



Greater Valdosta United Way

*Serving South Georgia*

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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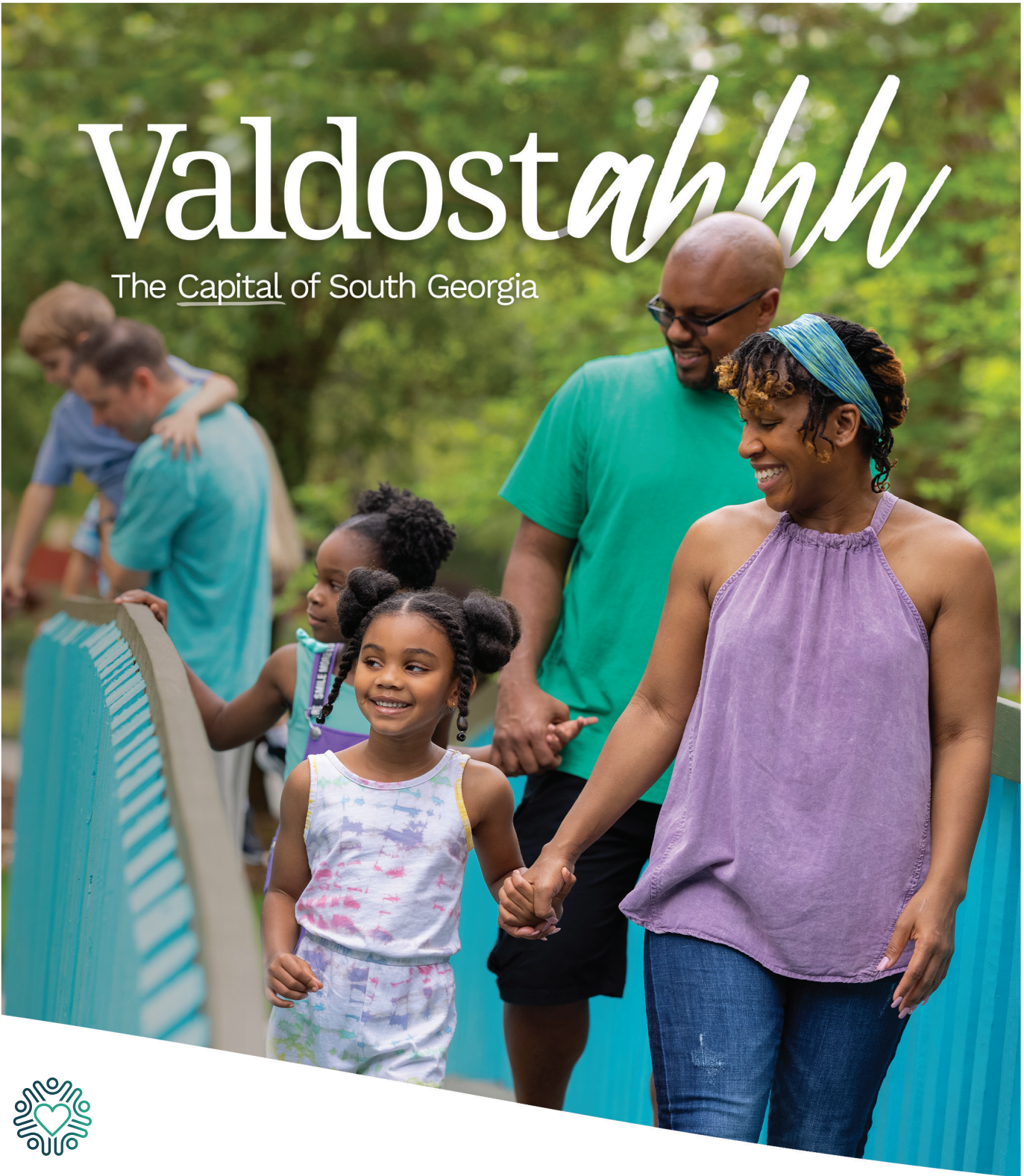
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# Valdosta *ahhh*

The Capital of South Georgia



## **United for a common cause.**

It takes a village. We are delighted to collaborate with Greater Valdosta United Way, working towards providing every member of our community a chance to prosper. Join us in advocating for a more resilient community, bonded in the passion of giving back to local businesses.

VISIT  
**Valdosta**  
GEORGIA

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## Dear South Georgia,

Our goals in 2023 remained unwavering compared to those set in the years past: seek out strategic partnerships, advocate for the region, and engage with the community to actively address challenges and develop impactful solutions that enhance the well-being of individuals and nonprofits across our 11-county region.

With a commitment to delivering tangible results, our staff and board elected to invest in programs and services that prioritize the delivery of essential life necessities, raising awareness about mental health, fostering youth development, promoting physical health and wellness, and ensuring safe housing and resources.

Thanks to Michael's strategic partnership as chair of the United Ways of Georgia Association (UWGA) and its advocacy efforts, Georgia became the 29th state to adopt ALICE. ALICE stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed, and sheds light on the mounting problem of financial instability in the United States by demonstrating that households may be earning more than the Federal Poverty Level, but they are still finding it difficult to pay for necessities.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Idalia, nonprofits played a crucial role in providing food, shelter, and financial support to community members. Thanks to the generosity of corporate donors, GVUW helped both partner and non-partner local nonprofits and individuals and families recover, rebuild, and prepare for the next disaster. The hurricane highlighted the need for community collaboration between emergency responders, government partners, and nonprofit organizations to establish a Community Organization Active in Disaster (COAD), which is a collaborative effort to ensure necessary supplies, support, and financial assistance for community members during and after a disaster.

