43	East Northport, CDP	7,292	31	Lake Grove Village	3,760	42	Northwest Harbor, CDP	2,197	43	Southampton Village	1,730	28
Bay Shore, CDP	9,718	51	East Patchogue, CDP	8,151	48	Lake Ronkonkoma, CDP	6,595	48	Noyack, CDP	2,040	45	Southold, CDP	2,676	40
Bayport, CDP	3,309	34	East Quogue, CDP	2,399	45	Laurel, CDP	518	34	Oakdale, CDP	2,713	36	Springs, CDP	3,580	38
Baywood, CDP	2,009	43	East Setauket, CDP	3,708	30	Lindenhurst Village	8,479	37	Old Field Village	372	19	St. James, CDP	4,962	37
Belle Terre Village	276	26	East Shoreham, CDP	2,110	28	Lloyd Harbor Village	1,165	19	Orient, CDP	656	55	Stony Brook, CDP	4,539	25
Bellport Village	902	35	Eastport, CDP	769	30	Manorville, CDP	4,889	35	Patchogue Village	5,380	52	Terryville, CDP	3,736	45
Blue Point, CDP	2,056	33	Eatons Neck, CDP	432	15	Mastic Beach, CDP	5,110	50	Peconic, CDP	282	49	Tuckahoe, CDP	587	59
Bohemia, CDP	3,203	40	Elwood, CDP	3,824	26	Mastic, CDP	4,321	50	Poquott Village	402	23	Village of the Branch	523	19
Brentwood, CDP	14,762	34	Farmingville, CDP	4,905	37	Mattituck, CDP	1,833	31	Port Jefferson Sta., CDP	2,642	45	Wading River, CDP	3,193	35
Bridgehampton, CDP	516	29	Fire Island	137	48	Medford, CDP	8,074	38	Port Jefferson Village	3,194	33	Wainscott, CDP	291	34
Brightwaters Village	1,033	12	Flanders, CDP	2,142	57	Melville, CDP	7,323	28	Quogue, CDP	313	51	Water Mill, CDP	1,080	40
Brookhaven, CDP	1,064	54	Fort Salonga, CDP	3,477	24	Middle Island, CDP	4,486	54	Quogue Village	253	42	West Babylon, CDP	13,826	37
Calverton, CDP	2,812	69	Gordon Heights, CDP	1,170	48	Miller Place, CDP	3,962	35	Renssenaer-Speonk, CDP	672	32	West Bay Shore, CDP	1,633	30
Captree, CDP	226	77	Great River, CDP	853	38	Montauk, CDP	1,618	37	Ridge, CDP	5,632	55	West Hills, CDP	1,918	21
Center Moriches, CDP	2,886	33	Greenlawn, CDP	4,704	35	Moriches, CDP	1,222	64	Riverhead, CDP	5,060	58	West Islip CDP	8,510	24
Centereach, CDP	9,645	37	Greenport Village	1,014	59	Mount Sinai, CDP	3,923	30	Riverside, CDP	901	68	West Sayville, CDP	1,769	29
Centerport, CDP	2,293	20	Greenport West, CDP	1,029	55	Nesconset, CDP	4,638	30	Rocky Point, CDP	5,108	41	Westhampton Beach Vil.	1,025	37
Central Islip, CDP	9,713	47	Halesite, CDP	991	22	New Suffolk, CDP	142	39	Ronkonkoma, CDP	6,053	39	Westhampton, CDP	1,252	35
Cold Spring Harbor, CDP	994	14	Hampton Bays, CDP	6,441	40	Nissequogue Village	572	28	Sag Harbor Village	1063	34	Wheatley Heights, CDP	1,499	43
Commack, CDP	11,578	23	Hauppauge, CDP	6,979	31	North Amityville, CDP	5,492	42	Sagaponack Village	151	38	Wyandanch, CDP	3,685	50
Copiaque, CDP	7,006	42	Head of the Harbor Village	459	14	North Babylon, CDP	5,858	39	Sayville, CDP	5,680	32	Yaphank, CDP	2,766	48
Coram, CDP	15,464	48	Holbrook, CDP	8,944	34	North Bay Shore, CDP	4,519	41	Selden, CDP	6,907	45			
Cutchogue, CDP	1,188	31	Holtville, CDP	6,368	40	North Bellport, CDP	3,129	54	Setauket, CDP	1,378	22			
Deer Park, CDP	8,863	34	Huntington Bay Village	731	16	North Great River, CDP	1,259	33	Shelter Island, CDP	802	31			
Dix Hills, CDP	7,786	19	Huntington, CDP	8,101	28	North Haven Village	422	29	Shelter Is. Heights, CDP	579	43			
East Farmingdale, CDP	1,945	46	Huntington Station, CDP	11,056	36	North Lindenhurst, CDP	3,684	39	Shinnecock Hills, CDP	858	32			

2025 Impact Report

42 

YouthBuild students successfully completed their GEDs with an additional 16 currently studying*.

Not all students come into YouthBuild needing a GED.

184 

Students have successfully graduated from YouthBuild since 2018 with an additional 20 currently enrolled in the program*.

169 

YouthBuild graduates have successfully been employed by 100 different companies with 13 gaining employment this year and 17 currently enrolled in higher education schools*.

*Since 2018

Together with our Mission United Partners, United Veterans Beacon House, Association for Mental Health and Wellness, Mental Health Association of Nassau County, and Pal-O-Mine Equestrian, and direct services.



180

people graduated from the Workforce Development Training Academy, including 30 women and 18 veterans.

Since its inception 350 graduates are now employed at 50 different companies across Long Island in green energy.



UNITED WAY
Long Island

Over
165
programs operate through our
31
Funded Community Partners
serving hundreds of thousands of
Long Islanders.



7 school districts and
18 community partner organizations serving thousands of students across Long Island received school supplies through our Stuff-A-Bus program.

Our dedicated seniors' programs, Safe at Home for Seniors and Older Adult Home Modification Program,

441
seniors served

41%
live alone



2000 families were helped by Project Warmth.



Including 1988 children, 704 seniors, and 58 veterans across 95 towns on Long Island.

100+ FAMILIES SERVED
 50-99 FAMILIES SERVED
 30-49 FAMILIES SERVED
 11-29 FAMILIES SERVED
 1-10 FAMILIES SERVED

15,311

clients are served by 30 different programs and 14 community health providers through the Ryan White Program.



82 Scholarships and Memorial Fund recipients received scholarships



from
25
different
universities.



189 families were helped through The Family Support Program, with 67 active families. 247 adults in the project have stable employment, and 183 families are now income stable.



2-1-1 Long Island Data Points



TOP REQUESTED CATEGORIES FOR ASSISTANCE



Housing & Shelter - 1,649
Food - 372
Utilities - 298
Healthcare - 300
Mental Health & Addictions - 107
Employment & Income - 1,045
Clothing - 131
Child Care - 30
Government & Legal - 684
Transportation Assistance - 123
Education - 32
Disaster - 12
Other - 1,398
Total requests - 6,181

Highest rates of requests for Housing & Shelter by ZIP Code

Rank	ZIP Code	Rank	ZIP Code
1	11713	6	11933
2	11958	7	11560
3	11798	8	11722
4	11509	9	11575
5	11550	10	11547



Program Stories



Armand's Journey to a Skilled Career

At 24, Armand joined United Way of Long Island's YouthBuild Long Island with a strong commitment to personal and professional growth. A natural leader with a candid and determined spirit, he quickly stood out in the Power Up program, earning certifications in Building Science Principles (BPI), Renewable Energy & Green Construction, OSHA, and CPR. Despite his achievements, he found himself at a crossroads after a brief stint as a scribe at an urgent care facility.

Through YouthBuild's support, Armand took the time to reflect on his career goals and recognized his passion for construction. With guidance from the YouthBuild team, he completed an additional OSHA certification and secured a part-time position with Plumbers Local Union #200. His commitment and work ethic quickly set him apart.

Armand's perseverance paid off when he was offered a full-time role as a First-Year Helper with the union. His journey from uncertainty to a structured, rewarding career in construction demonstrates the power of self-awareness, skill-building, and community support.

PROJECT WARMTH



As a hardworking mother of two and a homeowner, Nia took great pride in providing stability for her family. But when her oil burner broke, the financial strain quickly became overwhelming. The repair company recommended a full replacement, quoting far beyond her budget and an expense she simply couldn't afford. Without emergency funds, she did what she could, saving every extra dollar while struggling to keep up with her regular bills. The cost of replacing the burner set her back significantly, and with winter approaching, she faced the harsh reality of falling behind.

Determined to find a way forward, Nia turned to her sister for advice. Having received support from Project Warmth, her sister recommended reaching out to United Way of Long Island. Nia hesitated at first, unsure if help was available for someone like her, someone working hard but caught in an unexpected financial hardship. But when she called, she was met with compassion and action. United Way responded immediately, processing her request and ensuring her oil tank was filled within the week.

The relief was immediate. With her heating costs covered, Nia was able to catch up on other bills, preventing further financial strain on her household. She no longer had to worry about how she would keep her family warm. Now, she shares her story with others, encouraging those in need to seek support and reminding them that help is available.

"I work really hard for my family, but one small hiccup in life can leave you behind," Nia reflected. "There are companies out there that care for the middle class, and United Way is one of them."



The Power in Perseverance

As a senior in high school, Evelyn was determined to pursue higher education, even while working three jobs to save for college. Her parents had always emphasized the value of school, and Evelyn carried that belief with her. Though she hoped to attend a four-year university right away, she worried about the price tag and instead chose a different path. She would start at Nassau Community College with the goal of transferring later.

With the support of local scholarships, including the Cammy Belser Scholarship, Evelyn was able to focus on her studies while holding just one job. This stability paid off because she maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout her time at Nassau, where she also found inspiration from a professor who became a mentor and encouraged her to never stop learning. Evelyn soon transferred to Columbia University, where she continued to excel. She made the dean's list, joined and led student clubs such as Women and Computers, and graduated with a Bachelor's in Computer Science.

Today, Evelyn is a Software Engineer at Vertex Inc., having also interned at Amazon. She is the first in her family to graduate from college, and her success is shaping her into the role model she once sought. Motivated by the gender gap in technology, she hopes to inspire other young women to pursue careers in computer science without fear or hesitation. Looking ahead, she dreams of one day pursuing a PhD in the field and creating her own scholarship for girls in tech.

Evelyn's story shows the power of perseverance, mentorship, and opportunity. With the right support and her unwavering dedication, she has turned ambition into achievement and is now paying it forward by inspiring the next generation.



A Mother's Resilience and a Community's Support

Amanda, a single mother of two, faced the devastating challenge of eviction. Determined to keep her family safe and stable, she connected with Housing Help Inc. through United Way of Long Island's Family Support Project. With Nassau Suffolk Law Services' assistance in court, Housing Help enrolled Amanda into the program and began providing wraparound support, helping with school supplies for her children, assistance with utility bills, and most recently, critical rental assistance to prevent homelessness.

Amanda is now taking important steps toward independence. With ongoing guidance, she is applying for affordable housing lotteries, learning financial literacy skills, and working hard in her new job as a Medical Assistant at St. Charles Hospital. The ultimate goal is to help her secure a home she can sustain on her own, ensuring her children can remain in their school and continue to thrive.

In Amanda's own words:

"As a single mother, it is not always easy to keep moving forward, but with United Way's help through rental assistance, I was able to provide my family with stability and the reassurance that we would not lose our home. Their generosity has not only lifted a heavy burden from my shoulders but has also reminded me that kindness and community still exist in powerful ways."

Amanda's journey is a testament to resilience, and her gratitude shines through: "Because of United Way, my children and I can continue to focus on building a better future rather than living in fear of uncertainty. I will forever be grateful for the assistance and compassion they extended to us."

Her story reflects the heart of United Way's mission, providing stability today while building the foundation for a stronger tomorrow.



A New Sense of Direction

Alexander Klimenko, a U.S. Army Veteran (Sergeant), enrolled in the VetsBuild program as part of his transition back into civilian life. While visiting a Veterans Affairs office he came across a flyer about the program and decided to take a chance on a new opportunity. He completed the training with 100% attendance and earned a nationally recognized BPI Building Science Principles Certificate.

Thanks to the skills and confidence gained through VetsBuild, Alexander secured full-time employment with the United States Postal Service as an Expeditor/Truck Dispatcher, starting at \$28 per hour with benefits and an opportunity for growth. He also received a \$1,000 stipend from VetsBuild, which helped him manage housing costs and other essential expenses during his job search. Alexander credits the program with helping him refocus his career goals and develop a strong understanding of energy efficiency, solar and wind.

"VetsBuild helped me get back on my feet and into a stable job. It gave me a new sense of direction in my career, helped me focus on what I truly want, and laid out clear steps to keep growing. I now feel more confident in my skills and what I can do, both now and in the future. I've already recommended this course to fellow veterans and will continue to do so."

Alexander is a proud veteran with a service-connected disability and continues to advocate for VetsBuild as a resource for other veterans seeking a fresh start and long-term stability.



Helping a Hometown Hero

At 86 and 81 years old, Mr. and Mrs. Reinhardt faced a winter of hardship when their boiler stopped working. Living in a mobile home park and with limited resources, they sought help through the Department of Social Services, only to be denied assistance. Mr. Reinhardt, a proud veteran of the armed forces, and his wife endured months without heat as the cost of a new boiler was far out of reach.

That's when United Way of Long Island stepped in with community partners, Family Service League Beth and Alan Client Emergency Fund, and Cona Elder Law's Senior Dreams Come True initiative, worked tirelessly to make the replacement possible.

After a long and cold winter, a new boiler was finally installed. For the Reinhardts, this wasn't just about heat—it was about comfort, dignity, and knowing they are not alone. Thanks to the power of collaboration and compassion, the couple now enjoys a warm home once again.



Company Spotlights

Company Spotlight



SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, INC.



Suffolk Transportation Service, Inc. plays an essential role in supporting United Way of Long Island's mission, showing consistent dedication through employee giving, hands-on volunteerism, and active involvement in community programs like Stuff-A-Bus.

Their ongoing partnership has helped drive meaningful change, uplifting families, building stronger communities, and creating opportunities for Long Islanders.



Company Spotlight

nationalgrid



National Grid has been a steadfast partner of United Way of Long Island, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to the community through workplace giving campaigns, volunteer efforts, and program support.

Their generosity and dedication have helped advance key initiatives that empower families, strengthen neighborhoods, and create opportunities for a brighter future across Long Island.



Company Spotlight

FOUR LEAF Federal Credit Union



FourLeaf Federal Credit Union, dedication to strengthening the Long Island community by supporting initiatives that create lasting impact, is woven into the fabric of who they are. As a proud partner of United Way of Long Island for over 16 years, FourLeaf contributes to programs that provide vital resources for local families, students, and veterans. Through this commitment, the credit union helps ensure a brighter, more equitable future for all and has set the standard for what it means to show up in our community.





Events



More than 140 guests attended the Nassau-Suffolk HIV Health Services Planning Council's World AIDS Day gala on December 5. This event was hosted by United Way of Long Island, and the theme was "From Survivors to Advocates: Mobilizing Change, One Voice at a Time". This theme highlights the importance of community engagement as tool in ending the HIV epidemic and how individual acts of courage can inspire others to find their own voice and join the call for change. Most importantly, it stresses that while a lone voice can start a movement, lasting change only comes when that voice is joined by others to advocate for access to quality HIV care and services, an end to stigma, and a cure.

