

# UNITING THE MAT-SU

*"It's not how much we give but how much **love** we put into giving." — Mother Theresa*



United Way of Mat-Su

## 2021 Community Impact Grants

Your generous contribution makes it possible

for us to support the work of numerous other

Valley agencies serving the Mat-Su in the areas of:

Food and Basic Needs, Health, Human, Senior,  
and Social Services.

### 2021 Grant Awardees

- American Red Cross of Alaska - Disaster Assistance, Training and Response, \$10,000.00
- Boys & Girls Club of Mat-Su - \$10,000.00
- CCS Early Learning - Early Head Start and Head Start Programs, \$10,000.00
- Kabayan Club Inc. of Mat-Su - Homemade Face Covering Project, \$1,000.00
- Mat-Su Senior Services - Core Programs, \$10,000.00
- Onward & Upward - Health, Wellness, and SEL Support for Youth Suicide Prevention, \$3,337.00
- Set Free Alaska - Adult & Children's Programs, \$10,000.00
- Sunshine Community Health Center - Counseling Services, \$10,000.00
- Sunshine Transit - Transportation in the Mat-Su, \$10,000.00
- The Children's Place - Medical Exams, Copays and Deductibles, \$10,000.00
- Valley Charities - Lift Gate Replacement, \$5,663.00
- Wasilla Area Seniors Inc., - Senior Nutrition Program, \$10,000.00



Our donors and volunteers are the backbone of our mission in the Mat-Su: Striving for sustainable, equal access to the building blocks for a better life.

With your support we continue to grow and evolve along with our community. For over 30 years, we have been answering the call the help change lives by gathering helping hands, raising funds and collecting resources that can meet the needs of Valley residents, as soon as those needs arise.



## WHEN THE STAKES ARE HIGH

We rise higher, leading the way toward sustainable, equitable change for all of the Mat-Su.

**EACH OF US HAS  
SOMETHING  
EXTRAORDINARY  
TO OFFER**



# HELPING EACH PERSON ACHIEVE THEIR BEST .

2021 was a year of growth and positive change for several of our programs.

As the community cautiously reopened, so too did our activities and programs offered through **Thrive Mat-Su**.

From swimming and archery to Youth ACEs training and internships, Thrive has gathered together youth from around the Valley for free, friendship-focused, substance-free fun.

Dozens of volunteers met every month to pack sacks full of snack items for Valley little ones with the **Early Childhood Partnership**. The Meals for Mat-Su Littles program has reached over 600 children ages 6 and under since it began.

After two years of rigorous work by volunteer case managers, not to mention the survivors themselves, **Mat-Su COAD's LTRG** closed out its recovery efforts for the McKinley Fire. Throughout the year, we continued to convene agencies from across the Mat-Su to find solutions to the **COVID-19 crisis**.



Despite the continued challenges presented by the COVID-19 crisis, UWMS persevered during 2021, rising to the challenges and finding innovative ways to reach more Mat-Su residents with needed assistance of many types.

Through it all, we have maintained the high standards to which we hold ourselves when it comes to volunteer coordination, community outreach and especially donations management.

**6.9%**

This year's overhead rate for UWMS is 6.9%.

Anything less than 15% is considered the Gold Standard for nonprofits.

Every dollar raised by United Way of Mat-Su stays right here, benefitting your community through:

- Community Impact Grants
- Stuff the Bus Back to School Fair
- Project Homeless Connect
- Play 60 Day with the Seattle Seahawks
- Local resource expertise

Our small but mighty staff are dedicated to making the Mat-Su its best by being our best.

**Stuff the Bus 2021 returned to the Menard Center, where over 600 Valley students received what they needed to look and feel their best on the first day of school.**