As members of the GVUW Board of Directors, we can attest to the difference GVUW is making in the community. At GVUW, we are dedicated to enhancing the lives of underserved individuals and families throughout the region. It is a significant endeavor that requires support from a dedicated group of volunteers and a passionate staff. We are immensely grateful for the hundreds of volunteers who generously contribute their time and talents to the GVUW and the nonprofits we partner with.

2023 is a year that the GVUW staff and board are truly proud of, and we hope this annual report highlights the successes of our organization and those of our impact partners. The issues that local nonprofits aim to solve are intricate and often require a multi-organizational approach. Thanks to our collaboration with impact partners, donors, local leaders, and volunteers, 2023 was one of the most impactful years in our 70-year history.

We hope that our stakeholders are satisfied with our year-in-review and will continue to LIVE UNITED with us.

## Sincerely,

*Michael Smith*

CEO/President  
GVUW

*Marty Ellison*

2023 Board Chair  
GVUW Board

*Jammie Wilbanks*

2023 Campaign Chair  
GVUW Board





# *Have a Heart. Lend a Hand. Make a Difference.*

## **Proud Partner of the Greater Valdosta United Way**

The remarkable people of SGMC Health pride themselves in giving back, not only in the service of health care but also in the service of people. In FY22, employees volunteered more than 11,000 hours at various agencies and organizations throughout our community. Whether it was participating in the Greater Valdosta United Way's semiannual Day of Caring, packing food boxes at the food bank, donating blood, or participating in a 5K, our employees are always willing to step up and help where needed.

Not only do they give of themselves through servitude, but they also give financially to others in need through SGMC Health's Care Share program, a voluntary payroll deduction that supports the GVUW and designated employees experiencing dire financial emergencies. Last year, this program received \$47,000. Of that amount, \$23,500 went directly to the Greater Valdosta United Way.



**Miracle League of Valdosta**



**LAMP**



**Second Harvest of South Georgia**



**Boys & Girls Club**



# The First

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# Greater Valdosta United Way Staff

**Michael Smith**  
CEO/President

**Robin Plymale**  
Financial Manager

**Susan Nebel**  
Community Impact Director  
Agency Relations

**Korrelle Trollmann**  
Direct Services Coordinator

**Logan Cole**  
Development/Marketing Coordinator

## Board of Directors

### Executive Committee

**Marty Ellison, Board Chair**  
Miller Hardware

**Dr. Jammie Wilbanks, Campaign Chair**  
Wiregrass Technical College

**Andy Griffin, Treasurer**  
Commercial Banking Company

**Jennifer Denham, Secretary**  
Bridgewell Resources

### Additional Members

**Angela Ward**  
Gamechangers

**Jacinta Howell**  
Moody AFB

**Kara Hope Hanson**  
SGMC Health

**Olivia McCarty**  
Ambling

**Stan Crance**  
Packing Corporation of America

**Annika Register**  
Coleman Talley, LLP

**Jennifer Price**  
City of Hahira

**Kate Evans**  
IPG Architects

**Paulette D. Brown**  
Wiregrass Technical College

**Tiffany Stewart**  
CJB Industries

**Frank McTier**  
Synovus Bank

**Joe Brownlee**  
Georgia Power Company

**Miguel Vincente**  
South Georgia Regional Library

**Richard Welch**  
The First Bank

**Tommy Cangelosi**  
Landmark Realty & Investments



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United  
Way



Greater Valdosta United Way

229.242.2208

# Advocacy



## Making the Call for 211 Funding in South Georgia

Michael Smith, GVUW President and CEO, continues to work with state and federal legislators to secure funding to extend the 211 system into South Georgia.

The 211 system is a 24/7 go-to resource supported by United Way Worldwide, with trained referral specialists directing people to local agencies providing food, shelter, utility assistance, employment opportunities, emergency information, and much more.

“Georgia is not at 100 percent coverage,” Smith said. “It’s a United Way priority and greatly needed, especially in rural communities. It would have been invaluable for us in Valdosta and surrounding counties during recovery from Hurricane Idalia when people needed to know where to go for assistance.”

“The GVUW continues to work with members of the Georgia General Assembly to secure state support to bring the 211 program in rural South Georgia,” said John Crawford, Principal of the Government Affairs division of Coleman Talley Strategies, LLC. “We were successful in getting an appropriation in last year’s budget bill, but unfortunately, our appropriation was vetoed. We are working hard to be included in the FY 2025 budget.”

Please contact your state and federal officials to advocate for 211 funding for South Georgia.

## Hurricane Recovery

In the aftermath of Hurricane Idalia, the GVUW and partner nonprofits collaborated with city and county officials to establish strategic locations across affected areas for food distribution and coordinated multiple state and national agencies that arrived to provide disaster relief.

Smith said this multifaceted approach included various community organizations, like the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce.

“We were able to work closely with the Chamber and leverage their social media platforms and other communication channels to get the most up-to-date information out as quickly as possible,” Smith said. “The Chamber’s assistance was pivotal in getting the business community involved in relief efforts.”