The event began with a welcome from Theresa Regnante, President and CEO of United Way of Long Island, followed by remarks from Dr. Gregson Pigott, Commissioner, Suffolk County Department of Health Services and overview of the theme by the committee Co-Chair. This was followed with an invocation and candlelight ceremony. The evening ended with dinner, dancing, raffles and a presentation of awards to four individuals in recognition of their efforts on health care advocacy, outreach and prevention, and the provision of care and support to those living with HIV. The 2025 award recipients are Nancy Duncan, Chair of the N-S HIV Health Services Planning Council, Rachel Robles, Mental Health Counselor at Nassau University Medical Center, Pam Biafora, Peer Adherence Worker at Sun River Health and Kerry Thomas, Executive Director at Thursday's Child. An 'In Memoriam' award was presented to the family of Juanita Carter Colson in recognition of her legacy of advocacy and service.

There are nearly 5,500 Long Islanders of all ages living with HIV/AIDS and approximately 170 new HIV cases each year. With the support of United Way of Long Island, the Nassau-Suffolk HIV Health Services Planning Council provides effective planning for Long Island and promotes the development of HIV/AIDS health services, personnel, and facilities which meet identified health needs in a cost-effective manner, reduce inefficiencies, and address the needs of uninsured and under-insured HIV infected individuals. For more information, visit: www.longislandpc.org



Support Long Island Veterans



UNITED WAY
Long Island



Proudly Serving Those Who Have Served

Team Mission United

As the biggest and boldest marathon in the world, the TCS New York City Marathon brings athletes from all 50 states and 153 different countries to the same 26.2-mile course.

For the ninth consecutive year, United Way of Long Island was selected as a TCS New York City Marathon Charity Partner. Since 2016, Team Mission United has raised more than \$245,000 in support of U.S. military veterans and their families on Long Island.



By supporting Team Mission United, you're helping to provide services and resources in career training, employment assistance and emergency financial aid to veterans and their families. The need for these services is particularly significant on Long Island as there are more than 80,000 veterans living in our communities.

**In 2025, Team Mission United raised the
largest amount for a NYC Marathon with over \$47,500
for Long Island Veterans and their Families**





Raises over \$275,000 for Charity at 29th Annual Gala Event

The Long Island Insurance Community (LIIC) continues to uphold its fundamental priority of supporting those in need through its annual gala, a cornerstone event showcasing the community's generosity and dedication.

Over 300 guests attended the 29th Annual Gala at Oheka Castle in Huntington, raising over \$275,000 to benefit United Way of Long Island, Pop.Earth, Little Saint Nick Foundation, The Long Island Coalition Against Bullying, and Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Greater New York Chapter. Since 1995, the LIIC has contributed more than \$7 million to local nonprofit organizations.

The Annual Gala honors industry and business leaders whose commitment to the community has significantly improved the quality of life for their neighbors. This year's distinguished honorees were Eric Nordquist, Executive Vice President and President of Small Commercial, Middle Market and National Property and Peter Wallick, Vice President Select Accounts and Bi Field Sales, Distribution and Marketing, both from Travelers.

Travelers was this year's Presenting Sponsor, with additional support from its local field office. Platinum Sponsor: Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP; Gold Sponsors: Hudson Valley Agency Alliance, and Risk Placement Services; Silver Sponsors: CNA, HUB International, Support Claim Services, and SterlingRisk.

The Long Island Insurance Community (LIIC) began in 1995 when a dozen LI insurance industry leaders came together to create a vehicle to give back to the community and those less fortunate. Since its inception, LIIC has raised more than \$7 million for local nonprofit organizations, including the United Way of Long Island.





UNITED WAY
Long Island

girlswhobuild

Inspiring the Next Generation



United Way of Long Island launched Girls Who Build on August 13th and 14th to spark curiosity and confidence in young girls while exposing them to career pathways in construction, clean energy, and engineering.

Over two days, 22 girls ages 15–17 took part in hands-on workshops, site tours, and interactive learning stations led by industry leaders. The program created opportunities for these girls to imagine futures in fields where women are by and large underrepresented.

Through partnerships with organizations like The Haugland Group, National Grid, Girls Scouts of Nassau, Girls Scouts of Suffolk, Girls Inc. Long Island, Orsted, PSEG Long Island, North Atlantic States Carpenters Council, Opportunities Long Island, WDI, Interplay Learning, Morrison Mentors and the National Society of Black Engineers, the girls engaged directly with role models who shared their personal journeys, answered questions, and talked about resources available to help them achieve their goals.



SUPPORTED BY:

HAUGLAND GROUP
nationalgrid

girls
inc.

of Long Island

girl scouts
of nassau county

girl scouts
of suffolk county

PSEG
LONG
ISLAND

Orsted

Opportunities
Long Island

WDI

Interplay
Learning

50

UNITED WAY OF LONG ISLAND CELEBRATES COMPASSION AND COMMUNITY IMPACT AT UNITED TOGETHER 60TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON



United Way of Long Island hosted its UNITED TOGETHER 60th Anniversary Luncheon, a celebration of compassion and community impact, on June 18 at The Crest Hollow Country Club. The event highlighted stories of individuals like Stephanie, representing the transformative power of community support.

At the heart of the event was a tribute to compassion, the kind of compassion that changes lives. It's seen in people like Stephanie, a proud U.S. Army Veteran and longtime Long Island resident, who turned to United Way during one of the most difficult chapters of her life.

Stephanie served her country from 1979 to 1981, stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado, and Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. Service runs deep in her family. Her father was an Army Captain, her sister also served, and her son later joined the Air Force. Yet when she returned to civilian life in the early '80s, she found little support for veterans. "There was no help when we were discharged, no financial, health, or career assistance," she recalled. "We were on our own."

For the past 25 years, she has worked as a school bus driver, providing stability for her family and dreaming of retirement alongside her husband. But those plans were tragically interrupted when her husband was diagnosed with blood and lung cancer. The illness strained their finances, and two years later, she lost him. "It's been a financial struggle since his death," she shared. "I still have a mortgage and utility bills to pay on my own. The dream of retirement is gone."

This past winter, with rising energy costs and no one to lean on, Stephanie turned to United Way of Long Island for help. Through Project Warmth, she received emergency home energy assistance to keep the heat on in her home. "It made such a difference to know someone was there for me," she said. "I was feeling so alone."

She also received a Safe-at-Home Kit, which included an air purifier, masks, sanitizer, and COVID-19 safety resources, small but essential tools to help her stay healthy while living independently. A Stop & Shop gift card helped ease the burden of rising grocery prices, and she is currently exploring United Way's Older Adult Home Modification Program to add safety upgrades to her home, allowing her to age in place with dignity.

Stephanie's resilience is a reminder of why United Way of Long Island exists; to serve those who have served us, and to uplift those navigating hardship with quiet strength. "I work hard. And I'm proud of my service," she said. "Years ago, Veterans were not appreciated. Now, when people see my Army cap and thank me, it reminds me I'm not invisible."

The luncheon, attended by over 750 guests, raised \$807,000 to support United Way of Long Island's mission, nearly the most ever raised by the event. This milestone underscores the generosity and commitment of donors, partners, sponsors, and volunteers whose collective efforts drive positive change across Long Island.

"Compassion is the fuel that ignites our soul. We are immensely grateful to our Labor Champion, 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East; our Anthony J. Stupore Volunteer Champion, Lynda Hullstrung of Deloitte & Touche LLP; and our Corporate Champion, MagnaCare," said Theresa Regnante, president and CEO of United Way of Long Island. "Their dedication exemplifies the spirit of service that guides our mission to build a stronger, more compassionate Long Island."

Supporters and community members' unwavering support continues to make a profound difference. Together, United Way celebrated 60 years of impactful service and looks forward to the next 60, fostering a more resilient and connected Long Island.



UNITED TOGETHER Celebration leading Sponsors include:
Presenting Sponsor Fourleaf Federal Credit Union, **Excellence in Education Sponsor** Suffolk Transportation Service, Inc., **Premier Veterans Sponsor** Sands New York, **Workforce Investment Sponsor** Haugland Group LLC, **Health & Wellness Innovators Sponsor** MagnaCare, **Diamond Sponsor** National Grid, **Platinum Sponsors** Deloitte, Flushing Bank and USI. **Gold Sponsors** PSEG Long Island, Leal Peterbilt of NYC LLC, Sunrise Power Solutions, and 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East. **Energy Efficiency Sponsor** Bird Bus Sales. **Home Energy Sponsor** Petro Home Services. **Young Professionals Health Advocate** Nestle Health Science. **Silver Sponsors** Bank of America, EMCOR Services NY/NJ, LNC Holding Corp., Nawrocki Smith, LLP, Northwell Health, Ruskin Moscou Faltischek, P.C., Main Street Financial Group, Newsday, Tristate Capital Bank, Thomas N. Gilmartin, President, New York City/Long Island, UFCW Local 1500, and UOTech Co. **Bronze Sponsors** Albanese Organization, Brookhaven National Laboratory/Brookhaven Science Associates, Chase, Esquire Bank, First Long Island Investors, LLC, Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc., Fusion Architecture PLLC, Thomas N. Gilmartin and Liza Gilmartin, Green Metro Restoration, IAM Federal Credit Union, IBEW Local 1049, Island Wide Remodeling, KPMG LLP, Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW, Local 25 I.B.E.W. and the L.I. Chapter, N.E.C.A., Long Island Contractors Association, Long Island Federation of Labor AFL-CIO, MSC Industrial Supply Co., Nice Bus / Transdev, M&T Bank, Nesco Bus Maintenance, Inc., Philadelphia Insurance Companies, Premier Labor Benefits LLC, Stop and Shop, Webster Bank, Transitional Services of New York - TSLI-HHB, TRC, and Verint Systems Inc.

For those interested in becoming a Compassion Champion and joining our mission, visit www.unitedwayli.org/LIcompassionfund.





FOUR⁸⁸ LEAF

Federal Credit Union



The FourLeaf Air Show was a huge success!

Thank you FourLeaf Federal Credit Union, our volunteers, and our veterans for reminding Long Islanders what Memorial Day Weekend is all about.



United Way 
United Way of Long Island

Nassau/Suffolk HIV Health Services Planning Council 
Planning. Access. Quality.

MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY

The Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) program under Ryan White aims to improve the nutritional status of those living with HIV. The program focuses on managing one's health through eating and lifestyle.



On Friday, March 28, 2025, the Nassau-Suffolk HIV Health Services Planning Council collaborated with United Way of Long Island, Cornell Cooperative Extension and AIDS Healthcare Foundation to host a Medical Nutrition Therapy Conference for people living with HIV. The conference's goal was to increase individuals' knowledge about medical nutrition therapy and how it can help manage chronic conditions and improve health. The day included an introduction to Ryan White Part A funded Medical Nutrition Therapy programs, a panel of speakers who spoke about how Medical Nutrition Therapy helped them, a recipe demonstration and food sampling, a presentation on strengthening the immune system through plant-based eating, chair yoga, Diabetes MyPlate Bingo and a discussion on weight loss drugs. A healthy lunch was served and every participant left with a food scale, recipe books, resources, measuring cups and spoons, and both a Diabetic and a non-diabetic My Plate. At the conclusion of the conference, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive with 100% of participants saying that their knowledge about how nutrition can help manage medical conditions increased.





Programs



Since 1995, Project Warmth has made a difference in the lives of 38,000 families, providing more than just heat. United Way is provided hope. Behind every number is a unique story of resilience and community support. Meet some of the families whose lives have been touched by Project Warmth. Through their photos and words, discover how warmth has meant safety, comfort, and a brighter future.

Project Warmth is a safety net for financially struggling individuals and families who are unable to pay their energy bill. Many working families are not earning enough money to maintain self-sufficiency and seniors on fixed incomes have a hard time making ends meet. If a crisis strikes any of these households, they may be forced into making financial compromises and trade-offs that could be detrimental or even life-threatening.



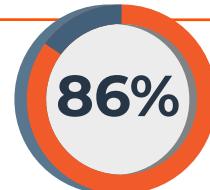
"As a mother of three, I did everything I could to keep the heat on. When I ran out of options, Project Warmth stepped in and gave my family the help we needed."

"I'm a senior living alone on a fixed income, and last winter was especially tough. The support I received from Project Warmth made all the difference."

"Project Warmth helped my family during a very difficult time and gave us the breathing room we needed to get back on track."

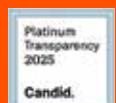


If you or someone you know needs energy assistance, please contact 2-1-1 or visit 211LongIsland.org

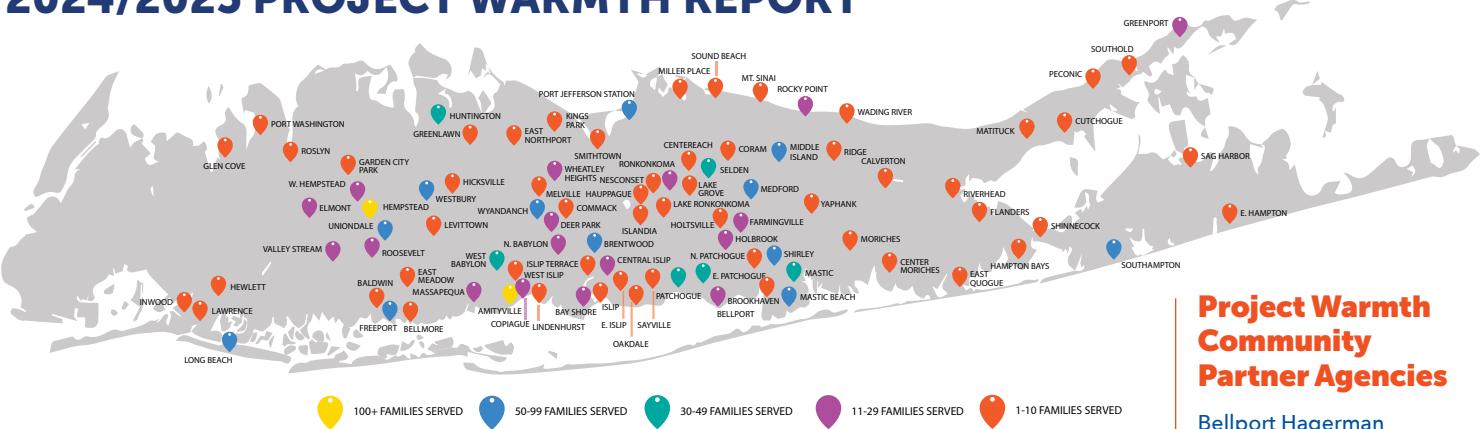


86% of every dollar goes to those in need.

Project Warmth depends on the generosity of our community. Together, we can help our most vulnerable neighbors. Give to Project Warmth today www.unitedwayli.org/givepw

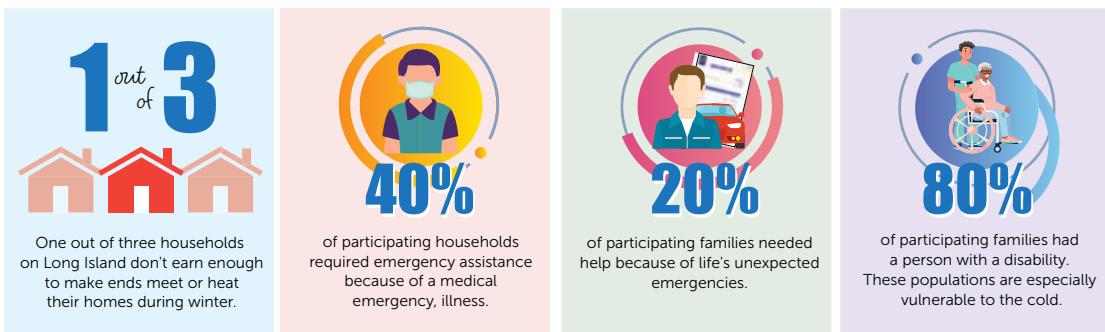


2024/2025 PROJECT WARMTH REPORT



Project Warmth Community Partner Agencies

- Bellport Hagerman
- E. Patchogue Alliance
- Catholic Charities Parish Outreach Offices
- Choice for All
- Colonial Youth and Family Services
- Community Action of Southold Town (CAST)
- Community Chest South Shore
- Community Counseling Too Outreach
- Dept. of Human Services Resource Center (Amityville)
- EAC Network
- Family Service League
- Hempstead Works
- Hispanic Brotherhood
- Long Island Council of Churches
- Margert Community Corp.
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Suffolk County Office of the Aging
- Town of Huntington Human Services Dept.
- Town of Southampton
- Wyandanch Community Resource Center



Families Served



Children Impacted



Seniors Impacted



Veterans Impacted

Thank You to All Our Supporters

Signature Supporters



Sustaining Supporters*

BOMA Long Island • Braemar Shipbroking • Carbo Industries • Clifford & Randi Lane Foundation • Esquire Bank • Eversource • Hagedorn Fund (NY Comm. Trust) • Hart Home Comfort • Island Outreach Foundation • Island Transportation • LIPA • M&T Bank • New York State Energy Coalition • PETRO • Stanley and Wendy Sloane Foundation • Swezey Fuel • Treiber Family Fund • Vane Line Bunkering

Media Supporters: Newsday • Long Island Business News • Long Island Press • * Supporters of \$2,500 and up.

