

# LIVE UNITED



**Monadnock United Way**

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who is the Monadnock United Way?

Monadnock United Way is dedicated to improving lives by mobilizing diverse partners and investing in programs and people to create long-lasting, measurable change.

For more than 65 years, MUW has been committed to creating better lives for all in our region. Our five-year strategic plan, released in 2016, provides a roadmap for investing in our community. We invest in programs focused on solving issues related to our focus areas of [Children](#), [Education](#), and [Financial Stability/Basic Needs](#).

### Why Children, Education, Financial Stability, and Basic Needs

In 2012, the Monadnock United Way and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation partnered with the NH Center for Public Policy Studies to conduct extensive research with a goal of uncovering gaps in the well-being of people living in the Monadnock region.

Of the many factors that influence a community's well-being, the three foundational areas of children, education and financial stability were identified as high priority issues that MUW is uniquely positioned to address.

### Why give to the Monadnock United Way?

You make a difference. You are making an investment that benefits the entire community, not just one program, issue, or population and this leads to a stronger, more sustainable place to live and work. It is a smart investment. MUW provides expert management of donor investments and brings the right people, ideas, and resources together to solve the most pressing needs of our community, finding innovative solutions for lasting change. MUW leverages your contribution by combining it with others and strategically investing in results-driven programs and initiatives to maximize the impact we have in the community. It is easy and convenient. With online pledging, payroll deduction, and donor designations it is easy to give back in a way that matters to you.

### How can I give to Monadnock United Way?

Payroll deduction is our most popular form of payment. It's efficient and convenient: you decide what to contribute and it comes right out of your paycheck a little at a time. It's secure and confidential: your payroll deduction is handled by your employer and automatically ends should you leave your job for any reason. Donors may also write a check, give cash, or use a credit or debit card to make their gift. Donations may also be made online at <https://app.mobilecause.com/form/ZRKvIQ?vid=5spro>.

### **What if I don't think I can afford to give?**

By using the payroll deduction plan, you can invest a small amount each pay period and see it add up to a significant gift by year's end. Your investment combined with thousands of others will have a real, measurable impact in the community.

### **Why choose the MUW Community Impact Fund?**

Making significant progress on community-wide problems requires a community-wide effort. Resources of nonprofit service providers are most effectively used if they are aligned and collectively deployed. Contributing to the Community Impact Fund supports an effort to collective impact, with your dollars being strategically allocated to a variety of organizations, programs, and collectives that work together toward better childcare, educations, and financial stability of our residents. [Click here to see the most recent Community Impact Report.](#)

### **Can I give directly to my favorite agency?**

Yes! The donor choice program is comprehensive, allowing designations to specific focus areas, affiliated agencies, non-affiliated agencies, or other United Ways. A donor may designate a portion or the full amount of his or her contribution to any 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

### **How is my contribution invested?**

We invest strategically in programs and collective initiatives we believe will achieve specific outcomes in our three focus areas. In addition to the focus areas, MUW invests in programs that meet the basic needs of community members: food, shelter, heat and transportation.

We invite individual agencies and collective initiatives to submit funding proposals. Funding recommendations are made by our Investment Review Teams — groups of volunteers who spend more than 100 hours each year reviewing, analyzing and evaluating all grant applications for the most effective and promising solutions that support our focus areas.

We also directly fund [Impact Monadnock](#), MUW's signature early childhood initiative.

### **What else does Monadnock United Way do besides fund agencies?**

In addition to raising and investing dollars, Monadnock United Way brings together community stakeholders, contributors, and agency partners to create collaborative and innovative approaches to help solve community issues.

### **How do people get help from Monadnock United Way?**

Monadnock United Way supports 10 initiatives equaling 33 agencies in the Monadnock Region that help people every day. A list of these programs and our partner agencies can be found on our website (<https://www.muw.org/2020-investments>). People looking for assistance can also contact 2-1-1 for free referral services or visit <http://www.211nh.org/>.