Smith expressed gratitude for the prompt emergency relief response from state and federal leaders, including Governor Brian Kemp, U.S. Senator Jon Ossoff, and U.S. Senator Raphael Warnock, who visited Valdosta and surveyed areas severely affected by the hurricane.

“A big debt of gratitude goes to our legislators, at all levels, for their swift action and unwavering support in fast-tracking assistance to Valdosta and surrounding counties in the aftermath of Hurricane Idalia,” said Marty Ellison, GVUW Board Chair. “Their proactive and continued attention helped South Georgia receive vital resources and aid during this challenging time.”

*Michael Smith and U.S. Senator Jon Ossoff at Second Harvest of South Georgia*



## Mental Health Awareness

GVUW is supportive of United Way Worldwide’s advocacy work on the Help Act legislation, which is focused on increasing nationwide accessibility and coordination of 211 and 988. These services provide information and referrals throughout the U.S. for mental health emergencies, homelessness, and other social and human service needs.



## ALICE Report Provides a Look at the Forgotten Families

Across the U.S., hardworking men and women of all ages struggle to pay for necessities to remain stable and self-sufficient.

### The ALICE in Georgia: A Study of Financial Hardship

The report highlights this often overlooked and seemingly forgotten population of employed families caught between low earnings and the rising cost of essentials, such as housing, transportation, food, and child care.



#### HOUSING AVAILABILITY

There is a shortage of 200,000 affordable rental units at or below 30% of Area Median Income in Georgia



#### MENTAL HEALTH

According to the Household Pulse Survey, 22% of respondents below the Threshold reported feeling nervous, anxious, or on edge nearly every day.



#### LACK OF SAVINGS

42% of families below the ALICE Threshold in Georgia have emergency savings or rainy-day funds compared to 80% above the threshold

ALICE is an acronym for **A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mployed, and represents families and individuals that earn above the Federal Poverty Line (FPL) yet live paycheck to paycheck and are often one unplanned expense or emergency away from a financial crisis.

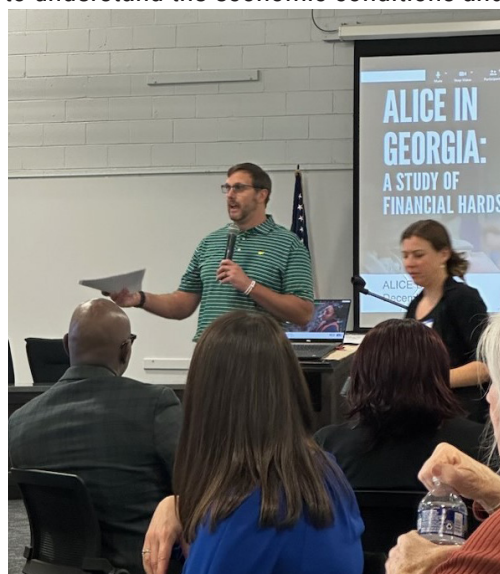
“We all know ALICE,” said Michael Smith, President and CEO of GVUW. “ALICE is the recent college graduate unable to afford to live on their own, the young family strapped by child care costs, the mid-career professional who is underemployed. These folks are vital to our state’s future economic well-being, and they face barriers beyond their control—preventing their ability to become financially stable.”

The United Way of Georgia Association (UWGA), which is composed of 31 United Way organizations, led the effort for Georgia to become the 29th state to participate in United for ALICE, a grassroots movement led by United Way of Northern New Jersey. Smith served as UWGA Chair from 2022-2023.

Based upon the highest quality, unbiased data, Georgia’s report identifies unique and specific demographics and barriers to financial stability within the state’s 159 counties.

On a national level, ALICE reports have been instrumental in leading conversations that forge partnerships with nonprofits, educators, business leaders, governmental officials, and community stakeholders to understand the economic conditions and identify opportunities and strategies to support ALICE families.

“We want our legislators to be aware so they can allocate state and federal dollars to communities with the highest ALICE numbers, which are often rural communities,” said Smith. “United Ways and nonprofits can better use the information to focus dollars and resources on ALICE families, prepare grants, and develop fundraising strategies that inform donors on the most pressing needs in their communities.”



Michael Smith speaking at United for ALICE boot camp in December 2023 in Macon, Georgia



For more information on  
**UNITED FOR ALICE**  
Scan Here

# By the Numbers 2023

The financial statements for Greater Valdosta United Way, for the fiscal year ending 12/31/2023.

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## Investment to Impact Partner Nonprofits

**\$802,200**

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## Community Impact Grants

**\$67,813**

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## Mental Health Training and Awareness

**\$72,279**

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## Hurricane Idalia Response and Recovery

**\$142,581**

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## Distributed in Direct Services

**\$27,336**

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## Non-Partner Nonprofit Organizations

**\$5,266**

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## Food Distribution in Pounds

**7,083**

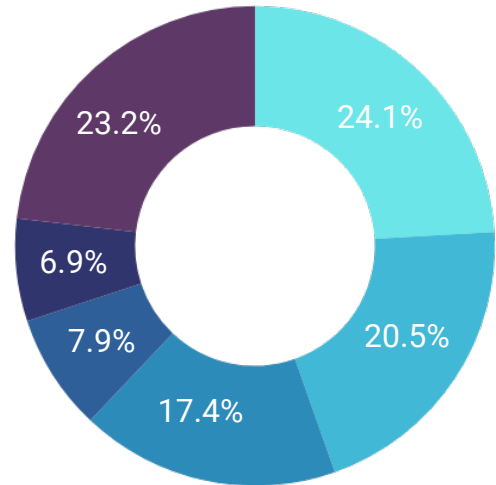
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## Food Pantry Box Locations