Project Warmth Committee Members

- Gene Bernstein
Northville Industries
- Robert DeMarinis
Community Advocate
- Dennis Galvam
Eversource
- Ed Gomez
Petro
- Christopher Hahn
PSEG Long Island
- Cliff Hochhauser
Carbo Industries
- Rocco Lacertosa
NYS Energy Coalition
- Tom Locascio
Long Island Power Authority
- Brian Sapp
National Grid
- Gary Zanazzi
Swezey Fuel

Thank You to All the Companies That Kept the Heat on Last Winter

Alcus Fuel Oil & Sons • All Island Fuel • All Island Propane • Allyn Oil • At Your Service • Atomic Heating
Bay Fuel Company • Beato Fuel • Ben's Oil • Blue Flame Fuel • Burt's Reliable • Calderon Fuel • CJ Fuel
Consolidated Fuel at St. James • Cookes • Danisi Energy • Dart Fuel • Devoe Fuel • Discount Fuel • East End Fuel
• Eastern Fuel • Ecua Fuel • Family Fuel • Freeport Electric • Genesis Fuel • Great White Propane
Greenport Utilities • Grissom Fuel • Hart Home Comfort • Hendrickson Fuel • Heras Fuel • Hirsch Fuel • Home
Fuel • JC Discount Fuel • JM & Sons Fuel • John's Fuel • L&N Fuel • Lewisy Fuel • Long Island Ice & Fuel
Marran Oil • Meenan • MNS Fuel • National Grid • OSI Comfort • Oswego • OVO Oil • Paraco Citizens
Paraco Gas • Peronic Energy • Pembroke Fuel • Perillo Bros • Petro • ProFlame • Propane Depot • PSEG LI
Reutershan Firewood • Rosales Oil Company • Sage Oil • Santander Bank • Shale Energy • Skaggs Walsh
Slomin's • SS Fuel • State Utilities • Steve's East End Fuel • Suburban Propane • Swezey Fuel • Troiano Fuel
URT Corn • Village of Greenport • Village of Rockville Centre • WC ESP Fuel • Wise Choice



POWERUP!

GREEN BUILDING & RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGY

PowerUp! was in full swing in 2025 with 5 classes in English and 3 in Spanish. The 2026 sessions began in January.





UNITED WAY
Long Island

OLDER ADULT HOME MODIFICATION PROGRAM



Does Your Home Need Basic Modifications?

FREE HOME MODIFICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE



United Way may be able to
help seniors remain safe, healthy
and independent in their homes and
communities for as long as possible.

Offering qualified seniors:

- Home safety adjustments
- Small home repairs
- Healthy Homes Evaluations
- Accessibility modifications
- Falling hazard modifications

Eligibility requirements* include:

(Apply Online):

- 62 years or older
- Own/Rent your home or apartment
- Proof of annual income

For more
information or to
find out if you qualify
contact Isabelle
at 631.940.3736
or online at:
[unitedwayli.org/
OAHM](http://unitedwayli.org/OAHM)

You qualify
if your:

Family of 1 makes less than \$78,500
Family of 2 makes less than \$89,750
Family of 3 makes less than \$100,950

Occupational Therapy Consult included

*For a full list of all eligibility requirements
visit: www.unitedwayli.org/OAHM

If you or someone you know needs help Call 2-1-1 or outside Nassau and Suffolk Counties 1-888-774-7633
or visit 211longisland.org. The Call Center is open 24/7.



DREAMS

DETERMINATION
REALIZATION
ENRICHMENT
ACADEMICS
MISSION
SERVICE

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Since its inception in 2002, United Way of Long Island has awarded scholarships and/or grants, in the areas of Academics & Enrichment, totaling more than \$1,000,000. The D.R.E.A.M.S. For Youth Advisory Board, comprised of 7th graders to college students, works under the guidance of United Way staff to make award decisions. The Dreams R Us Foundation provides support for D.R.E.A.M.S. For Youth scholarships.

ACADEMIC AWARDS - Assists with costs associated with educational goals at a college, university, private or vocational school. Applicants must demonstrate financial need. Recipients receive between \$1,000 through \$3,000.



Scholarship applications are open for the 2025 academic year

For more information or to download an application visit:

unitedwayli.org/scholarships

For additional information contact Bienna Depena at 631.940.3719



UNITED WAY
Long Island

DREAMS FOR YOUTH
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



Stuff-A-Bus

The Success of Our Students... Starts With YOU!



Now in its 17th year, United Way of Long Island's annual Stuff-A-Bus program provides elementary school students with new school supplies, preparing them for their academic studies, building their self-esteem, and setting them up for success.

This year we raised over \$23,000 in Sponsorships and over \$30,000 in In-Kind school supplies. United Way is partnering once again with Suffolk Transportation Service, Inc. to deliver the supplies generously donated by companies, organizations, and individuals across Long Island.



Thanks To Our Lead Supporters



SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, INC.



ESQUIRE
BANK
Succeed Boldly

T **TEACHERS**
federal credit union
Smart For All

Supporters include:

ALBA Wheels UP • Alure Home Solutions • Amneal Pharmaceuticals • Andersen Tax LLC • Ariola Contracting
 Athena - Tanger (Deer Park) • BDO • BOSS Facility Services • The Boxery • Catholic Health Home Care/Good Shepherd Hospice
 ClearVision • Cliffco Mortgage Bankers • Coach • CohnReznick • Diane Dunn • DriMark • Evelyn Mason-Guerra
 Family Wealth Management • Gabriel Caamal • H2M Architects & Engineers • Helen Lung • Hewlett Woodmere Library
 Hicksville Public Library • Howie's Heart, Inc. • IBEW 1049 • Kate Spade • Ketewamolte • Kristine Calzadilla
 Laufer, LLP • Leviton Manufacturing • Linda Marshall • Lynn Riordan • Mackoul & Associates, Inc.
 Makers Nutrition, LLC • Mandi Peat • Marotta MD • Mateer Orthodontics • Merchants Insurance Group • MSC Industrial Supply
 Narda - MITEQ • Newsday • NICE Bus • Nicole Marinello • North Bellmore Girl Scout Troop 914
 North Shore University Hospital - Social Work Dept. • Oerlikon - METCO • Old Navy • Oliver, Inc.
 Orangetheory Fitness • RAS Boriskin Law Group • Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits • Spartan Surfaces, Inc.
 St. Francis Hospital • Stillwater Insurance Group • Target - Bay Shore • Teacher's Federal Credit Union • TTM Technologies
 Utica National Insurance Group • United Way of Long Island's - Young Professionals Network • Veritiv • Zebra Technologies





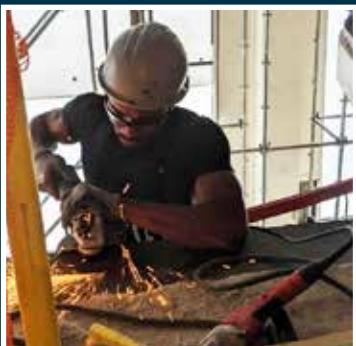
**NEXT
YOUTHBUILD
COHORT STARTS
IN FEBRUARY**



Your Future Starts Here!

Are You...

- **18 to 24**
- **A Resident of the Village of Hempstead or Wyandanch**
- **In need of a GED/High School Equivalency Diploma**
- **Interested in training programs that pay you to learn the job**
- **In need of a career**



If so, Your Career Path is Waiting in:

- **Healthcare**
- **Renewable Energy**
- **Construction**



Call: 631.972.5621 or 631.940.6580
Visit www.unitedwayli.org/youthbuildli

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. YouthBuild Long Island is supported by the U.S. Department of Labor- Employment and Training Administration. A total of \$1,410,083 (80%) of the program is financed with federal funds and \$352,521 (20%), is funded by other sources.



YOUTHBUILD UPDATE

- YouthBuild moved into their new space
- YouthBuild Global came to take pictures of YBLI
- Mental Toughness was held in July to begin serving young people in Hempstead.
- CPR Training
- In preparation for construction modules participants built and painted bird houses.
- Bird Houses
- Paul Fleishman conducted a Public Speaking Workshop for participants.
- Participants began getting fitted for work attire at Career Couture.





UNITED WAY
Long Island



Homes and
Community Renewal

ACCESS TO HOME FOR HEROES PROGRAM



United Way of Long Island is proud to offer a new initiative that honors the service of our nation's veterans. The Access to Home for Heroes/Veterans Program provides financial assistance to make accessibility modifications to the primary residences of veterans with disabilities. These modifications empower veterans to live safely, independently and comfortably in their homes.

Examples of Eligible Modifications Include:

- Wheelchair ramps, stair glides, and handrails
- Roll-in showers with grab bars and handheld showers
- Widened doorways
- Non-skid flooring and accessible appliances
- Easy-to-reach kitchen workspaces and storage
- Raised electrical outlets and lowered light switches
- Relocation of bedroom or bathroom to first floor

Eligibility:

- Veteran status with documentation
- Substantial physical limitation due to disability (service-related, age-related, or health-related)
- Must be a primary residence (homeowner or renter) in Suffolk County
- Household income

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6
Maximum Annual Income (@,80% AMI)	\$109,200	\$124,800	\$140,400	\$155,880	\$168,360	\$180,840

*Income not to exceed 120 percent of area median income.



For more information: Maya Erayla, 631.940.3744 • maya@unitedwayli.org



IMPROVING HEALTH STARTS AT HOME

If you or someone in your household has Medicaid, you may qualify for free home repairs through the Medicaid 1115 Waiver program.

This program helps improve your health and safety by fixing problems in your home like:

- Mold or pest issues
- Poor ventilation or insulation
- Unsafe stairs, floors, or railings
- Indoor air quality/asthma concerns
- Slip and fall hazards



What's Covered?

You may receive up to \$10,000 in home repairs focused on health and safety.

More Than Just Repairs

Through this program, United Way of Long Island can also connect you to other services at no cost to you, including:

- Rental assistance
- Food and nutrition assistance
- Non-emergency medical transportation
- Utility support

Who Qualifies?

- You must have active Medicaid
- Your home must have conditions that impact your health and safety
- Both renters and homeowners may be eligible

Get started today to see if you qualify or to refer someone:
Contact Isabelle at idesilier@unitedwayli.org or 631.940.3736

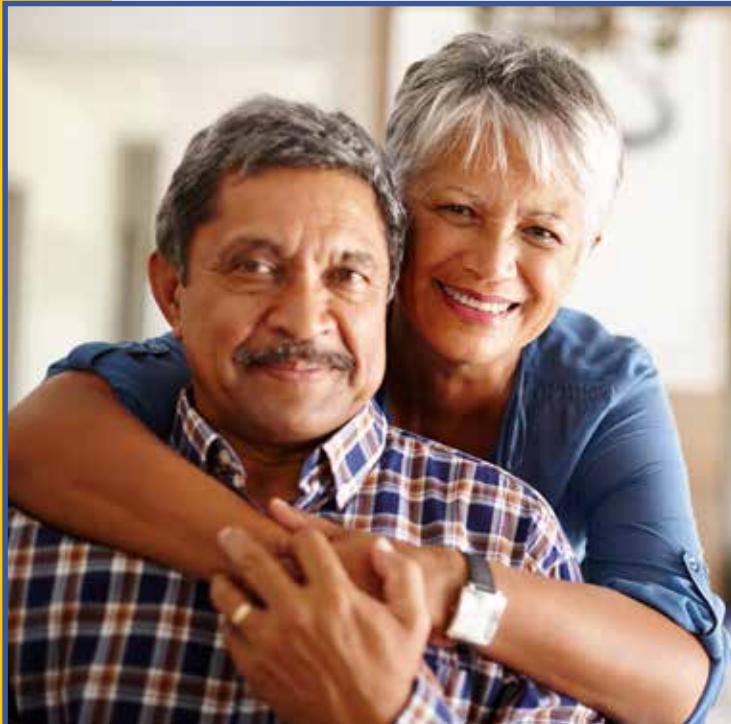


UNITED WAY
Long Island



**Safe
at Home**
for Seniors

Are you 62 or older living in the town of Brookhaven or Islip?



United Way of Long Island and the Town of Brookhaven and Town of Islip have partnered to help seniors stay healthy & safe in the comfort of their homes by providing health & safety supplies.

- Want to keep your home safe & healthy this flu and Covid season?
- Would FREE supplies like disinfectants and air purifiers help you?

We Can Help, contact us for assistance

RECEIVE FREE

Groceries • Gift Cards • Digital Thermometers
Pulse Oximeter • Fever Reducers • Disinfecting Supplies
Household Supplies

To request help or for more information contact

**Fidelia Tobar
Community Impact Administrative Assistant**

631.940.3740 • FTobar@unitedwayli.org
www.unitedwayli.org

2-1-1

Get Connected. Get Help.™

211 Long Island is a free, non-emergency information service that connects Long Island residents to health and human resources, in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, they may need on a daily basis or during a disaster. Dial 2-1-1, or outside of Nassau and Suffolk Counties 1-888-774-7633 and visit 211longisland.org



Engagement Activities



Women United

This year marked the launch of Women United, and thanks to you, it has been nothing short of extraordinary. Together, we've built a powerful philanthropic community dedicated to advancing causes that impact women, girls, and families across Long Island. From supporting safe shelters and domestic violence programs to empowering girls in STEAM and providing care kits for mothers in need, Women United creates real, lasting change.

Highlights of 2025:

- Launch of Women United in October (Currently 55 active members)
- Membership Growth: Our community has tripled in size since our first event
- Volunteer Impact: At our December event, 50 members assembled 100 care kits for women living in shelters, supporting Bethany House and The Retreat LI.



Young Professionals Network



United Way of Long Island's Young Professionals Network (YPN) hosted its highly anticipated Summer Social on August 7 at Blue Point Brewery, bringing together over 200 attendees for an evening of networking, entertainment, and community impact. The event successfully raised more than \$20,000 and collected several boxes of school supplies to benefit United Way's Stuff-A-Bus initiative, which provides backpacks and essential school supplies to elementary students across Long Island, ensuring they have the confidence they need to succeed.

Now in its 18th year, Stuff-A-Bus continues to ensure that children from underserved communities walk into the classroom prepared to learn and succeed. The funds raised from the Summer Social will directly support the purchase of supplies for the upcoming school year.

Hannah McCarthy, Assistant Principal at Laurel Park Elementary School in Brentwood, top left, shared:

"The donations we've received through the Stuff-a-Bus initiative have made a profound impact on our school community. Each year, our teachers share supply lists with families, but we know that many students arrive with only a few items or sometimes none at all. Thanks to these donations, our staff can confidently ensure that every child has the tools they need to succeed from day one."

One moment that stands out in her memory involves a student living in a shelter who arrived at school carrying her supplies in her arms. When Hannah learned the child had lost her backpack and her family couldn't replace it, the school was able to provide a brand-new one and in her favorite color.

