



UNITED WAY
St. Johns and
Putnam Counties

IMPACT REPORT

2020 - 2025

HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS IN ST. JOHNS AND PUTNAM COUNTIES

There is no greater network for community impact than United Way of St. Johns and Putnam Counties. Since our founding in 1957, we have been improving lives by connecting people, resources, and proven solutions to strengthen our communities every day.

For more than six decades, United Way of St. Johns and Putnam Counties has combined local knowledge with strategic resources to tackle our community's most pressing challenges. We listen closely, respond quickly, and invest in programs that make a lasting difference so more individuals and families can thrive.

Our focus is clear: we build healthier communities, expand educational opportunity, increase financial security, and strengthen community resiliency. By partnering with over 30 local agencies and mobilizing volunteers, donors, and advocates, United Way of St. Johns and Putnam Counties unites our community to take action, improve lives, and create a brighter future for all.

SINCE 2020, UNITED WAY OF ST. JOHNS AND PUTNAM COUNTIES HAS

invested

\$10.3 MILLION

in critical community needs

refunded

\$5 MILLION

through free tax preparation

empowered

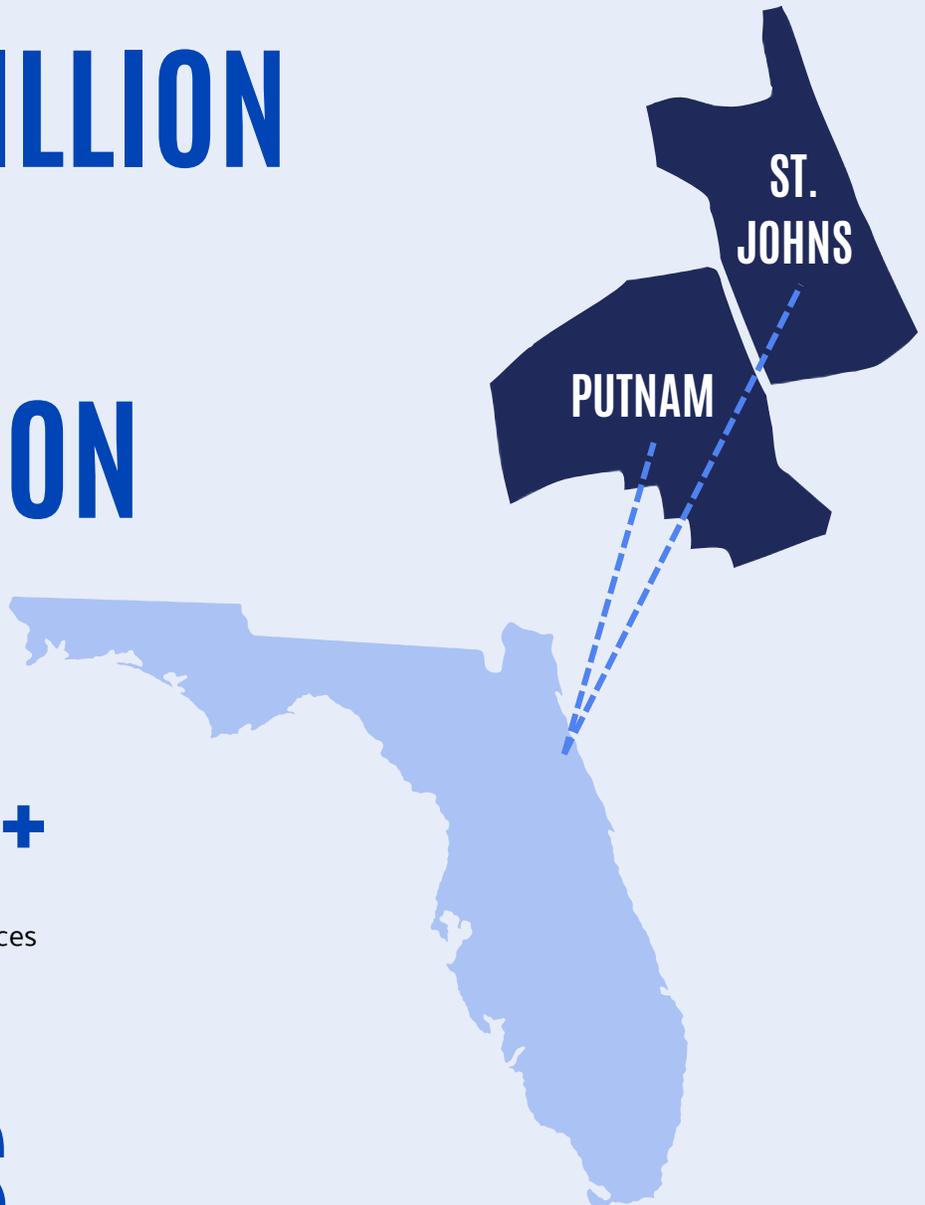
140,000+

people with life-changing resources

distributed

161 TONS

of food to those in most need



LOCAL IMPACT WHERE IT MATTERS MOST

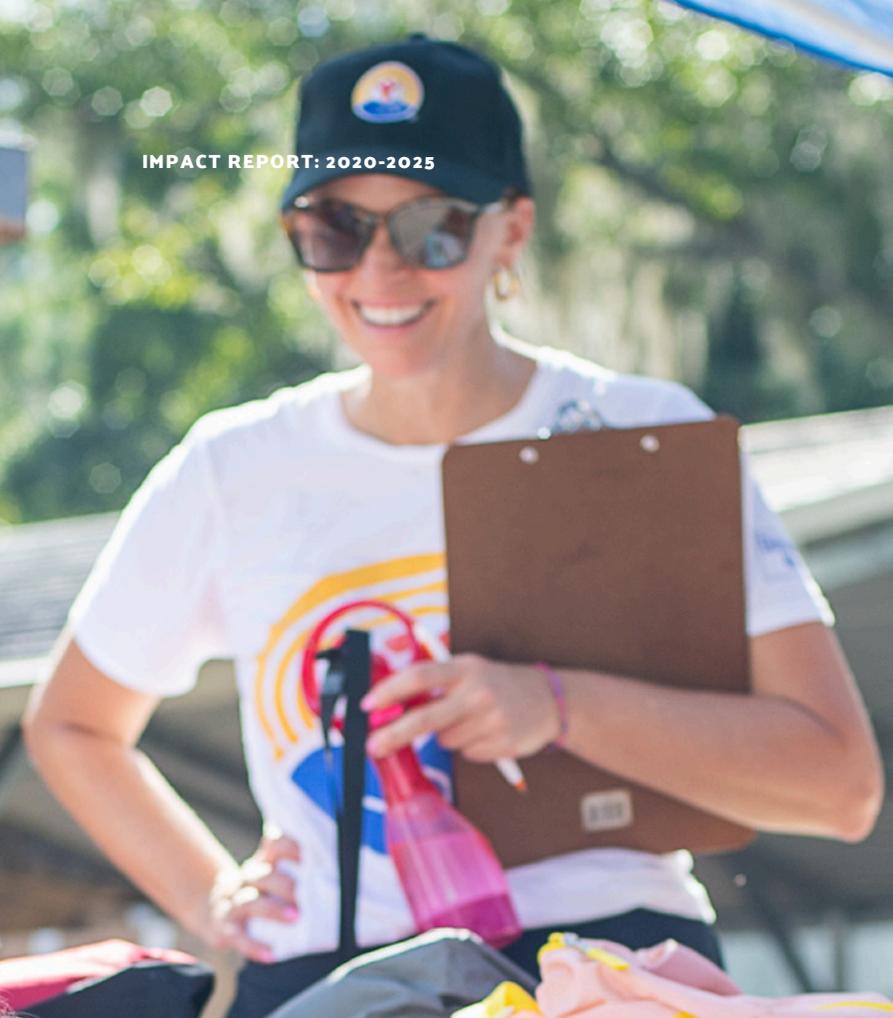
United Way of St. Johns and Putnam Counties is committed to tackling our community's most urgent challenges – from housing and financial stability to education, health, and crisis response. We partner with more than **30 frontline nonprofits** to deliver both immediate relief and long-term solutions for local families. Since 2020, we have invested over **\$3 million** in these efforts.

