

United Way Fights for Youth Opportunities

At the beginning of each school year, children in public and community school kindergarten programs are assessed using Ohio's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment. This assessment includes ways for teachers to measure a child's readiness for engaging with instruction aligned to the kindergarten standards. Less than half of the children in Lake County enter kindergarten with enough skills, knowledge, and abilities to engage in kindergarten-level instruction. That means 57% of Lake County children may never catch up and risk being left behind throughout school.

Source: <https://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/download>

Kindergarten Readiness Scores			
2023-2024 School Year	Demonstrating (270-298)	Approaching (258-269)	Emerging (202-257)
W/E Schools	40.0%	32.4%	24.6%

Willoughby residents directly benefited from these *Education* based United Way funded services this past year:

Agency	Program	Services
Lifeline	Dolly Parton Imagination Library	727
CROSSROADS HEALTH	Crossroads Health Ohio Early Intervention	70
Torchlight Youth Mentoring Alliance	Traditional Community Based Mentor Program	15
Starting Point	Child Care Provider Training	14
LAKE-GEAUGA RECOVERY CENTERS INC	Residential Child Care Worker	2

United Way Fights for Financial Stability

At United Way of Lake County, we work to remove barriers to self-sufficiency, including: transportation, adult education, stable housing, emergency services, banked with savings, basic life skills, food insecurity and safety. Our goal involves giving the hard-working residents of our community the ability to prosper by ensuring every individual and family has access to education, training, services, and resources.

2023 Poverty/ALICE* Data for Willoughby

Households: 11,753

- Percentage of Poverty Households= 10%
- Percentage of ALICE Households= 28%

Source: <https://www.unitedforalice.org/ohio>

*-ALICE, an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed, is a new way of defining and understanding the struggles of households that earn above the Federal Poverty Level, but not enough to afford a bare-bones household budget.

More on the other side!



Willoughby residents directly benefited from these *Financial Stability* based United Way funded services last year:

AGENCY	PROGRAM	SERVICES
Willoughby City School District	Family Resource Center of Willoughby	1,708
Lifeline	2-1-1 Lake County	966
Lake County YMCA	Financial Assistance	268
LGBTQ LAKE COUNTY	Safe Spaces Training	26
The Salvation Army Corps Community Center	Emergency Services	18

United Way Fights for Healthy Communities

Too many individuals in Lake County live in distress from being uninsured or under-insured. When it comes to accessing health services, a person's zip code, standing in life and job and financial status can serve as a harsh barrier to quality healthcare.

Willoughby residents directly benefited from these Health based United Way funded services last year:

Top 5 services only

AGENCY	PROGRAM	SERVICES
NAMI OF LAKE COUNTY	Ending the Silence	984
LAKE COUNTY FREE CLINIC	Providing Vital Medical Care in Lake County	67
HOSPICE OF THE WESTERN RESERVE INC	Western Reserve Navigator: Bringing In-Home Palliative Care to Seniors Living with Advanced Illness	26
BIRTHRIGHT LAKE INC	Baby Formula	25
LAKE COUNTY FREE CLINIC	Case Management for Continuous Improvement	17

In addition to funding great programs to help Willoughby residents, United Way regularly provides food to the following food pantries as part of our Feed Lake County program:

- McKinley Outreach Center
- St. Noel's Church
- Willoughby United Methodist Church