The Summer Social was made possible thanks to the dedication of the YPN Co-Chairs: Justin Merk, FourLeaf Federal Credit Union; Lauren Grasso, Ruskin Moscou Faltischek P.C.; Brendan Bateman, Flushing Bank; the YPN committee; and the generosity of its sponsors. Attendees enjoyed craft brews, live entertainment, raffles, and meaningful opportunities to connect with fellow young professionals passionate about making a difference in their community.



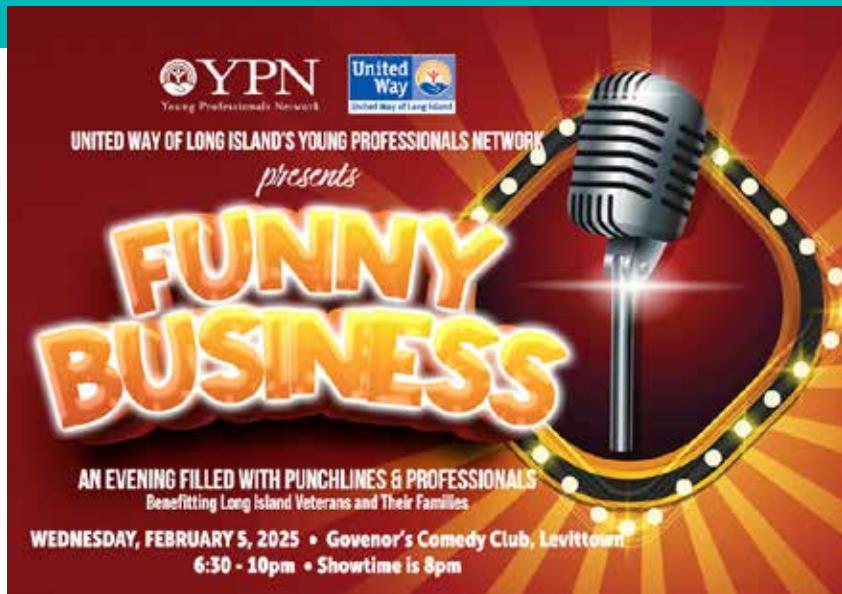


Event Sponsors

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Borg Insurance Agency & Associates • G-Rock Handcovers Inc.
SK Pool Care

For more information about
United Way of Long Island's Young Professionals Network
and other initiatives, visit www.unitedwayli.org.





225 Supporters helped us raise \$7,500 for Long Island Veterans

"I couldn't be prouder, and I know many people were thrilled that evening to support the veteran community."

Chelsea De Leon



The United Way of Long Island brings people together to create a stronger Long Island. The Young Professionals Network (YPN) is working hard to raise funds and awareness to support veterans across Long Island through Mission United. Its "Funny Business" Comedy Show event on February 5th was the latest success, bringing over 225 enthusiastic supporters representing over 90 organizations across Long Island for a great cause.

United Way's Mission United provides support to veterans and their families in an effort to create financial stability, training for careers in construction, and mental health support for service members. Theresa A. Regnante, President & CEO of United Way of Long Island, emphasized the

importance of community support for veterans, stating, "It is inspiring to see young professionals step up and make a real difference. Their efforts in organizing this event demonstrate the power of collective action in helping those who have served our country. The success of Funny Business will directly benefit veterans and their families."

The Young Professional Network is a dynamic group of rising leaders that are deeply passionate about supporting such a critical issue. "I have both active and retired service members in my life, and I've seen firsthand their courage, dedication, and the challenges they face," said Chelsea De Leon, Bethpage Federal Credit Union and YPN Committee Member.



Media

Broadcast Media

11.6.2025



FOX5

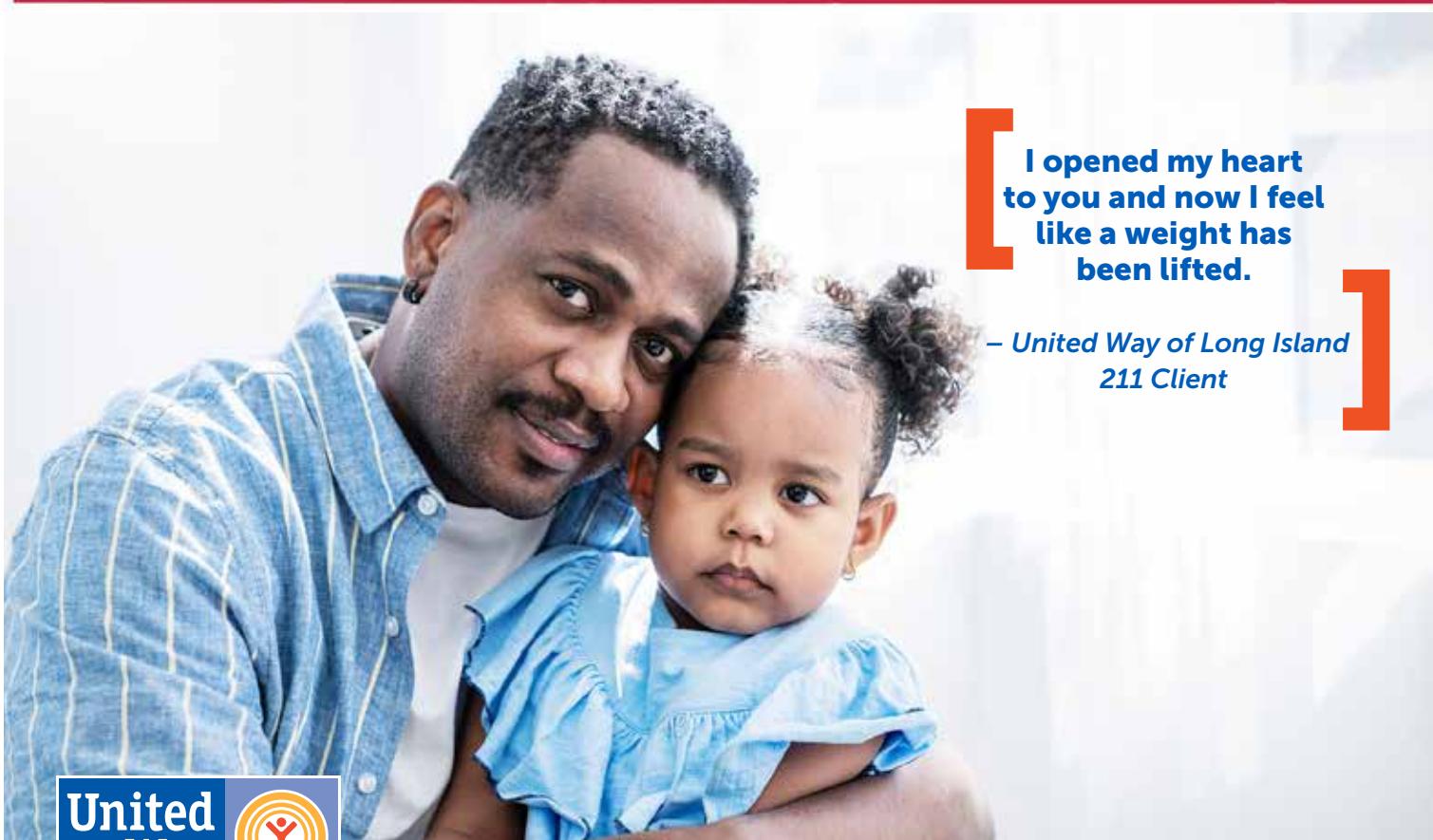
LONG ISLANDERS WAITING FOR HELP WITH HEATING COSTS

5:14 63°

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5kIWtr9WaAI&t=2s>

November 2025





I opened my heart
to you and now I feel
like a weight has
been lifted.

— United Way of Long Island
211 Client



United Way of Long Island



United Way of Long Island's "211 Long Island" service connects Long Islanders in need of assistance with the programs and services they need.

2-1-1

Get Connected. Get Help.™

Just dial 2-1-1 or visit 211longisland.org.
Outside of Nassau and Suffolk Counties,
dial 888-774-7633.

Connecting You... When You Need Us Most

When you find yourself struggling, the last thing you want to do is dig through a mountain of resources to get the help you need.

United Way of Long Island's 2-1-1 is the 24/7 go-to resource for information, assistance, and referrals to local services as quickly as possible.

Every day, we connect people to resources in the communities where they live. **Call, text, click, connect!**

United Way's 211 Call Center is a 24/7/365 non-emergency information resource, helping Long Islanders with free, comprehensive connections to over 10,000 essential services. For more information visit **211LongIsland.org** or call **2-1-1 or text 898-211**.



Creating a New Path

Armand joined YouthBuild in March of 2023 demonstrating a strong commitment to personal growth and professional development.

Through YouthBuild, Armand honed essential life skills such as resilience, effective communication, and critical thinking. He also excelled in the PowerUp! program quickly earning his Building Science Principles certification from BPI, along with his Renewable Energy & Green Construction, and OSHA certifications. He now works for Plumbers Local Union 200 as a first-year helper.

At YouthBuild, women and men ages 16-24 work toward their GED while learning essential job skills. The program currently serves the Village of Hempstead, and Wyandanch communities.

For more information:
www.unitedwayli.org/youthbuildli



2.1.1

Get Connected. Get Help.™

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YouthBuild Long Island is supported in part by U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bank of America and Bethpage Federal Credit Union



A17



United Way of Long Island

211 is a non-emergency call center 24/7/365 days of the year for households at or below ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) thresholds. It is the most efficient and convenient way for ALICE to find help with any needs among the day-to-day balancing of job, family, and financial obligations.

2-1-1

Get Connected. Get Help.™

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Staying Safe in My Home

Peter, a Navy veteran, worked for Local 25 for 50 years. As the years went by and as Peter aged, he realized his home had its fair share of potential safety concerns. After being introduced to United Way of Long Island's Older Adult Home Modification Program, Peter received a new front porch railing, smoke alarms, bathroom and tub grab bars, as well as a ventilation fan.

"As a retired tradesman, I appreciated how all the work was performed in a professional manner with a very satisfying result," said Peter. "Bravo and thank you."

The Older Adult Home Modification Program is open to seniors 62 or older. For more information and eligibility requirements please visit www.unitedwayli.org/OAHM

The Older Adult Home Modification Program is supported in part by The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation.



APRIL IS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH AND WE ARE CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A11



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FourLeaf Federal Credit Union

Aaron Choo
National Grid

Alexander G. Bateman, Jr.
Ruskin Moscou Faltischek P.C.

David L. Calone
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Paul Fleishman
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Bernadette Kasnicki
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Robert Andrew Wild
*Director Emeritus
Community Volunteer*

Meet the heart of our mission: our dedicated Volunteer Board of Directors. Committed leaders from diverse backgrounds, they bring passion and expertise to drive our initiatives forward, ensuring every action impacts our Long Island community. Their unwavering dedication is the cornerstone of our success. Thank you, to our Board Members, for your exceptional service and commitment to making a difference.

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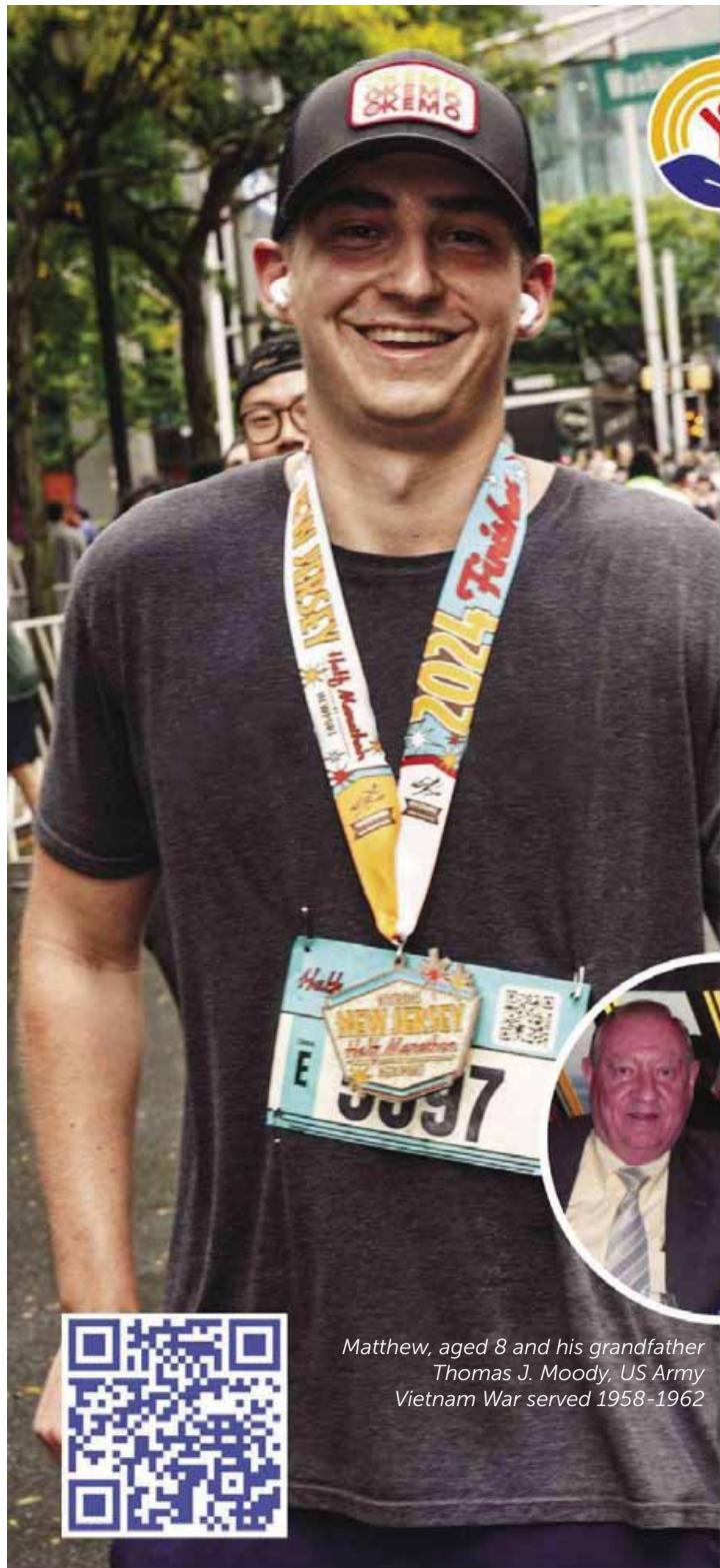
Thérèse C. Vobis
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Michelle Zettergren
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UNITED WAY
Long Island

HONORING OUR HEROES

For the eighth consecutive year a team of dedicated volunteers are training hard and raising funds as part of United Way's Team Mission United. Each of them will be running the 26.2 miles of the TCS New York City Marathon in honor of the more than 80,000 veterans that call Long Island home.

Mission United provides wraparound support for veterans and their families including career training, financial aid and mental health support. Services are provided through United Way's signature programs, including Vetsbuild, and in collaboration with our community partners.

For team members like Matthew, a Long Island native, being a part of this team is about much more than crossing the finish line.



"I'm honored to run for Mission United because it's an opportunity to support veterans on Long Island. My late grandfather served in the United States Army, and I want to pay tribute to his legacy by helping those who have selflessly dedicated their lives to our country. It truly means a lot to me to run for a cause that uplifts those who have served our nation."



Matthew, aged 8 and his grandfather
Thomas J. Moody, US Army
Vietnam War served 1958-1962

Mission United Partners: Mental Health Association of Nassau County, Pal-o-Mine Equestrian, United Veterans Beacon House, and Association for Mental Health and Wellness

To support Team Mission United, use the QR Code or visit: www.unitedwayli.org/teammissionunited

211
Veterans and military families in need of assistance can access veteran support services and resources through 211 Long Island - a free, non-emergency information service that connects Long Island residents to health and human resources, in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, they may need on a daily basis or during a disaster.