**13**

## Revenues

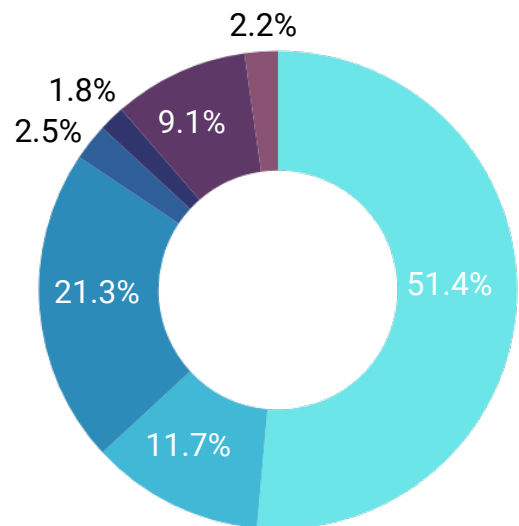
- Workplace Giving
- Grants & Foundations
- Leader Givers & Individuals
- Investment Income
- Events & Other
- Hurricane Idalia Support



**\$1,730,413**  
TOTAL REVENUE 2023

## Expenses

- Partner Nonprofit Funding
- Community Programs & Grants
- Management & General
- Fundraising
- Direct Services
- Hurricane Idalia Direct Services
- Non Collectable Pledges



**\$1,569,849**  
TOTAL EXPENSES 2023

\* Additional Hurricane Idalia funds to be distributed throughout 2024  
 \* Totals may be estimates until audited financials are complete



Habitat  
for Humanity  
Valdosta-Lowndes County

Kristin Hanna  
Vice President of Marketing & Development



# Impact Partner Nonprofits and Program Support

In 2023, the Greater Valdosta United Way provided \$802,200 to 22 impact partner nonprofits to fund various programs and services that address health, education, financial stability, and basic needs. Every program is evaluated, measured, and reported for impact over time to ensure they make a difference in the areas that matter the most.

## **ACTO**

**Alzheimer's Caregiver Time-Out**  
Respite Care for the Elderly

## **American Red Cross**

Disaster Cycle Services

## **Beautiful Creations**

Youth Afterschool and Mentoring

## **Boy Scouts of America**

**South Georgia Council**

Traditional Scouting and Scoutreach

## **Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta**

Afterschool and Summer Programs

## **Children's Advocacy Center**

Prevention and Health, Mental Health Training and Child Abuse Services

## **Camp Rock of Georgia**

Wilderness and Summer Camps, Scholarships for Masterpieces Counseling and Therapy

## **Easterseals Southern Georgia**

Family Support and Specialized Medical Supplies

## **Girls on the Run South Georgia**

Heart & Soul Program (6th-8th Grade)  
GOTR (3rd-5th Grade)

## **Habitat for Humanity**

New Home Construction, ReStore, Veteran Repairs, and Aging in Place

## **The Haven**

Domestic Violence, Rehousing, Training and Awareness

## **Jacobs' Ladder**

Therapeutic Horseback Riding for Veterans, Individuals with Special Needs and Youth

## **Living Bridges Ministry**

Transformations Educational Classes and Food Services

## **LAMP**

**Lowndes Associated Ministries of People**

Supportive Housing for Men, Women, and Families and Homeless Outreach

## **LARC**

**Lowndes Advocacy Resource Center**

Habilitation Programs for Adults with Disabilities

## **Partnership Health Center**

Medical and Dental Services for Low Income Individuals

## **Magnolia House**

Domestic Violence and Rehousing

## **The Miracle League of Valdosta**

Organized Sports for Youth and Adults with Disabilities

## **The Salvation Army**

Social Service Programs and Men's Emergency Shelter

## **Second Harvest of South Georgia**

Mass Food Distribution and Disaster Response

## **YMCA**

Afterschool Childcare, Summer Camps, and Champions League

## **Youth IMPACT Center**

Afterschool Programs, Educational Programs, and Family Counseling Services

For more information, visit: [gvuw.org/partner-nonprofits](http://gvuw.org/partner-nonprofits)

# Days of Caring

Hundreds of volunteers donated their time for our 2023 Days of Caring to help improve our community.

## Moody AFB Volunteers

---

Volunteers from Moody gave their time to help local nonprofits.

**80**  
volunteers

**4**  
project locations

## School Groups

---

Local students volunteered at multiple locations throughout the year.

**50+**  
elementary, high school,  
and college  
volunteers

**100+**  
hours spent filling  
GVUW community  
food pantries

## Spring Day of Caring

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Semi-annual event organized by GVUW to support impact partner nonprofits by assembling volunteers to complete service projects.

**134**  
volunteers

**12**  
project locations

## Fall Day of Caring

---

Semi-annual event organized by GVUW to support impact partner nonprofits by assembling volunteers to complete service projects.

