

INVESTMENT & PROGRAM OUTCOMES in PINELLAS COUNTY



United Way Suncoast provides pathways to education and financial stability that give everyone in our community the freedom to rise. Our community impact strategy leads us to invest funds and resources into specific communities where our ALICE families live. By identifying zones of focus for our investments, we ensure that our partnerships are best positioned to maximize and multiply impact.

COMMUNITY CONDITIONS

ALICE in Pinellas County

49% are ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) or below from July 2022-June 2023; 72 UWS Strategic Community Partners served 443,111 people in Pinellas County alone. On average, 92% of them identify as ALICE individuals.

Dollars Invested

- \$3,089,521 invested in Early Learning, Financial Stability, Youth Success, Eviction Mitigation, and other community support programs. An additional \$1,080,000 invested in United Way Suncoast initiatives, resources, and administration.

Number of Strategic Community Partners

- 25 programs supported through Annual Investment, +8 United Way Suncoast led programs, centers, and initiatives.

Focus Areas

Early Learning, Youth Success, Financial Stability, Eviction Mitigation, Support Services

State of Early Learning and Education

Florida Kindergarten Readiness (FLKRS): In 2022, approximately 58% of kindergartners were "Ready for Kindergarten" in Pinellas County. Students who complete Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten are more likely to be prepared for kindergarten than those who do not.
Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST): In Pinellas County, only 34% of students in UWS Schools of Focus, are reading on grade level in 3rd grade.

Youth Success

- Youth homelessness** – In the 2022-2023 school year, 921 students reported homelessness in Pinellas County, and about 71% of those students graduated on time. School district data shows that 3x as many unhoused students drop out of high school compared to their peers.
- Economic status** – children who are eligible for free or reduced price lunch are considered to be economically disadvantaged by the Florida Department of Education. In 2022, 67% of high school students in Pinellas county are identified as economically disadvantaged. School district data shows that 4x as many low-income students drop out of high school.

Eviction and Housing Crisis

- The average rent in Pinellas County for a 2-bedroom apartment is \$1,699 as of June 2023.
- Families earning the median annual household income, which is ~\$57,000, are rent cost burdened in Pinellas county; they are paying more than 30% of their household income per month on rent.
- UWS invested \$3 million in the housing crisis, collaborating with the following partners to help mitigate the challenge:

University Area CDC, CDC of Tampa, Metropolitan Ministries, Devereaux Advanced Behavioral Health, Positive Spin, Bay Area Legal Services, 211 Tampa Bay Cares, PEMHS, Community Law Program, and Homeless Leadership Alliance.

WHAT UNITED WAY SUNCOAST IS DOING

Eviction Mitigation

- Provided \$128,980 in direct assistance to households in Pinellas County through RISE funding.
- Supported 1,747 people with eviction mitigation efforts through the Community Navigators in Pinellas county. Of those individuals served, every one of them were kept in their homes or helped to achieve new stable housing.
- 90% of the Publix Last Resort Fund went to rent or housing issues. \$67,947 supported community members in Pinellas county.

Early Learning

- Early learning partners served 6,747 children, parents, caregivers, and teachers; 88% of those served were ALICE, approximately 93% were children and youth.
- Summer Learning programs have provided 242 scholarships supporting five different summer programs.

FINANCIAL STABILITY

**+\$1.3M
INVESTED**

into all of UWS supported Financial Stability work (Strategic Community Partners, Eviction Mitigation, and Siemer) in Pinellas County.

**33.5K
PEOPLE**

Supported by 45 Strategic Community Partners, programs and initiatives supported by United Way Suncoast to address workforce needs, encourage safe banking, saving, and spending habits, and reduce barriers to workforce development, including food insecurity.

**390
PEOPLE**

Supported by United Way Strategic Community Partners in earning certificates or higher education degrees to further their career possibilities.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VITA)

**15
SITES**

in Pinellas County processed 2,564 returns (all returns, through AARP, MacDill, and United Way Specific Programming). Returns were processed through more than 4,100 volunteer hours.

**+\$2.8M
IN REFUNDS**

returned to the Pinellas County community.

YOUTH SUCCESS

**\$248K
INVESTED**

**6
PROGRAMS**

**+2K
STUDENTS**

UWS invested \$247,779 in 6 Pinellas County youth success programs.

RESOURCE CENTERS

**900
MEAL KITS**

**641
PEOPLE**

**1,507
PEOPLE**

**393
CLIENTS**

Campbell Park provided 900 meal kits to the community, and provided case management to 641 people.

North Greenwood served 1,507 people and enrolled 393 clients in programs or referrals.

**4,474
VISITS**

**2,837
INDIVIDUALS**

All three neighborhood resource centers – Campbell Park, North Greenwood and Sulphur Springs – saw 4,474 visits and connected 2,837 people to basic needs.