These students are filled with potential- a bus load in fact.



unitedwayli.org/stuffabus

211 Long Island connects you to local health and human services agencies when you need help.



STUFF-A-BUS
PREPARING KIDS FOR
SCHOOL SINCE 2009



Get Connected. Get Help.™

Dial 2-1-1, or outside of Nassau and Suffolk Counties 1-888-774-7633 and visit 211longisland.org



Families across Long Island struggle to provide their children with the supplies they need to start the school year. For 17 years United Way of Long Island's Stuff-A-Bus program has been ensuring students have the tools they need to walk into the classroom with confidence.

Together we can reach our goal of serving 5,000 children this back-to-school season. Sending the message that says, "you matter, and you're ready to learn."

To donate to the Stuff-A-Bus program contact United Way at 631.940.3734 or visit www.unitedwayli.org/stuffabus.

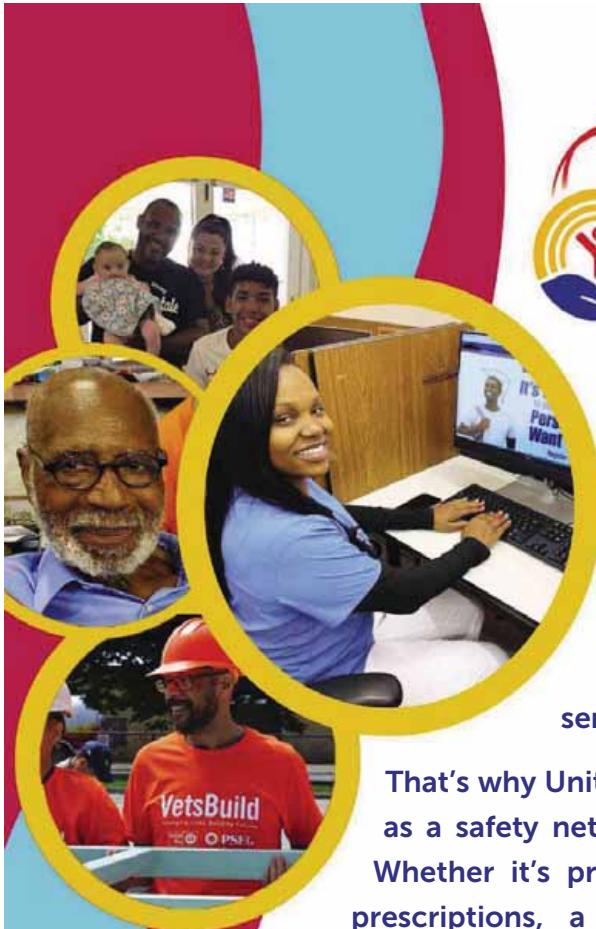
Support Stuff-A-Bus Today!

Special Thanks to our
Signature Supporter

Special Thanks to our Lead Supporter



Students at Loretta Park Elementary School, Brentwood, NY



Imagine working two jobs and still being one bill away from losing everything, or being a senior forced to choose between medication and rent. For 1 in 3 Long Island families, that's a reality. They are our neighbors: the grocery store cashier, the school bus driver, the home health aide or the veteran who served our country.

That's why United Way of Long Island created The Compassion Fund as a safety net providing help when there's nowhere else to turn. Whether it's providing diapers and formula or covering lifesaving prescriptions, a scholarship for higher education or workforce training, installing grab bars for seniors or delivering heating oil in the dead of winter, the fund brings comfort, safety, and dignity in times of crisis.

Join us in Building a More Compassionate Community



unitedwayli.org/LICompassionFund

211 Long Island connects you to local health and human services agencies when you need help. Dial 2-1-1, or outside of Nassau and Suffolk Counties 1-888-774-7633 and visit 211longisland.org





Homes and
Community Renewal



For more information: Isabelle Desilier
631.940.3736 • IDesilier@unitedwayli.org

ACCESS TO HOME FOR HEROES

United Way of Long Island is proud to offer a new initiative that honors the service of our nation's veterans. The Access to Home for Heroes/Veterans Program provides financial assistance to make accessibility modifications to the primary residences of veterans with disabilities. These modifications empower veterans to live safely, independently and comfortably in their homes.

Examples of Eligible Modifications Include:

- Wheelchair ramps, stair glides, and handrails
- Roll-in showers with grab bars and handheld showers
- Widened doorways
- Non-skid flooring and accessible appliances
- Easy-to-reach kitchen, workspaces and storage
- Raised electrical outlets and lowered light switches
- Relocation of bedroom or bathroom to first floor

Eligibility:

- Veteran status with documentation
- Substantial physical limitation due to disability (service-related, age-related, or health-related)
- Must be a primary residence (homeowner or renter) in Suffolk County

Income Eligibility Guidelines:

Your income cannot exceed the following based upon your household size.

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6
Maximum Annual Income @ 120% AMI	\$136,080	\$155,520	\$174,960	\$194,400	\$210,000	\$225,600



Veterans and military families in need of assistance can access veteran support services and resources through 211 Long Island - a free, non-emergency information service that connects Long Island residents to health and human resources, in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, they may need on a daily basis or during a disaster.





2-1-1

Get Connected. Get Help.



UNITED WAY
Long Island



As we honor those who served our country this month, United Way of Long Island stands by our nation's heroes, helping them regain their strength and rebuild their lives. We support those in our community like Stacy, an Army Combat Medic Veteran who developed strong leadership skills, a dedicated work ethic, and the ability to thrive as a team player while serving in the military. Today, She is a mental health professional, community volunteer, and the proud mother of two wonderful girls who inspire her every day.

With the support of United Way of Long Island and its dedicated community partners, Stacy received wrap-around services that helped transform her life and empowered her to move forward.



For more information about our veteran and workforce development programs, use the QR code or visit

www.unitedwayli.org/missionunited



Mission United Partners





Comfort Height Toilet and Grab Bar installations



UNITED WAY
Long Island



With the help of the

Older Adult Home Modification Program

Long Islanders can safely stay in their homes

Many older adults want to stay in their homes as they age. The good news is that with **United Way of Long Island's Older Adult Home Modification Program**, there's help to do just that. If you're over 62, learn how qualified seniors in Nassau and Suffolk Counties can apply. This free program includes:

- **Accessibility and Fall Protection Modifications**
- **Healthy Home Evaluation**
- **Home Safety Adjustments and Minor Repairs**



For more information contact us at 631.940.3721, use the QR Code, or visit: unitedwayli.org/OAHM

The Older Adult Home Modification Program is supported in part by The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation



If you need assistance you can access support services and resources through 211 Long Island - a free, non-emergency information service that connects Long Island residents to health and human resources, in Nassau and Suffolk Counties or visit: 211LI.org



LONG ISLAND PRESS



These students are filled with potential- a bus load in fact.

Students at Loretta Park Elementary School, Brentwood, NY



unitedwayli.org/stuffabus

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Support Stuff-A-Bus Today!

Special Thanks to our
Signature Supporter



Special Thanks to our Lead Supporter



LONG ISLAND PRESS



UNITED WAY
Long Island

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UNITED TOGETHER CELEBRATION

UNITED FOR GOOD • UNITED FOR IMPACT • UNITED FOR COMMUNITY

Thank you to our corporate, nonprofit, and labor partners. Because of your generosity, raising over \$800,000, the United Together Luncheon was more than an event—it was a powerful reminder of what we can achieve together for Long Island's families.

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Long Island Federation of Labor AFL-CIO • MSC Industrial Supply Co. • Nice Bus / Transdev • MtB Bank • Nesco Bus Maintenance, Inc.
Philadelphia Insurance Companies • Stop and Shop • Webster Bank • Transitional Services of New York - TSLI-HHB

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AND A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR FIRST TIME SPONSORS

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Congratulations

to all the honorees for your continued commitment to helping better the lives of Long Islanders.



Theresa A. Regnante, President & CEO
United Way of Long Island
Circle of Excellence Honoree



Maria A. Grasso, Senior Executive
Vice President & COO, Flushing Bank
and Executive Committee Board Member
United Way of Long Island
Top Fifty Women in Business Honoree



Thérèse C. Vobis
Senior Vice President, Tax & Accounting
First Long Island Investors LLC
Board Member, United Way of Long Island
Top Fifty Women in Business Honoree



The new Wells Fargo branch in Port Washington. (Photo: Wells Fargo)

Wells Fargo grand opening gives \$50K to United Way

■ January 12, 2025 ■ Trade Winds

Wells Fargo held a grand-opening celebration for its newest Long Island branch this week.

The event was held on Thursday, Jan. 9 at the new Wells Fargo branch at 1020 Port Washington Blvd. in Port Washington. This is the 12th Wells Fargo branch on Long Island, according to a company statement.

To celebrate the branch opening, Wells Fargo awarded a \$50,000 grant to the United Way of Long Island in support of their Family Support Project program, which helps families remain in their homes, and children remain in their schools.

"We are so excited to open our newest branch on Long Island," Silvia Lara, District Branch Network senior manager at Wells Fargo, said in a written statement. "Our New York branch expansion is designed to offer more resources to our customers across the state. This is another step forward in that commitment and we are thrilled to be part of the Port Washington community."



Photo: United Way of Long Island

United Way of LI receives \$100K from Capital One to promote financial literacy

January 16, 2025 Jared Scott

United Way of Long Island has recently announced a \$100,000 grant from Capital One in support of its Financial Literacy initiatives.

The initiatives will directly benefit YouthBuild students, Project Warmth recipients, ALICE families (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed), and participants in Family Support programs. The funding enables United Way to deliver a comprehensive curriculum that focuses on essential financial topics, including budgeting, debt reduction, credit building, and consumer protection.

"This generous contribution from Capital One underscores their commitment to fostering financial empowerment and addressing the unique challenges faced by underserved populations," said Theresa A. Reggaster, president and CEO of United Way of Long Island. "Thanks to this partnership, we are equipping individuals and families with the tools they need to achieve financial independence while creating lasting economic stability for our community."

For more information on United Way of Long Island's Financial Literacy initiatives and other impactful programs, visit www.unitedwayli.org.



Photo: United Way of Long Island

United Way of Long Island awarded \$1.4 million in YouthBuild funding

January 7, 2025 Jared Scott

United Way of Long Island's YouthBuild program has been awarded a grant of \$1.4 million from the U.S. Department of Labor, the sixth time the organization has been selected to receive funding.

The grant will continue to support economic, occupational skills training, and leadership development opportunities for young adults, ages 18 to 34, from the Wyandanch and Village of Merrickville communities.

"United Way and YouthBuild have been an invaluable resource to the Wyandanch Community for many years. So many residents owe their success to the work put forward by YouthBuild, and we are looking forward to continuing this work," said Beverly Thackara, director of the Wyandanch Community Resource Center (WCR).

YouthBuild Long Island was established in 2008. A 2010 Congressional Grant of \$1 million funded the SmartBuild Career Training Center, which houses a NYSDOL-funded state-of-the-art Pressure House. The program encourages trainees to take classes that teach in-demand skills taught by local employers, opening doors to workforce training and education for those who are neither working nor attending school, as well as for youth whose parents did not attend college.

"Without YouthBuild Long Island, I wouldn't be the person I am today, because of the path that I took with YouthBuild able to enter the construction industry and gain financial stability," said Ulysses, a member of the YouthBuild Long Island class of 2015 from Wyandanch. "I now have a place to call home that brings my family closer together and am excited about being part of the future with a net-zero energy-ready home."

Since its inception, YouthBuild Long Island has graduated 450 participants, with one-third entering construction jobs, one-third pursuing other careers, and one-third continuing their education. The U.S. Department of Labor grant will allow YouthBuild to expand its offerings, adding training in the fast-growing healthcare services sector to its established construction and renewable energy skills curriculums.

"United Way of Long Island has a proven record of empowering young adults through comprehensive skills training in the construction and healthcare industries and is well-deserving of this competitive grant," said U.S. Rep. Andre Carson (IN-07). "Their work provides young adults with the skills and resources they need to secure stable employment in high-growth industries."

"United Way of Long Island recognizes the tremendous support of our elected officials, organized labor, Suffolk County Department of Labor, Hempstead Dept., and the New York State Department of Labor," said United Way of Long Island president and CEO, Pamela Rappaport. "This grant underscores the power of collaboration and will enhance our efforts to grow Long Island's economy."

To learn more about YouthBuild Long Island and the SmartBuild Career Training Center, visit www.unitedwayli.org/youthbuild-long-island and www.unitedwayli.org/smartbuild-training-center.

Chamber of Commerce

By Sabrina Artusa

The Greater Port Jefferson Chamber of Commerce honors two local business owners as members of the year, Raquel Fernandez and Risa Kluger.

The chamber's director of operations, Barbara Ransome, said that while the chamber does not typically award the honor to two members, she felt that it was necessary to recognize both Kluger and Fernandez for their service to the Port Jefferson community.

"They are very good business people. They take pride in the services they provide," Ransome said.

Fernandez and Kluger are businesswomen, but their identities as community members inform how they lead their businesses, Century 21/Icon and SERVPRO, respectively. Their obligation to their community is inextricable from their role as entrepreneurs, which is evident through the work they do with the chamber of commerce.

Fernandez, who serves on the chamber's executive board as the second vice president, believes a foundation of trust helps elevate the mutually beneficial relationship between consumers and herself.

"I feel as a business owner you have to get involved so the community can identify with the brand and what you bring to the community and what you're doing," she said. "I wanted to create a culture that I could be proud of and really have a sense of family and loyalty—all the essence of all the things that I value."

Serving in the chamber is "second nature" to Fernandez. "If I had something to tell myself 20 years ago, I would say join the chamber. Organically you are meeting the other business owners, networking, exchanging ideas, getting to know each other, and it becomes really cool that you get to support other businesses," she said.

Ransome said Fernandez always does "the best she possible can" to assist the chamber, whether it is volunteering at the dragon boat festival, which is one of Fernandez's favorite events, or sponsoring the events. "She has been very consistent and we are very appreciative," Ransome said.

Kluger directs her damage restoration business, SERVPRO, with the collegial mindset of a person helping her neighbors.

"It's a big responsibility, I feel, to set a standard to show people that you are an honest business person not only as a business but to the community," she said.

"From the very beginning she was there to help," Ransome said of Kluger. "If I call and ask her to do anything, she's there. It's not only her, but she gets her entire family involved."

Indeed, Kluger said that while she tries to always make time for chamber events, her busy schedule sometimes means she has to send representatives to support her.

"I felt the involvement was important to show a presence in the community; so you are not just there to earn money in the community, but to help and get involved," Kluger said.

Kluger also serves on the board of the Long Island Insurance Community, where she helps raise money for various charities, including the nonprofit United Way of Long Island.

Ransome mentioned a specific instance that encapsulates Kluger's dependability and generosity: After noticing roof damage on one of the chamber's buildings, Kluger immediately had it repaired, without Ransome asking.

Fernandez, too, finds fulfillment in using her business to help others. She runs a successful internship program, which has led past interns to pursue careers at major companies such as Amazon and J.P. Morgan.

"To be able to be a part ... [of] that and help them a lot along the way ... that kind of drives me," Fernandez said.

Earning member of the year means a lot to both Kluger and Fernandez, who have worked hard to make their businesses successful while also staying true to their consumers.

"Our industry is cyclic and you go through these ups and downs but you have to know how to weather the middle," Fernandez said. "And then you realize you have been doing it for all these years and that in itself is a huge accomplishment."