**155**  
volunteers

**13**  
project locations

**1**  
non-partner  
project location

## Total Estimated Volunteer Hours for 2023

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**1,600+ hours (estimated \$50,880 value)**

*\*The current estimated national value of each volunteer hour is \$31.80*





# American Red Cross



**American Red Cross**  
Georgia

“When Hurricane Idalia hit our community, we had Red Cross volunteers from across the country ready to serve meals, provide shelter, and distribute clean-up supplies. Then we provided individual financial assistance for residents with majorly impacted or destroyed homes. The Greater Valdosta United Way provided the Red Cross additional funds because of our local hurricane relief efforts.”

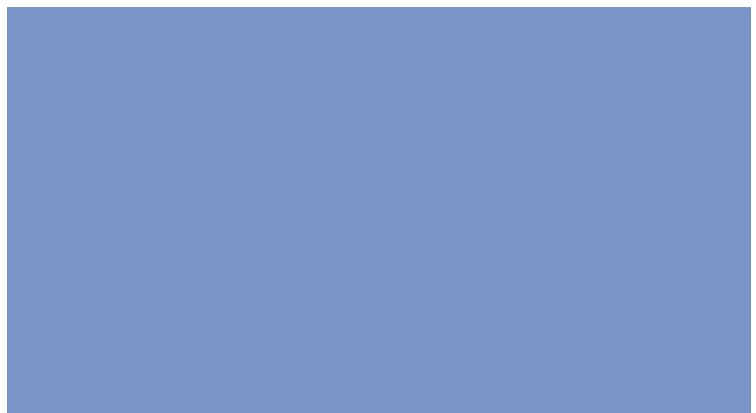
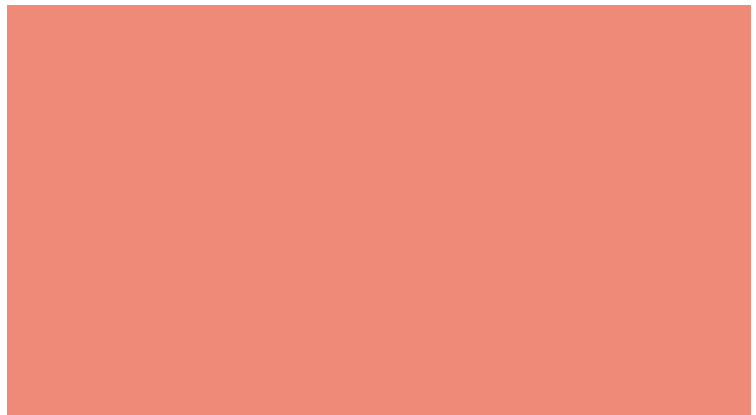
– Jacqueline Shoemaker,  
*Executive Director of South Central Georgia  
American Red Cross*

## GVUW Funding Provided

- 471**  
Smoke Alarms Installed
- 208**  
Households Made Safe
- 60**  
Youth Educated on Fire Safety

## Service to GVUW Counties

- 126**  
Disaster Cases
- 386**  
Disaster Household Cases
- 1,118**  
Individuals Served
- 166**  
Home and Fire Cases



# Girls on the Run South Georgia



“Studies show that a girl’s self-confidence drops significantly at nine. Girls on the Run aims to reach girls at this critical age and positively impact their lives. Thanks to funding from the United Way, we provide after-school snacks to all our girls and running shoes and scholarships for families who otherwise couldn’t afford our program. All of which allows us to impact the lives of young girls across South Georgia.”

– Mary Crawford

*Executive Director of Girls on the Run South Georgia*



## GVUW Funding Provided

**397**

Girls Able to Participate in Spring and/or Fall Sessions

**65%**

Received Partial Scholarships

**40%**

Received Full Scholarships

**97%**

of GOTR participants credit the program with allowing them to transfer life skills and manage emotions, resolve conflict, help others, and make intentional decisions

**559**

Girls Participated in GOTR in 2023



# The Salvation Army



“As the cost of food and essential necessities continues to rise, we witness many families grappling with being able to pay their utility bills. We deeply appreciate the support from the United Way, which enables us to offer utility assistance to families navigating various challenges. We are proud to be a United Way partner agency and part of a tremendous network of nonprofits dedicated to assisting people in need.”

