**United Way Believes that Everyone Deserves Safe & Affordable Housing**

Marisol is a Spanish-speaking resident of Henderson County. She reached out to OnTrack WNC because she wanted to stabilize her housing situation and work towards long-term home ownership and better financial security. Marisol was eager to participate in credit, financial/budgeting, and home buyer services provided by OnTrack.

Thanks to both the WIN interpreter network and OnTrack’s WNC's Spanish-speaking staff, Marisol received information and guidance to dispute errors and negative items on her credit report, and manage balances and payments to build her credit score. She also received referrals to rental housing options, an evaluation of her home affordability range, and an action plan to increase her home-buying power. Marisol now feels she has the tools to achieve her goals and looks forward to the day she will have her own home.

OnTrack’s Financial Stability program is one of ten programs funded by United Way of Henderson County that promote self-sufficiency and provide a pathway for our neighbors to live independently. When you give to United Way of Henderson County, you support 35 programs at 20 local nonprofit agencies.

**United Way Works to Support Healthy Behaviors in At-Risk Youth**

"Hope Coalition's Hope Rising Program helped me accept who I am and taught me that I did not need drugs or alcohol to make it through the day. I learned to control my reactions to others and was able to see that I could not scream at people just because my life was out of control. I specifically learned how drugs and alcohol were affecting me and those around me, and it gave me a reason to quit. I learned that there really are people that care."

We’re working to decrease risky and harmful behaviors, including substance abuse, among middle and high school youth. Hope Rising is one of eight programs funded by United Way of Henderson County that promote a healthy lifestyle through physical activity, healthy diet, education, and peer support. When you give to United Way of Henderson County, you support 35 programs at 20 local nonprofit agencies that provide direct services to our neighbors.

**United Way Works For All Children To Succeed**

Lucy and her family enrolled in Parents as Teachers at the Children & Family Resource Center in the summer of 2021. When the Parent Educator asked about her pregnancy, Lucy described feeling fearful because she didn’t know what to expect. Lucy had limited prenatal care, experienced pre-eclampsia, and had been unable to breastfeed her daughter, Sofia.

When Lucy became pregnant again this year, her Parent Educator provided her with information and resources that gave her peace of mind and the ability to make informed decisions about her health. Lucy now has a strong social support system and her first child Sofia recently scored well on a DIAL-4 developmental screening, indicating that she is well on her way to being prepared for kindergarten when it is time.

Children & Family Resource Center’s Parents as Teachers is one of eight programs funded by United Way of Henderson County that are making a positive impact on the education of our neighbors. When you give to United Way of Henderson County, you support 35 programs, including Parents as Teachers, at 20 local nonprofit agencies.

**United Way Fights for the Basic Needs of Our Neighbors in Henderson County**

George had been living with diabetes for some time and taking care of his health, but following the unexpected death of his wife, he stopped caring and did not do what was needed to manage his disease. His blood sugar skyrocketed, and George ended up with a horrible diabetes-related wound which left him reliant on a cane and at risk of losing his foot.

George was introduced to The Free Clinics (TFC), and he expected only to utilize the pharmacy for his medical condition. Once he met the team, however, he realized they listened and provided many types of support. TFC staff connected him to a Patient Health Advocate, offered him referrals for counseling and grief support, and provided wrap-around services for his overall health. The care he received re-engaged Julio with his doctor and with better management of his diabetes. George’s wound healed, his diabetes was stabilized, and he no longer needed to take insulin.

The Healthcare Safety Net program is one of nine programs funded by United Way of Henderson County that support basic needs and crisis services for individuals and families in Henderson County. When you give to United Way of Henderson County, you support 35 programs, including Healthcare Safety Net, at 20 local nonprofit agencies.