Raquel Fernandez



Risa Kluger

Noticia

Senadora Martínez anuncia subvenciones estatales para impulsar la economía de Long Island

Noticia Long Island

23 febrero 2025



Estado de Nueva York otorga más de \$1.7 millones en fondos de desarrollo económico para la realización de proyectos en el 4to. Distrito Senatorial. Foto: NYS

Mónica R. Martínez, senadora del estado de Nueva York anunció que se han otorgado más de \$1.7 millones de dólares en fondos de desarrollo económico para la realización de proyectos en el Cuarto Distrito Senatorial.

Estas subvenciones han sido proporcionadas a través de la Ronda XIV de la Iniciativa del Consejo Regional de Desarrollo Económico (REDC, por sus siglas en inglés), para apoyar a las empresas, organizaciones y gobiernos locales a ampliar sus oportunidades económicas y a fortalecer su infraestructura comunitaria.

«Coches son los proyectos que recibirán financiación. Tras de estos han sido designados prioritarios por su alineación con las estrategias económicas regionales y su enfoque con las necesidades locales. Se prevé que estas inversiones generen nuevos empleos, mejoren la infraestructura y estimulen el crecimiento económico de Long Island.

«Los empresas locales son la base de una economía próspera», expresó la senadora Martínez, quien además agregó que: «estas subvenciones provenientes de fondos estatales brindan a las empresas las herramientas necesarias para expandirse, mejorar su eficiencia y mantenerse competitivas en el mercado. Invertir en nuestros negocios fortalece el crecimiento de nuestras comunidades, favorece la creación de empleos y ayuda a que la economía de Long Island siga avanzando y teniendo éxito».

Los proyectos con financiamiento asignado son:

– GLI International Inc. (Deer Park), podrá adquirir o nueva maquinaria y equipo para aumentar su producción y expandirse a mercados más grandes y con objetivos, esto incluye los nutracéuticos (productos con ingredientes procedentes de animales, plantas o minerales y se caracterizan por ser ricos en determinados nutrientes, como el tomate, avena, kiwi, pescado, entre otros), y las vitaminas. Se espera que esta expansión ayude a crear 20 nuevos empleos. Además, ha sido identificada como un proyecto prioritario del REDC en Long Island.

Financiamiento Otorgado: \$330 mil dólares.

– United Way of Long Island (Deer Park), modernizará su edificio Net-Zero con nuevas computadoras e impresoras, mejorando así su capacidad para brindar soporte a la línea de ayuda 1-2-1-1 durante situaciones de emergencias. Estas actualizaciones también ayudarán a los programas de desarrollo de la fuerza laboral local y a los servicios comunitarios.

Financiamiento Otorgado: \$25 mil dólares.

Cabe indicar que la iniciativa del Consejo de Desarrollo Económico Regional es parte del enfoque innovador del estado de Nueva York para el desarrollo económico, ya que empodera a las partes interesadas regionales como: líderes comunitarios, empresariales y académicos, a que puedan identificar e implementar estrategias que impulsen la creación de empleos locales y favorezcan el crecimiento empresarial.

Para más información sobre la Iniciativa del Consejo Regional de Desarrollo Económico, haga click [aquí](#).

United Way hosts comedy night to help veterans

By Long Island Press

Posted on February 18, 2025



LONG ISLAND PRESS

United Way Young Professionals Network hosted a comedy night at Governor's Comedy Club.

Ed Shin

The United Way of Long Island aims to bring people together to create a stronger Long Island. The [Young Professionals Network](#) is working hard to raise funds and awareness to support veterans across Long Island through [Mission United](#). Its "Funny Business" Comedy Show event on Feb. 5 was its latest success, bringing over 225 enthusiastic supporters representing over 90 organizations across Long Island for a great cause.

United Way's Mission United provides support to veterans and their families in an effort to create financial stability, training for careers in construction, and mental health support for service members.



Theresa A. Regnante, president and CEO of United Way of Long Island.



Comedians Tony Dabas, Jack Adams and Mary Capone kept the crowd in stitches.

Spring into the new season by volunteering

Posted April 11, 2016

“Studies show that devoting time to helping others can reduce stress, combat loneliness and engender a sense of purpose.”

GREAT PLACES TO LEND A HAND

American Red Cross,

Long Island Chapter

195 Willis Ave., Mineola

(516) 747-3500

RedCross.org/local-new-york

Holocaust Memorial

& Tolerance Center

100 Crescent Beach Road, Glen Cove

(516) 571-4040

hmtell.org

Island Harvest

136 Spagnoli Road, Melville

(516) 294-8528

(631) 873-4755

IslandHarvest.org

Last Hope Animal Rescue

and Rehabilitation

5300 Beataugh Ave., Wantagh's

(631) 425-1884

LastHopeAnimalRescue.org

Long Island Cares

10 Davids Drive, Hauppauge

(631) 582-3663

LICares.org

United Way of Long Island

819 Grand Blvd., Deer Park

(631) 960-5200

UnitedWayLI.org

As the winter chill fades and the warmth of spring sets in, April presents us with the perfect opportunity to step out of our homes and into our communities. It is National Volunteer Month, a time to recognize the vital contribution of volunteers and encourage others to take part in acts of service. With the season's longer days, there's no better moment to embrace the spirit of giving, and making a difference.

Volunteering is more than just a noble act — it's a powerful way to foster change, make personal connections and enhance our well-being. Whether you're helping clean up a local park, mentoring a young student or lending a hand at a food bank, your contributions have a lasting impact. This month, let's not only celebrate those who dedicate their time to service, but also join them in strengthening our communities.

National Volunteer Month highlights the invaluable role that volunteers play in shaping society. The best, most selfless volunteering isn't confined to a single day or week; it's an ongoing effort that promotes social responsibility, empathy and collective progress.

It also benefits the volunteer. Studies show that devoting time to helping others can reduce stress, combat loneliness and engender a sense of purpose. It helps people acquire new skills and build professional as well as social networks, and often opens doors to new career opportunities.

One of the best aspects of volunteering is its flexibility — there's something for everyone. Whether you have a few hours to spare each month or can commit to a regular schedule, there are countless ways to contribute. Here are just a few examples:



- Community cleanups: Help beautify your local parks, streets and other community spaces by picking up litter, power-washing sidewalks or planting flowers.
- Animal welfare:

Volunteer at an animal shelter or foster a rescue pet. The need for volunteers at these facilities has never been greater.

- Educational support: Tutor a student, chaperone a school field trip or help out in your local library.

Volunteer at an animal shelter or foster a rescue pet. The need for volunteers at these facilities has never been greater.

- Educational support: Tutor a student, chaperone a school field trip or help out in your local library.

- Food assistance: Work at a food pantry or take part in a meal delivery program. Lots of community members lend a hand during the holiday season, but here, too, volunteers can find plenty to do all year round.

- Health care and support services: Visit a nursing home, assist hospital staff, or support a mental health initiative.

- Environmental advocacy: Take part in a tree-planting effort, a recycling program or a sustainability project.

- April is also Global Volunteer Month, celebrating the many ways people and organizations support their neighbors and strengthen their communities around the world. Volunteer Recognition Day, April 20, will kick off National Volunteer Week, April 20-26, a weeklong celebration of the efforts of volunteers.

There are numerous opportunities this month to take part in events, campaigns and initiatives that need and will welcome your help. It's a time to take action, and inspire others to do the same. And by getting children and young adults involved, we can help instill a lifelong commitment to service and civic responsibility. Whether through school programs or community projects, we can encourage the next generation to embrace the values of kindness, empathy, and community involvement.

If you've been looking for a way to give back, for the month that symbolizes renewal and growth be the first step. Whether you join a one-day event or dedicate a few hours a week, your contribution matters. Step outside, lend a hand and experience the joy of making a difference.

LI HERALD
.com

ON OUR ISLAND



Courtesy of United Way of Long Island

Project Warmth receives \$600K grant for 2,000 in-need LI families

Thanks to a \$600,000 grant from National Grid Foundation, Project Warmth helped 2,000 Long Island families stay safe and warm this past winter. This gift alone brought Project Warmth more than halfway in reaching that goal: 1,988 children, 704 seniors, 50+ veterans.

Of the 2,000 families served, 81% required emergency assistance due to a health-related concern, while 19% needed support following the loss of a job or a loved one. Additionally, 92% of the families included at least one vulnerable individual, who are most at risk during periods of extreme temperatures.

Project Warmth has served as a safety net for three decades, ensuring that individuals who do not qualify for government assistance still receive the help they need whether they heat their home with gas, oil, electric, wood or propane.



LI Business

BY BRIANNE LEDDA
brienne.ledda@newsday.com

When Amanda DiGrazia, 37, put her two young children in private day care, she and her husband had to dip into savings to pay \$49,000 for a year at one point.

As their kids have gotten older, those expenses have decreased, the Seaford resident said. But new bills come along, including expenses to lease and buy out a lease on cars for both her and her husband.

Clothes also have gotten more expensive, and so has shopping for Christmas and birthdays.

"It seems like anytime that we're saving money somewhere, there's someplace else that it needs to go to," said DiGrazia, who helps her husband run a business.

DiGrazia is not the only one feeling the squeeze.

As the cost of living continues to rise, more Long Islanders — along with the state at large — are struggling to cover basic expenses, according to new data from United for ALICE, an economic research arm of the nonprofit United Way. That also means fewer families have extra money to save at the end of each month for financial emergencies, like a car repair or medical expenses, experts said. According to a March survey from WalletHub, at least 1 in 5 Americans have no emergency savings account.

"The personal saving rate, which is the percentage of money that you're saving relative to your income, has been declining for 20 to 30 years," said Steve Kent, chief economist of the Long Island Association's Research Institute, referencing data from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Harder to save for rainy days

On Long Island especially, it's become more difficult for households to cover basic expenses, making it harder to save for emergencies, said Theresa Regnante, president and CEO of United Way of Long Island.

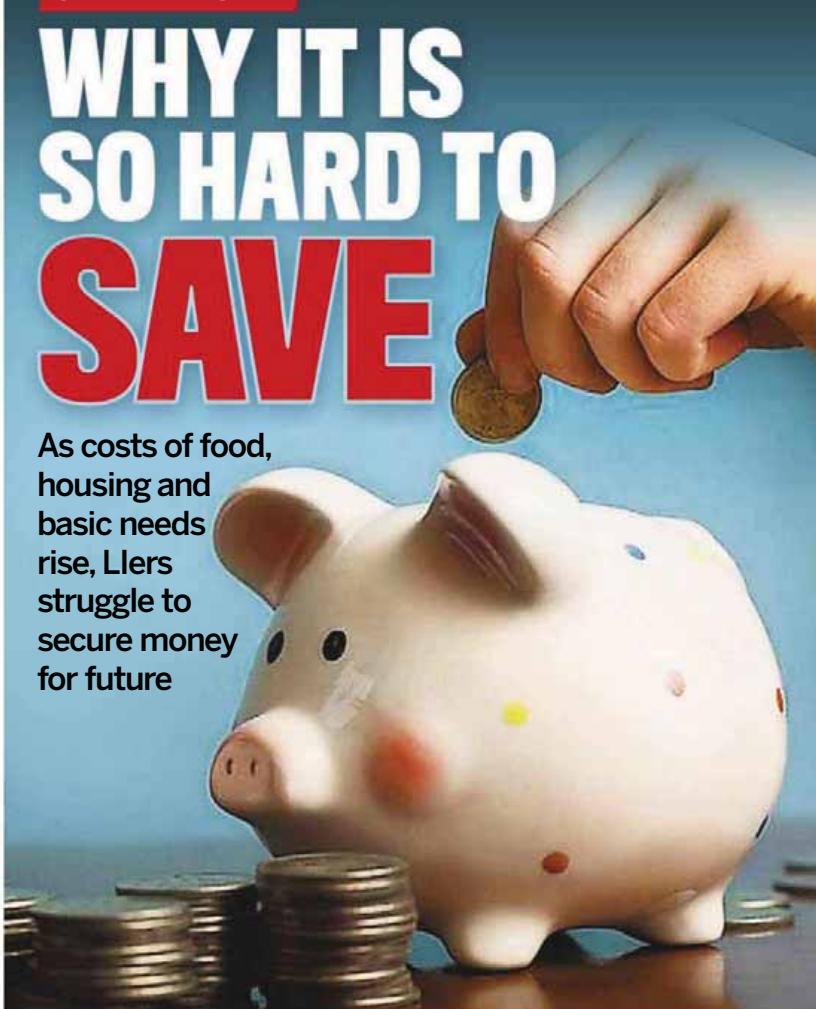
People know it's important to save, but at the end of the day, "the decisions are already made for most families. There is not an opportunity to put back money for a rainy day fund," she said.

Twenty-seven percent of households in Nassau County were above the federal poverty

ONLY IN NEWSDAY

WHY IT IS SO HARD TO SAVE

As costs of food, housing and basic needs rise, LIers struggle to secure money for future



line but still struggled to pay their bills in 2023, according to a new report from United Way research arm United for ALICE.

ALICE stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed, and represents families above the federal poverty level who still cannot make ends meet.

Another 6% of households in Nassau were below the federal poverty line in 2023, according to the report.

Also in 2023, 33% of households in Suffolk were above the federal poverty line but still struggled to pay their bills, and 7% were below the federal poverty line.

ALICE research in New York is sponsored by the nonprofit United Way of New York and the Albany-based Business Council of New York State Inc.

In Nassau County, to cover basic expenses in 2023, a household with two adults and two children would need at least \$109,452, according to ALICE data. If those two children are in child care, that number rises to \$133,380. A single adult would need to make at least \$45,672.

In Suffolk County in 2023, a family of four with two children would need to earn at least \$110,448 and, if the children are in child care, \$141,456, according to ALICE. A single adult would need at least \$46,944.

The median household income is \$141,568 in Nassau and \$124,045 in Suffolk, according to United for ALICE. The nonprofit noted in its report that "certain groups are disproportionately represented due to systemic racism, ageism, gender discrimination, and geographic barriers that limit many families' access to resources and opportunities for financial stability."

On Long Island, that includes Black, Hispanic and Indigenous households, as well as homes headed by a single parent, according to United for ALICE.

"We obviously live in a community where there's a premium to live here," Regnante said, citing high taxes, rents and housing prices among the factors that make it difficult to afford Long Island.

"More people who are gainfully employed, who are working at what we would call a livable wage, are really struggling," she said.

Between 2010 and 2023, the

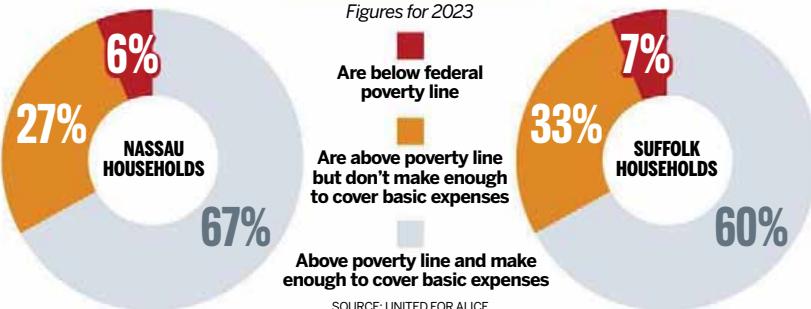
PEOPLE ON THE MOVE
WHO'S BEEN HIRED OR
PROMOTED ON LONG ISLAND
newsday.com/onthemove

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LI BUSINESS

STRUGGLING ON LI

Figures for 2023



newsday.com

NEWSDAY, SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2025

See SAVINGS on A36



LI BUSINESS

A37



ELIZABETH SAGGIN

Millie Nieves is branch manager at M&T Bank in Riverhead, which offers financial education. She said the general rule of thumb is to try to put at least 20% of monthly income toward saving and debts.

in delinquencies.

Mortgage balances and home equity line of credit balances both rose as well from the previous quarter, according to the New York Fed.

Nonprofits a safety net

Many local nonprofits, like United Way, offer safety net programs to help out Long Islanders in case of emergency.