– Hoon and Judy Chung,  
*Captains with the Salvation Army of Valdosta*

## GVUW Funding Provided

**\$33,500**

Utility Assistance

**\$1,500**

Bathroom Renovation

**\$1,500**

Senior Angel Christmas Gifts

**\$2,220**

Hurricane Meals and Personal Care Products

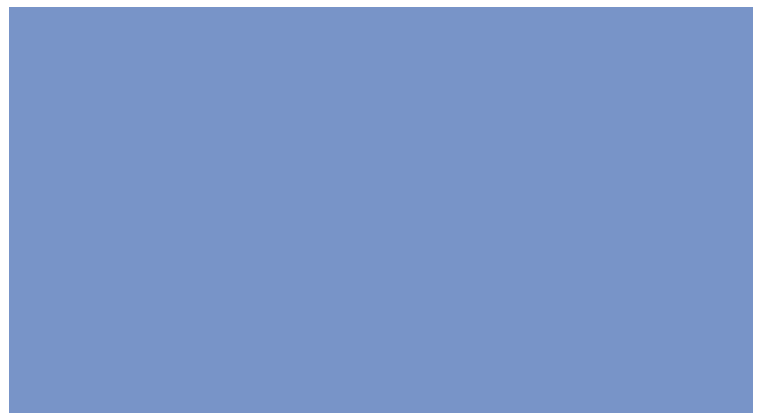
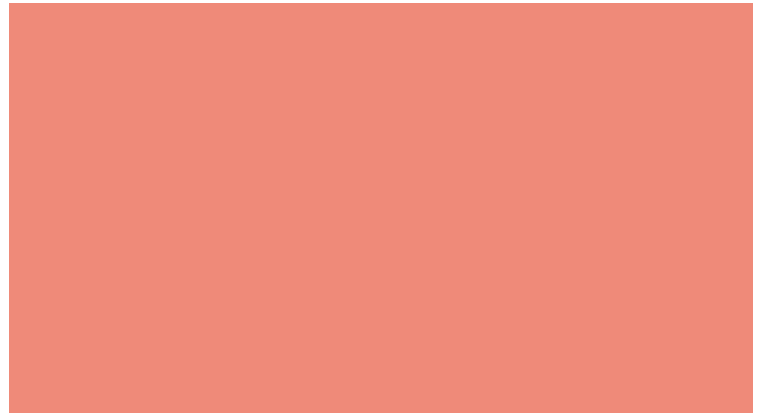
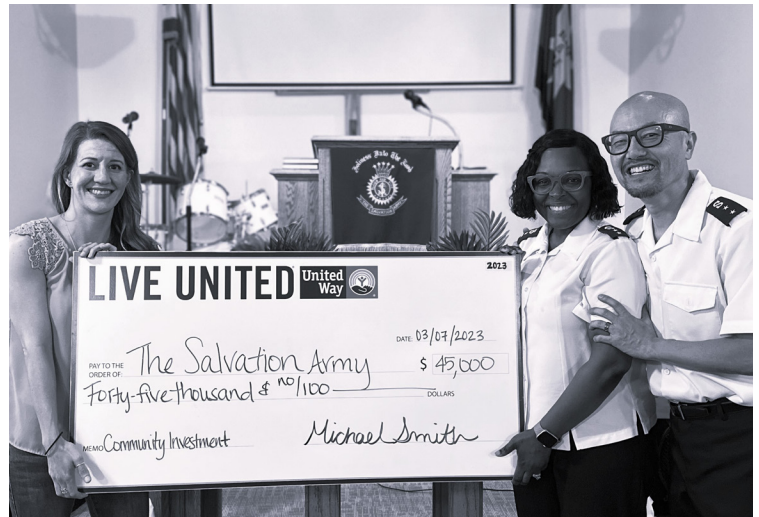
## Salvation Army Services

**11,594**

Meals (Social Services)

**4,237**

Meals (Church Services)



# The YMCA



“Drowning is a leading cause of death for children, and thanks to the United Way, the Y provides a four-day Safe Around the Water course to second graders in Valdosta City and Lowndes County schools. Funding from the United Way goes toward helping children in need participate in after-school programs and summer camps. Some children are homeless or being raised by grandparents, and at the Y, they are getting help with their homework and a meal.”

– Larry Tobey  
*President and CEO of the Valdosta YMCA*

## GVUW Funding Provided

**1,000+**  
Children Served

**200+**  
Participants in the Champions League

**32**  
Scholarships for Youth Service Programs

**997**  
Individuals Received Assistance Through Health and Wellness Programs

## Youth Services

**1,050**  
PrimeTime Afterschool Program

**1,695**  
Summer Camps

**118,521**  
Meals Served





## Mental Health Awareness

**“Our mission is to bring together strong community partners to collaborate toward the destigmatization of mental health, prevention of ACEs, and to create a trauma-informed region. We aim to raise awareness, provide crucial mental health training throughout the region, improve access to care, advocate for effective programs and services, and find ways to streamline best practices.”**

**– Susan Nebel, Greater Valdosta United Way  
Community Impact Director**

## Bringing Positive Change to South Georgia

**While the physical health crisis of COVID-19 and its variants have subsided, an overwhelming majority of adults (90%) are concerned that severe mental illness is at a crisis level in the U.S., along with a rise in children and teenagers with mental health conditions.**

**Resilient and United Communities of South Georgia (RUCSG) joined forces as part of a regional coalition to bring about positive change and offer resources to prevent and lessen Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). ACEs are stressful and potentially traumatic events, such as violence, neglect, and household dysfunction.**

**Established in 2021, the RUCSG’s work is focused on eight South Georgia counties. It includes the Greater Valdosta United Way (GVUW), Legacy Behavioral Health Services (LBHS), United2Prevent, U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, Valdosta State University’s Health Promotions and Wellness Department, as well as various other community partners.**

**Within RUCSG’s geographical footprint, there has been an increase in concern about adverse mental health, suicide, human trafficking, and ACEs. The coalition continues to collaborate to provide evidence-based training for non-profit staff, childcare providers, educators, law enforcement, first responders, and other community stakeholders to address these issues.**

# Mental Health Awareness

# Resilient & United

COMMUNITIES OF SOUTH GEORGIA

## Community Partnerships

The invaluable collaboration between Greater Valdosta United Way (GVUW) and Legacy Behavioral Health Services (LBHS) Community Service Board (CSB) has improved the strategy for reaching the most vulnerable populations and enlisting the support of other like-minded community partners.



Paivi Parssinen, Chief Operating Officer for LBHS states, “This partnership has raised awareness of our mission to serve our community and of other partners working in the fields of mental health, drug abuse, and homelessness.”