During our 2025–2027 grant cycle, **\$600,000** will be awarded to dedicated partners, strengthening programs that provide stability, opportunity, and hope to our neighbors. Together, we are not just responding to today's challenges – we are building a stronger, more resilient community for tomorrow.

\$3 Million awarded to partner agencies
(IMPACT SINCE 2020)



UNITED WAY OF ST. JOHNS AND PUTNAM COUNTIES



Student Mental Health

Student mental health is foundational to academic success and long-term well-being. Children who struggle early are far more likely to face academic failure, chronic absenteeism, and lasting life challenges.

Since 2023, thanks to the generous support of the Delores Barr Weaver Legacy Funds, United Way has invested **more than \$150,000 to expand access** to mental health services for local students. These funds provide early intervention, counseling, and trauma-informed care – ensuring children don’t face anxiety, depression, or crisis alone.

By strengthening resilience, emotional health, and confidence, we are helping students succeed today and build a stronger foundation for their future.

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE (IMPACT SINCE 2024)

\$150,000

invested in student mental health

VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)

Nearly one in three local households can’t afford professional tax preparation – leaving hard-earned refunds and critical credits on the table.

Through United Way’s VITA Free Tax Prep program, IRS-certified volunteers ensure families file safely, accurately, and at no cost. By unlocking credits like the Earned Income and Child Tax Credits, we’re putting real dollars back where they belong – in the hands of hardworking families.

Since 2020, United Way has returned **\$5 million to our community**, helping over 5,000 families stay housed, reduce debt, and build a stronger financial future.

VITA - FREE TAX PREPARATION PROGRAM (2025 IMPACT)

\$1.5 Million

refunded back into our community

1,565

returns filed



UNITED WAY OF ST. JOHNS AND PUTNAM COUNTIES

STORIES OF RESILIENCE

Meet Safae - From Surviving to Thriving



SCAN TO WATCH
SAFAE'S STORY

After escaping an abusive relationship with her young son and nowhere to turn, Safae found **safety and support** through our funded partners, including Betty Griffin Center and St. Johns County Homeless Coalition. Today, she has rebuilt her life, is remarried, and growing her family. Safae's journey is one of many that reflects the power of a community united.



Meet Cary - First Time Homeowner at 69



SCAN TO WATCH
CARY'S STORY

At 69, Cary achieved something he once thought was out of reach: he became a homeowner. After decades as a dedicated school bus driver, he finally has a safe, **stable place to call his own**. Like many seniors on fixed incomes, rising housing costs kept that dream just beyond reach. Through our funded partner Habitat for Humanity of St. Johns County, Cary found stability, independence, and peace of mind – another powerful reminder of what's possible when a community comes together.



Putnam County Board of County Commissioners partnered with the United Way to process CARES Act-funded grants, offering up to \$2,500 for households impacted by COVID-19 to cover rent, mortgage, and utilities.

2020



2021

Mobilized volunteers across St. Johns and Putnam counties to support families impacted by COVID-19 through food, goods, and clothing drives, ensuring community members had access to essential resources.

In partnership with the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners, United Way deployed over \$4 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds to expand critical social services and support local nonprofits during COVID-19.

2022



2023

United Way presented a sold-out benefit concert at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre in celebration of Chillula's 20th anniversary, successfully engaging the community and raising support for our programs.

The Delores Barr Weaver Legacy Fund at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida awarded a \$745,000 grant to United Way to support programs focused on literacy, VITA tax assistance, and student mental health initiatives.

2024



2025

Officially changed our name to United Way of St. Johns and Putnam Counties and proudly participated as an early adopter in the United Way network's brand refresh, positioning our organization at the forefront of a national rebranding initiative.

Our 9th Annual Givers Gala raised more than \$270,000, making it the most successful gala in our organization's history and supporting resiliency across St. Johns and Putnam Counties.

2026





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