United Way of Long Island runs a program called The Compassion Fund meant to help bridge financial gaps, such as fixing a car or covering medications. The nonprofit also offers a nonemergency 211 line for households at or below ALICE thresholds to help with financial emergencies.

The Health and Welfare Council of Long Island also offers financial resources by distributing federal funds to community organizations through the Emergency Food and Shelter Program.

The South Huntington-based nonprofit, which has been around since 1947, has seen a decrease in allotments even as needs for issues like food insecurity or health care assistance have increased, said president and CEO Vanessa Baird-Streeter.

That need for financial aid has been worsened by federal layoffs, she said, adding the organization has not yet received its federal funding for 2025.

"Usually you need to have

TIPS FOR SAVING

Ryan Derousseau, a certified financial planner at United Financial Planning Group in Hauppauge, offers these tips:

- **An emergency fund typically covers** three to six months of expenses, he said. Determine what you're spending and how much you'd need to cover bills during that time period.
- **Three months might be enough** for someone with steady employment, he said, while six months offers more protection for those concerned about layoffs or who are self-employed.
- **When managing expenses, examine** "what you need, what is actually bringing your family value and you're getting use out of," Derousseau said. There might be expenses, such as subscriptions, that could be "culled" and free up money for savings.
- **It's also a good idea to budget** for non-monthly expenses, such as car insurance and vet bills, he said.
- **Store emergency funds in a high-yield savings account**, which offers a higher interest rate and remains accessible.
- **Prioritize paying off credit cards** before building more than a month of emergency savings, he said. It also might be a good idea to automate savings deposits each month.

three to six months of emergency savings, but I think that's exacerbated on Long Island because of the high cost of living," she said. HWCLI has offered financial coaching workshops in the past, but does not provide the service on a regular basis.

The general rule of thumb is to try to put at least 20% of monthly income toward saving and debts, said Millie Nieves, branch manager at M&T Bank in Riverhead, which is among several Long Island banks that offer financial education.

Ideally, money could be deposited into a separate savings

account automatically, or a certificate of deposit, she said.

It has become harder for Long Islanders to save, she acknowledged, due to a rising cost of living. But that's another reason to try to build wealth rather than spending it.

"Start small and pay yourself first," she said. "Make it a habit to save."

For someone living paycheck to paycheck, "definitely look to your current employer for options or benefits that they do have to help save money, such as, can they match your 401(k)?" she said. "Is your company help-

ing with HSA contributions?"

Plus, there's a lot of online resources, including a financial education center at M&T's website, Nieves pointed out. The bank also regularly hosts financial literacy sessions for community members.

Younger people, fewer funds

Younger people are less likely to have financial safety nets. The median emergency fund for Gen Z, those born between 1997 and 2012, is \$200, according to GOBankingRates. The personal finance site attributes this to most still attending high school or college, or earning lower salaries as workers early in their careers.

Millennials, born between 1981 and 1996, are not much better off, with a median emergency fund balance of \$500, according to GOBankingRates. Sixty percent don't know how they'd cover an unexpected bill, the site says, with financial pressures from student loan repayments, high rent and rising costs.

Gen X, born between 1965 and 1980, have a median \$868 in emergency savings and Baby Boomers, born between 1946 and 1964, have a median \$1,000 in emergency savings.

New York Institute of Technology in Old Westbury established a fund to help students stay in school despite unexpected expenses, such as car repairs, when the pandemic hit in 2020.

The program was a direct response to students reaching out when the state went on lockdown because they did not have the money to get home, said Tiffani Hinds, associate provost for student engagement and development.

Full- and part-time students can apply for up to \$500 in emergency aid to bridge financial gaps, she said. More than 700 reached out for help during the pandemic, though the number has significantly dropped since then — only 10 students attending the Long Island campus requested funds this year, Hinds said.

Saving not impossible

"We're educating our students to go out into the world and to change it in a better way," she said, noting it's unlikely that many college students have emergency funds to fall back on.

"A lot of our students are going through life while they're with us and so for us to be able to assist them through their personal emergencies, through their catastrophes, in some small way, is great for



RICK KOPSTEIN

• The decisions are already made for most families. There is not an opportunity to put back money for a rainy day fund.'

— Theresa Regnante, president and CEO of United Way of Long Island

their success," Hinds said.

For Dylan Pacer, 35, an analyst for Northwell, as difficult as it may be, building up savings is not impossible. He's been able to save enough, although it's been "slightly harder" because of inflation and expensive day care bills.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic, the Lake Ronkonkoma resident has embraced healthier personal finance habits, which has made it much easier to put money away. He's aware of price increases, but it hasn't impacted him as much because he shops sales and usually buys store brand products.

His family is also higher income, he acknowledged, and has just one child in the house.

An increasing cost of living has been "driving people off of Long Island," he said. "I'm in a fortunate position; I can afford it . . . But I understand" that, for a "younger person trying to start a life here . . . it's very difficult."

Oscar Garcia, 33, of Miller Place, said it's actually been easier to save money lately than it has been in the past.

"We budget more," he said. "We also have better jobs."

At the end of the day, he's focused on being mindful about where he spends his money, and that has been enough.

Op-Ed | A bridge to affordability: Why New Yorkers need the NESE pipeline

By Grace Bonilla & Theresa A. Regnante

Posted on September 24, 2025



Photo via Getty Images

As leaders who are dedicated to empowering New York's most vulnerable neighbors, we spend our days thinking about how to make life more livable for families under the most extreme pressure in the country's most expensive region. Every conversation we have with the families that we serve centers on one word: affordability. Families are being stretched to the breaking point, and increasingly, energy costs are part of the squeeze.

The numbers tell a painful story. Fifty percent [50% of New York City households](#), and [33% of Long Island households](#) struggle to meet basic needs, even though most of those households include a working adult. Since 2000, the cost of raising a young family of four in New York has increased by an astonishing 131%, while wages have risen only 71%, according to United Way's True Cost of Living report. Put simply, too many of our neighbors can't get by without outside help.

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 News, events, culture and more — delivered to you.
 Enter Your Email Address

Energy costs aren't just another bill. They decide whether a senior can keep the heat on during a frigid January night, or whether a small business can make payroll instead of shutting its doors. That's why, despite loud, often uninformed voices on social media, the state must make the smart choice for New Yorkers and approve the development of the Northeast Supply Enhancement (NESE) Project, a necessary investment in New York's energy infrastructure.

NESE is not an abstract engineering project — it's a lifeline. By increasing natural gas capacity, NESE will ensure that families and businesses have reliable access to affordable energy. Experts anticipate the project could save New Yorkers up to \$6 billion over the next 15 years, shielding households from unexpected price spikes. With more than one million households in New York City and on Long Island receiving assistance to pay their heating bills, we need to embrace any solution that can save families money.

amNY

But this is about more than bills. It's about jobs and stability. The project itself will create over 3,100 good-paying jobs and generate nearly \$24 million in GDP. For working families across the region, that's significant. And let's be candid: if small businesses — the backbone of our communities — can't keep their lights on, then we will see fewer jobs in many other sectors.

Some argue that natural gas isn't renewable and that investing in pipelines will delay the clean energy future we all want. Let's be clear: we share their vision of a renewable-powered New York State and we also believe that New York State must resume implementation of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. But we must also face reality. The NESE pipeline is already partially built and could be completed within a short time. Our communities cannot wait for long-term projects that remain stalled and may not be completed until the next decade. Families need a solution that can make energy more affordable now.

This is not an "either/or" choice. Governor Kathy Hochul has wisely embraced a practical "all-of-the-above" strategy, where renewables, increased energy efficiency, and reliable natural gas complement one another. Natural gas is not a permanent solution. But since natural gas emits 30% fewer emissions than oil and 50% fewer than coal, it is a much cleaner alternative for electricity production until wind, solar, thermal energy and other renewables scale to meet ever-rising demand.

Energy is not a luxury. When the lights go out, so does all of the opportunity we have collectively worked towards. When energy bills soar, so does poverty.

The affordability crisis is too urgent to wait. NESE is a pragmatic, compassionate step forward that will ease the burden on working families, stabilize small businesses, and prepare us for the future we're building together. New Yorkers deserve solutions that work today and tomorrow. This project is one of them.

Grace C. Bonilla is the President and CEO of United Way of New York City. Theresa A. Regnante is the President and CEO of United Way of Long Island.

Noticia

Noticias

Red de Jóvenes Profesionales de United Way of Long Island recauda más de \$20,000 para el programa Stuff-A-Bus

Noticia Long Island

1 septiembre 2025



Evento social de verano de Young Professionals Network (YPN) también recogió varias cajas de útiles escolares para donarlos a los niños. Foto: Unitedwayli.org

La Red de Jóvenes Profesionales (YPN) de United Way of Long Island celebró su esperado evento social de verano reuniendo a más de 200 asistentes para una noche de networking, entretenimiento e impacto comunitario.

La actividad realizada el 7 de agosto en la Cervecería Blue Point, recaudó más de \$20,000 y recogió varias cajas de útiles escolares para beneficiar a la iniciativa del programa Stuff-A-Bus de United Way, la cual proporciona mochilas y útiles escolares esenciales a estudiantes de primaria en todo Long Island, asegurándoles la confianza necesaria para alcanzar el éxito.

En su 18va. edición, Stuff-A-Bus continúa garantizando que los niños de comunidades marginadas lleguen a las aulas preparados para aprender y tener éxito. Los fondos recaudados en el evento social de verano se destinan directamente a la compra de útiles para el próximo año escolar.

«Las donaciones que hemos recibido a través de la iniciativa Stuff-a-Bus han tenido un profundo impacto en nuestra comunidad escolar», dijo Hannah McCarthy, subdirectora de la Escuela Primaria Laurel Park en Brentwood.

«Cada año, nuestros maestros comparten listas de útiles con las familias, pero sabemos que muchos estudiantes llegan con pocos artículos o, a veces, sin ninguno. Gracias a estas donaciones, nuestro personal puede garantizar con confianza que cada niño tenga las herramientas que necesita para tener éxito desde el primer día», agregó.

Un momento que Hannah recuerda es el de una estudiante que vivía en un albergue y que llegó a la escuela con sus útiles en brazos. Cuando Hannah se enteró de que la niña había perdido su mochila y que su familia no podía reemplazarla, la escuela pudo proporcionarle una nueva de su color favorito.

El evento social de verano fue posible gracias a la dedicación de los copresidentes de YPN: Justin Merk, de FourLeaf Federal Credit Union; Lauren Grasso, de Ruskin Moscou Faltischek P.C.; Brendan Bateman, de Flushing Bank; el comité de YPN; y la generosidad de sus patrocinadores.

Los asistentes disfrutaron de cervezas artesanales, espectáculos en vivo, rifas y oportunidades significativas para conectar con jóvenes profesionales apasionados por marcar la diferencia en su comunidad.

Los patrocinadores del evento fueron de YPN:

Fourleaf Federal Credit Union
Ruskin Moscou Faltischek P.C.
ATM Consultants
Bulovas Restorations
Spartan Restoration
Lucky To Live Here
Flushing Bank
Better Home Health Care
United Crafts Local 91
Clear View Building Services
Borg Insurance Agency & Associates
G-Rock Handcovers Inc.
SK Pool Care

Para más información sobre la Young Professionals Network (YPN) de United Way of Long Island y otras iniciativas, visite www.unitedwayli.org.

Aaron Choo is the new United Way LI board chair

By J. Cav Scott

Posted on December 22, 2025



Aaron Choo accepted the Board Chair position early this month.

Provided by United Way Long Island

LONG ISLAND PRESS

East Williston resident Aaron Choo was elevated to the position of board chair of United Way, Long Island, at the Thursday, Dec. 11, board meeting. This comes after he has served as a board member of the organization since 2022.

"I'm honored to step into the role of board chair for United Way of Long Island," said Choo. "The organization has a long legacy of meaningful impact across the region, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to help guide that work."

United Way is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote public advancement in health, education, and financial stability through scholarships, workforce training, senior care assistance, and other related programs.

Choo, a vice president at National Grid, lives in East Williston and values the tight-knit community identity of the village. He said United Way serves all of Long Island. "Even in well-resourced villages, there are neighbors who face challenges that aren't always visible —whether it's financial strain, home energy burdens, or access to supportive services."

As board chair, he hopes to continue to advance the work of United Way to respond to Long Island's needs.

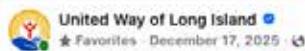
"I also want to expand the organization's partnerships with businesses, local leaders, and nonprofits so we can leverage more resources and broaden the reach of services," he said.

"United Way of Long Island is proud to welcome Aaron as our new board chair," said Theresa A. Regnante, president and CEO of United Way of Long Island. "Through his leadership at National Grid, one of our strongest and longest-standing corporate partners, Aaron has demonstrated a deep commitment to community impact and our mission to advance the common good."

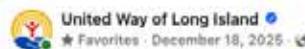
As he moves forward into the role, Choo said, "United Way's impact on the region inspires me, and I'm honored to contribute in a way that aligns with my professional mission and personal values."



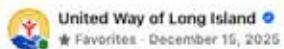
Social Media



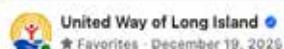
Together, for World AIDS Day, we highlighted the quiet power that can be found in a single voice. Individual acts of courage, while seemingly small, can have a ripple effect... [See more](#)



We are excited to announce a generous \$800,000 gift from the National Grid Foundation in support of Project Warmth once again this winter. [Heart icon](#) [See more](#)



This year, through United Way of Long Island, the Long Island Insurance Community proudly awarded grants to four incredible nonprofit organizations, each making a meaningful impact... [See more](#)



Thank you [Brookhaven National Laboratory](#) for hosting the annual United Way of Long Island Holiday Auction! With countless gift baskets and the incredible support from L... [See more](#)





United Way of Long Island • ★ Favorites - November 6, 2025 -

This holiday season, let's come together to uplift and honor the incredible moms living in shelters and transitional programs. Join us for a meaningful volunteer event ... [See more](#)

 **12/9/25**
5:30 pm- 7:30 pm



 **the retreat** [ALL AGAINST ABUSE.ORG](#)
Supporting Organizations:



United Way of Long Island • ★ Favorites - November 5, 2025 -

National Grid and IBEW Local 1049 officially kicked off their annual workplace campaign for United Way of Long Island. Thank you to every employee who gives back, suppo... [See more](#)



Boost this post to get more reach for United Way of Long Island. [Boost post](#)

United Way of Long Island • ★ Favorites - November 7, 2025 -

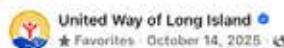
Need for Project Warmth at an All-time High!
 HEAP is currently on hold due to the government shutdown and funding changes, which has caused the need for Project Warmth ... [See more](#)



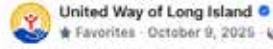
United Way of Long Island • ★ Favorites - November 18, 2025 -

PSEG Long Island Foundation is a proud supporter of our Long Island veterans. Thank you for your continued work to help our local heroes through programs like our Missi... [See more](#)

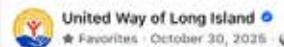




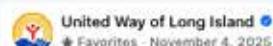
We are getting excited to cheer on our Team Mission United runners during the New York City Marathon in less than 20 days! To support and learn what the team is all about, visit www.unitedwayli.org/teammisionunited



We were deeply moved by how many incredible women gathered last night to celebrate the launch of Women United. The evening was filled with the spirit of collaboration, ... [See more](#)



Together with AT&T, we celebrated the grand opening of The AT&T Connect Learning Lab for YouthBuild LongIsland at United Way's E3 SmartBuild Training Center. This is a new space where students can learn, innovate, and build their futures. This partnership is helping bridge the digital divide and create pathways to success for young adults across Long Island. [See more](#)



What a race! We're so proud of our incredible Team Mission United runners who took on the 2025 TCS New York City Marathon this past Sunday, running 26.2 miles in support... [See more](#)





United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - October 1, 2025

Join us for an evening of wine & light bites as we celebrate the launch of Women United, a movement of passionate women committed to making a difference. Enjoy an inspi... See more



Women United Celebration

Join Us
Wednesday, October 8, 2025
6 - 8 pm
Jones Beach Energy & Nature Center

When women come together,
anything is possible.