The Lowndes County Mental Health Coalition (LCMHC) began in March 2023, with LBHS, GVUW and RUCSG as key partners. The year-long partnership has involved four meetings, two awareness events, and four smaller projects. It has strengthened community attitudes towards mental illness and ACEs, provided training, community outreach, and networking. The partnership aims to expand efforts to other counties, mirroring the LCMHC in Lowndes.

“The cooperation between LCMHC, GVUW, and RUCSG has laid the foundation for partners to expand coalition efforts to the counties outside of Lowndes with the hopes of mirroring the LCMHC in the other counties,” said Heather Stephens, U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs. “Without the connections and support of the GVUW and its partner organizations, the LCMHC would not be what it is today.”



**Casey Horne**  
*Licensed Clinician*

Casey Horne, a Licensed Clinical Pastoral Counselor, is working with non-profit staff in the Greater Valdosta United Way Mental Health Initiative to address their unique mental health needs. She provides private counseling sessions and group training on mental health and emotional self-care. Horne also works with organizations like Youth Impact Center and Jesus and Jam, providing mental health education, parenting classes, and Community Counseling Days.

**“Good mental health is crucial for community growth and well-being.”**  
Casey Horne, LCPC, Soul Care of South Georgia

For more information, visit: [gvuw.org/rucsg](http://gvuw.org/rucsg)

# Hurricane Idalia Relief

On August 30, Hurricane Idalia made landfall in Lowndes County with maximum sustained winds exceeding 100 miles per hour. The storm caused extensive damage and widespread power outages to homes and businesses.

In the immediate aftermath of the hurricane, numerous nonprofit organizations and volunteers jumped into action to assist in the recovery effort by providing food, water, shelter, and essential needs.

“I’m proud of the response from our impact partner nonprofits,” said Michael Smith, President and CEO of Greater Valdosta United Way. “They took care of our most vulnerable population, like ALICE, the elderly and the medically fragile. We are now focusing on long-term recovery efforts and helping nonprofits become more resilient for the next storm or emergency.”

To assist with the recovery phase, the GVUW received a \$150,000 Disaster Response Grant from Walmart. In addition, Publix, Truist, Verizon, and numerous local businesses and individuals have donated money for the disaster recovery efforts. Smith said the grants supplied generators to nonprofits and provided gift cards and utility assistance to individuals and families financially impacted by the hurricane.

“Replacing food or losing income due to being out of work put a real strain on individuals in our community, pushing those living paycheck to paycheck into financial crisis,” said Korrelle Trollmann, Direct Services Coordinator for the Greater Valdosta United Way. “The storm was a huge financial burden on many families in our community, and we were thankful for the hurricane dollars we received to be able to assist.”

The GVUW also partnered with the St. Francis Center, South Georgia Partnership to End Homelessness, and Red Cross of South-Central Georgia to identify and assist those in need with an emphasis on the senior and working-class population.

## Hurricane Idalia By The Numbers

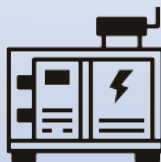


\$22,500 in gift cards purchased



\$74,709 distributed to GVUW Impact Partners

14 generators distributed to the community (\$14,197)



\$15,000 distributed to local nonprofit agencies



\$16,175 distributed for utility assistance



Total Hurricane Dollars Spent \$142,581



**Christie Moore**

*President and CEO of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce*

“In the wake of Hurricane Idalia’s profound impact, the Chamber collaborated with the Greater Valdosta United Way to disseminate information about essential services available to residents. The Chamber remained a reliable resource for small businesses and nonprofits in the following weeks and months. This involved providing guidance on accessing federal aid programs like small business loans to help alleviate the financial strain caused by building damage or revenue loss incurred during and after the storm.”



**Scott James Matheson**

*Valdosta Mayor*

“After Hurricane Idalia struck Valdosta and South Georgia, leaving a significant portion of our city without power and many unable to leave their homes due to storm damage and flooding, the Greater Valdosta United Way and numerous nonprofits, including the American Red Cross and Second Harvest Food Bank, swiftly mobilized to offer aid. An active United Way and a strong, robust nonprofit community make us more resilient. The nonprofits are deeply rooted in neighborhoods, and they understand what needs to take place to serve and rebuild quickly.”



**Bill Slaughter**

*Lowndes County Chairman*

“As a community, we are immensely grateful for the Greater Valdosta United Way and our nonprofit and faith-based partners. In the aftermath of Hurricane Idalia, the United Way’s efficient coordination and allocation of resources was instrumental in addressing the areas of greatest need. We appreciate the tireless efforts of our nonprofit community and thank them for their invaluable contributions to the betterment of Lowndes County.”



# Making an Impact

In 2023, the Greater Valdosta United Way distributed \$67,813 in grants to nonprofits within its 11-county service region. This list does not reflect all of the recipients who were awarded grants by GVUW in 2023.

## \$29,800

### Bruce Williams Impact Grant

GVUW partner nonprofits received grants for specific programs and services that support education, health, or financial stability.

#### ACTO

Painting of exterior of Day Center

#### American Red Cross

Technology for disaster preparedness classes

#### Beautiful Creations

Two laptops and software for STEM activities

#### Boy Scouts of America

##### South Georgia Council

Self-contained inflatable BB gun range

#### Children's Advocacy Center

iPad and pencil for victims' families and a television for the observation room

#### Girls on the Run South Georgia

Computer supplies, office supplies and furniture for the new office space

#### Habitat for Humanity

PA system for house dedications and outdoor events

#### The Haven

Playground equipment for children living in the shelter

#### Jacobs' Ladder

Horse cart for individuals who are not candidates for horseback riding

#### Living Bridges

Shelving and bike rack for new warehouse

#### Lowndes Advocacy Resource Center (LARC)

Fully furnished kitchen at the recycling center for consumers to use

#### Lowndes Associated Ministries to People (LAMP)

A colorful and kid friendly indoor area where children can play

#### Magnolia House

Furniture for Victim Advocate's office

#### Miracle League

T-shirts and medals for athletes, speaker system, and sports equipment

#### Salvation Army

Bathroom repairs and upgrades to facilities

#### YMCA

Bus wrap to convey YMCA's message

#### Youth IMPACT Center

Mobile STEM Station Bundle, white boards and carpet for STEM area





**\$7,475**

**Jenkin's Child Well-Being Grant**

Supports nonprofit programs that positively impact the average and below average zones of the Child Well-Being map, including education, enrichment, and health.

- Valdosta Rotary Foundation
- VSU Foundation
- South Georgia Partnership to End Homelessness
- Turner Center for the Arts
- Valdosta Latino Association
- Leadership Lowndes Group 2
- Department of AF Financial Management Fund
- Boys & Girls Club of Coffee County
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Toys for Tots
- South Street Community Care House

**\$4,625**

**Community Unity Grant**

Distributed to organizations for specific programs and events that promote unity and/or community relations.

- Valdosta Main Street
- VSU Foundation
- Jeff Davis Tennis Booster
- Turner Center for the Arts
- Lakeland-Lanier Chamber of Commerce
- Girls on the Run South Georgia
- City of Hahira
- Coffee County Band Boosters
- Downs Syndrome Association of South Georgia
- Toys for Tots
- Department of AF Financial Management Fund

**\$5,250**

**Family Connection Rural Grant**

Supports Family Connections' needs relating to education, mental health, and financial stability.

- Little Readers of South Georgia
- Atkinson County Family Connections
- Cook County Family Connections
- Lanier County Family Connections
- Bacon County Family Connections
- Berrien County Family Connections
- Coffee County Family Connections

**\$3,700**

**Classroom Support Grant**

Assists teachers in providing academic support to students in schools with limited funding.

- Scintilla Charter Academy
- Valdosta High School
- Westside Elementary School
- Echols County Elementary/Middle School
- Echols County High School
- Valdosta Early College Academy
- VCS Promise Program
- Valdosta Middle School

# Powering Our Future

We support organizations like the United Way, which support our communities across Georgia. Thank you for the continued support in Valdosta and around the state, where we all live and work.



# CONGRATULATIONS

## *Annual Award Winners*



**IMPACT PARTNER  
OF THE YEAR:**  
CAMP ROCK OF  
GEORGIA

**DIRECTOR  
OF THE YEAR**  
MIKE BOURGOIN  
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

**COMMUNITY HERO  
OF THE YEAR:**  
MILLER HARDWARE

“

During times of *crisis*, the *true spirit* of a community *shines through*. The collaborative efforts of local leaders and organizations *during Hurricane Idalia* relief efforts *exemplify our strength and resilience* as a community *united in purpose*.

**RICHARD HARDY**  
Valdosta City Manager



**VALDOSTA**  
A City Without Limits

@cityofvaldosta  
  
[www.valdostacity.com](http://www.valdostacity.com)

# Corporate Donors

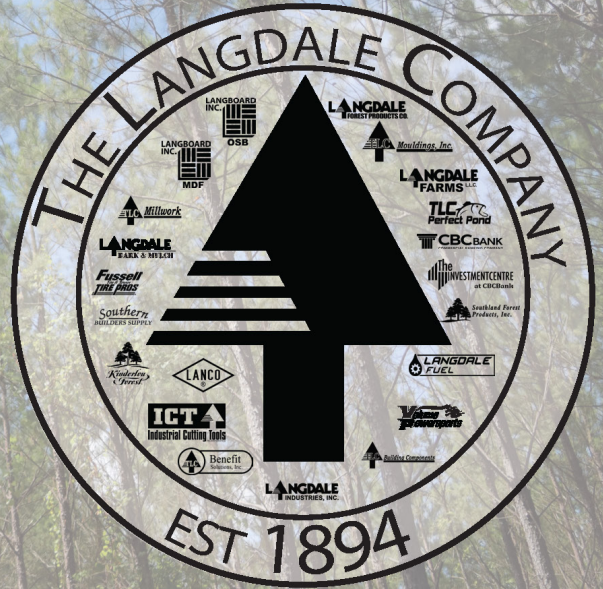
Greater Valdosta United Way is honored to have the support of organizations that are passionate about improving the community. Our top donors raise funds through corporate donations, employee giving and matching gifts. GVUW's community impact would not be possible without their support.



*"People & Trees is more than a motto -*

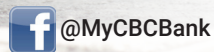
**IT IS THE VERY FOUNDATION OF WHO WE ARE."** – Harley Langdale, Jr.

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has supported the  
community for more  
than 120 years and will  
continue for centuries  
to come.*



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