United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - September 24, 2025

The 29th annual Long Island Insurance Community Gala, honoring Eric Nordquist and Peter Wallick of Travelers, was a huge success! Thank you to all the sponsors and netw... See more



United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - October 6, 2025

Want to learn how to leave a legacy? Join us on October 15 at Cona Elder Law with Main Street Financial Group. Register today at <http://tinyurl.com/ForeverUnitedCEL>



Learn, Live, Leave a Legacy: Planned Giving with United Way

October 15

6:00 pm

225 Broadhollow Road
Suite 200, Melville

Join us for an evening of wine, cheese, and meaningful conversation about charitable giving. Before the end of the year, it is the perfect time to create or enhance your gifting plan – and ensure your generosity leaves a lasting legacy.

Speakers



Jennifer B. Cona, Esq.
Founder & Managing Partner



Melissa Negrin-Wiener, Esq.
Senior Partner



Christopher Ferrara, MBA
Financial Advisor, Main Street Financial Group



UNITED WAY
Long Island

United Forever: By remembering United Way of Long Island in your will, trust, or estate plans, you create lasting change for future generations. Your gift strengthens local resilience, supports youth opportunities, improves health, and builds financial security across Long Island.

Topics:

- Charitable Giving Strategies
- Maximizing Tax Benefits
- Incorporating Charitable Giving into Your Will or Trust
- Charitable Trusts: CRTs & CLTs
- Charitable Giving with Retirement Funds
- Choosing the Right Assets to Gift

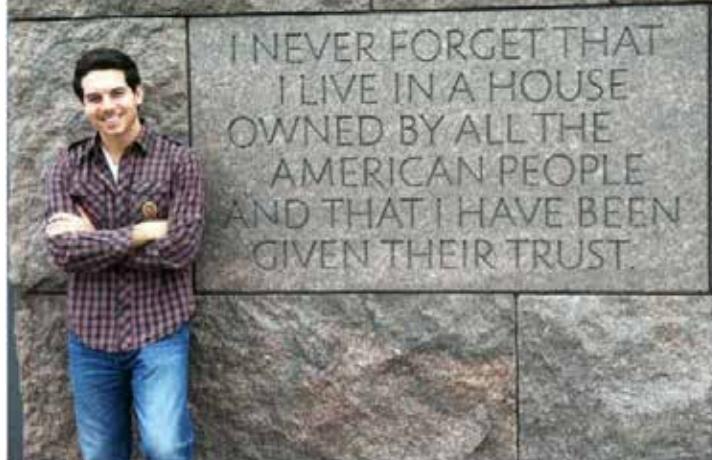
Ensure your generosity leaves a lasting legacy while optimizing financial benefits for you and your loved ones.

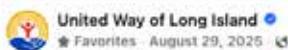


United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - September 27, 2025

This year, through the Scott Martella fund, we made a grant to St. Christopher's Hospital for Children. The institution has worked with many children from Long Island.... See more



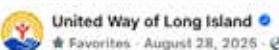


United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - August 29, 2025

🌟 The stage is set and wheels are in motion! We're gearing up for our 2025 Stuff-A-Bus Supply Drop-Off and making sure students have the tools they need to start the school year strong. 🎉

Thank you, Suffolk Transportation Service, Inc., Teachers Federal Credit Union, and Esquire Bank



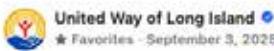
United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - August 28, 2025

Girls Who Build: Inspiring the Next Generation, Earlier this month, United Way of Long Island launched Girls Who Build, bringing together 22 young women for two days of hands-on workshops, site tours, and career exploration in construction, clean energy, and engineering fields where women are often underrepresented. 🌟

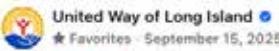
With the support of incredible partners, these future leaders connected with industry role models who encouraged them to dream big and see new possibilities for their futures.

Thank you, The Haugland Group, National Grid, Girls Scouts of Nassau, Girls Scouts of Suffolk, Girls Inc. Long Island, Orsted, PSEG Long Island, North Atlantic States Carpenters Council, Opportunities Long Island, WDI, Interplay Learning, Morrison Mentors and the National Society of Black Engineers



★ Favorites - September 3, 2025

There's still time to join us at the 29th Annual Long Island Insurance Community Gala! The industry's leading professionals across the island are coming together and gl... See more

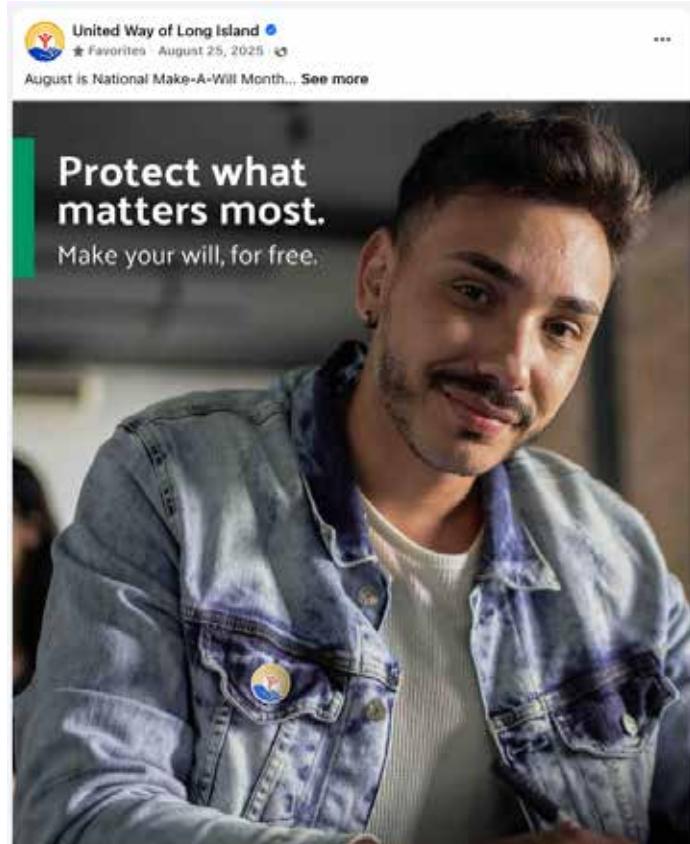


United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - September 15, 2025

Webster Bank is a part of the United Way of Long Island campaign! Thank you for supporting United Way's work to create a better, stronger Long Island that means safer a... See more









United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - July 1, 2025 - 43

Thank you to all our first-time UNITED TOGETHER Celebration supporters. We are thrilled to welcome you to the United Way family. Your generosity fuels our work and ena... See more

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR UNITED TOGETHER FIRST TIME SUPPORTERS

3G Warehouse, Inc • ACAP Advisory, LLC • Altus Metal & Marble Services, Inc.
Anthony Bruno • AON Risk Services • Canon USA • Capolongo, Dahlia & Dominic
Cross Country Consulting • Deloitte Alumni • Deloitte Employees
Green Metro Restoration • Fortune Footwear • HSBC • Hytech
I AM Federal Credit Union • Imperial Advisory • InspiredDesign • J.P. Scar Inc.
KYN 6 Inc. • Lakeville Pace Mechanical Inc. • Lippman • Little St. Nick Foundation
Littler Mendelson • Lovesac • M2Business Coaching Group • Morrell Plumbing
Nancy Stallone • NexClaim Recoveries, LLC • Pace University • PointVoIP
Premier Labor Benefits LLC • Quan-Vest Consultants, Inc. • Seledent, Inc.
Sheehan Accountants & Advisors • Springboard Incubators Inc.
Sunshine Plus Solar Corp. • The Parts Authority • TRC • Valley National Bank
Verint Systems Inc. • Vertex Advisory Group, Inc.



United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - July 3, 2025 - 3

Our UNITED TOGETHER Celebration honors community, compassion, and impact — and it wouldn't have been possible without the steadfast leadership of our Board of Directors... See more



United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - June 25, 2025 - 43

Last week's 60th Anniversary United Together Celebration presented by FourLeaf Federal Credit Union was an incredible event. Thank you to everyone who supported and attended. We are thrilled to share that thanks to your support, we raised \$807,000! Every dollar raised allows us to serve Long Islanders when they need us most.

Congratulations again to our honorees!

Visit our website for event photos.



United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - July 7, 2025 - 3

Check out some memories from our 2025 UNITED TOGETHER Celebration luncheon. We are so glad so many of you could join us, and we hope to see you again next year!



United Way of Long Island  ★ Favorites · June 2, 2025 · 5

Big news for 211 Long Island! Thanks to the support of our Long Island elected officials and the New York State Legislature, \$2.8 million in funding has been secured ... [See more](#)



2-1-1

Get Connected. Get Help.™

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF 211 NEW YORK STATE

United Way of Long Island  ★ Favorites · May 16, 2026 · 3

Congratulations to our spring Workforce Training Development Academy #PowerUp graduates! Thank you, [Bank of America](#), for helping shape the future of employment in Long Island's energy sector. Visit www.unitedwayli.org/WorkforceAcademy to learn more about the next cohort.



United Way of Long Island  ★ Favorites · May 28, 2025 · 3

The FourLeaf Air Show was a success! We had a blast at Jones Beach all weekend long. Thank you [FourLeaf Federal Credit Union](#), our volunteers, and our veterans for remin... [See more](#)



+4

United Way of Long Island  ★ Favorites · May 30, 2026 · 3

United for Impact! We're proud to support our incredible community partners in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Together, we're driving meaningful change across Long Is... [See more](#)



A group of approximately 15 students and adults are standing in front of a large solar panel array. They are dressed in casual attire, with some wearing school uniforms. The solar panels are mounted on a metal frame in the background, under a clear blue sky. The group is posing for a group photo, with some students looking directly at the camera and others looking towards the solar panels.

A group of approximately 15 students and one teacher are standing outside a light-colored, single-story school building. The students are dressed in casual winter clothing like hoodies and jackets. The teacher, an older man wearing a dark cap and jacket, is gesturing with his hands as if speaking to the group. The sky is clear and blue.

A group of approximately 20 people of diverse ages and ethnicities are standing together outdoors in front of a modern building with large glass windows. They are holding a large, white rectangular banner with red and blue text. The banner has a small logo in the top left corner. The main text on the banner reads "Thank You National Grid Foundation for Matching & Trailing the Millions" and "300,000". Below this, in a larger, stylized font, it says "300,000" again, followed by "30,000". The people are dressed in a variety of casual and semi-formal attire, including shirts, blouses, and jackets. Some are wearing ties. The background shows a well-maintained lawn and the exterior of a building with large windows and a glass door.

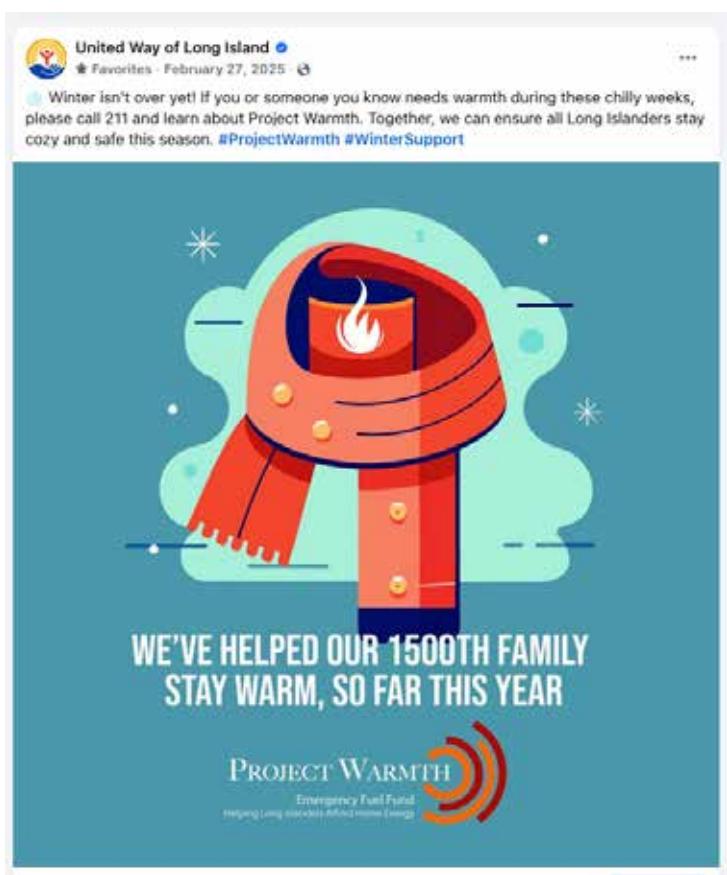
United Way of Long Island   

★ Favorites - May 13, 2025 

Last week United Way's YouthBuild Long Island attended the YouthBuild Global's Directors Conference in Washington, DC. Being in a space with so many passionate and mission-driven leaders always reminds us why this work matters. We are back and feeling inspired, energized, and deeply grateful.

Looking forward to building on this momentum, continued collaboration, and growth alongside this amazing community. To learn more about YouthBuild, visit www.unitedwayli.org/youthbuild-long-island.







United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - February 13, 2025 - 0

Our Young Professionals Network's "Funny Business" Comedy Show last week was a great success, bringing over 225 enthusiastic supporters representing over 90 organizations across Long Island for a great cause: our Long Island veterans. Thank you to everyone who came out to support. We hope you all enjoyed the night filled with laughter!



Boost this post to get more reach for United Way of Long Island.

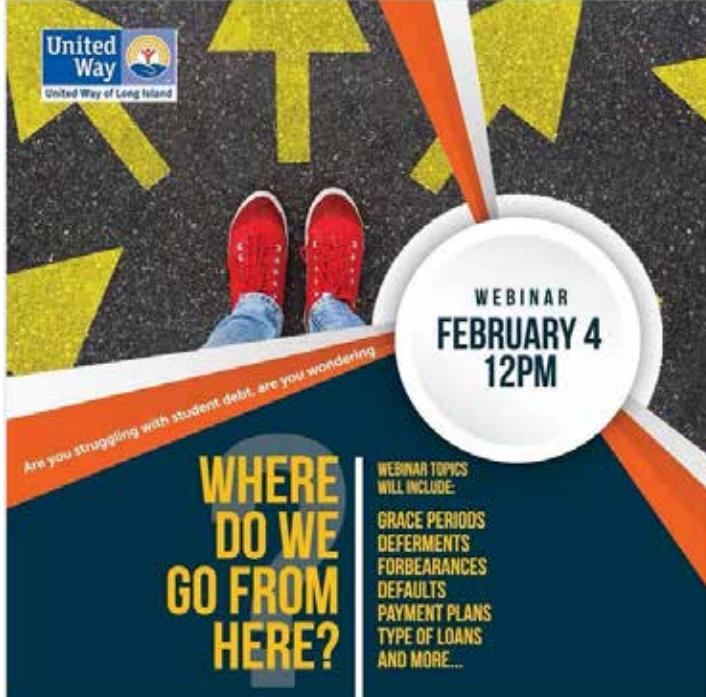
Boost post



United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - January 27, 2025 - 0

Join us for a free webinar to learn about the latest updates on student loans and discover strategies for choosing the best repayment plan. Visit www.unitedwayli.org/SDAP to register, or call/text 631-972-5534 to register.



United Way of Long Island

★ Favorites - February 11, 2025 - 0

February 11th is 2-1-1 day, a reminder that help is just a phone call away. 2-1-1 is the 24/7 go-to resource for information, assistance, and referrals to local services.

Every day, we connect people to resources in the communities where they live. Call, text, click, connect!

#UnitedWayLI #211





**Thank
You**