

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS QUARTER

WINTER 2019

Our community's commitment to creating opportunities that help individuals and families achieve stability is living proof that each of us has the ability to make a difference. With investments from caring members of our community just like you, we are proud to announce the following results for this quarter:

## INVESTMENT



## UNITED WAY BY NUMBERS

### 2-1-1 Service Referrals:

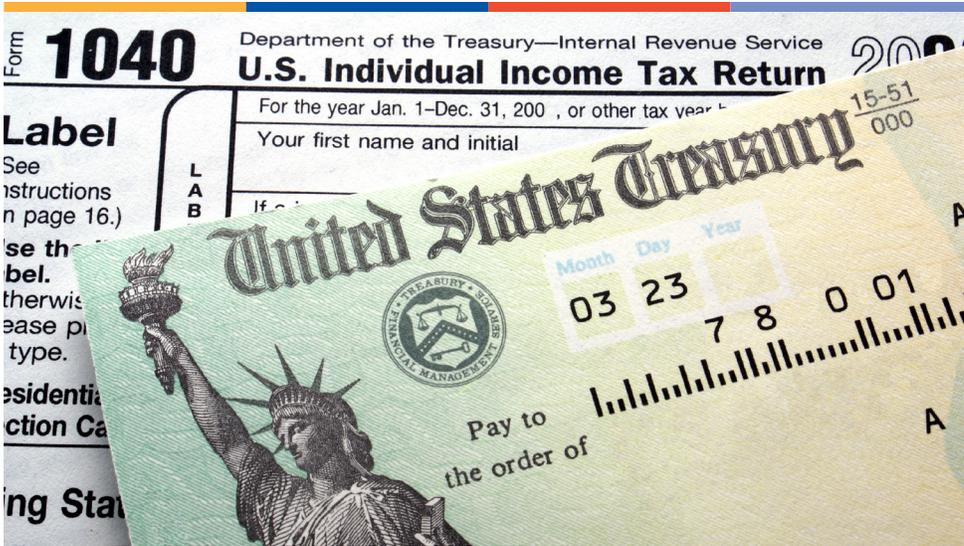
United Way's 2-1-1 hotline received 380 calls for assistance this quarter, with an additional 1,056 users visiting online to search for services.

### CentralkYServes.org:

This quarter United Way's volunteer site hosted 313 registered users with over 4,483 page views for 61 non-profit agencies, with a total of 42 volunteer opportunities listed - receiving 11 user responses to those needs.

# IMPACT

## FREE TAX PREPARATION



The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax preparation services to: individuals who made \$30,000 or less in 2018, families who made \$54,000 or less in 2018, persons with disabilities, and limited English-speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their tax returns. At each tax site, IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation services with electronic filing. Find your nearest VITA site at [www.unitedwayck.org/free-tax-preparation](http://www.unitedwayck.org/free-tax-preparation).

### What to Bring:

- Government issued picture ID
- Social Security cards or Individual Taxpayer ID number (ITIN) for self, spouse and children
- All Forms including W-2, 1099, 1098-T (college tuition expenses), 1095 (health insurance)
- Information for other additional income (social security, alimony, etc.)
- Information for all deductions & credits
- Proof of Dependent Care Expenses in 2018
- A copy of last year's income tax return if available
- For direct deposit/electronic filing - personal bank account and routing number

Prefer to file your own taxes? Powered by software that covers both basic and complicated returns and automatically screens for the Earned Income Tax Credit, [www.myfreetaxes.com](http://www.myfreetaxes.com) offers free and secure filing online for individuals and families earning \$66,000 or less in 2018.

## CREATING SUCCESS STORIES

As many do, Allison, a mother of two, came to SpringHaven very hesitantly. At first, she didn't want to accept help from our Advocates, but after a couple of weeks, she decided that she wanted to be self-sufficient and not return to her abuser. With help from our Advocates, she soon ventured out and found a full-time job, enrolled in our coalition's Individual Development Account (IDA) program, and began saving money. In less than 72 days she'd saved enough to secure her own apartment. With United Way grant funding, we helped Allison pay her utilities, security deposit, and first month's insurance payment on her car. Today, Allison and her two children are making their way independently, with more support and security than she dreamed possible just a few short months ago.

- Success Story by SpringHaven Domestic Violence Program: receiving \$60,000 in grant funding from United Way to provide safety for survivors of domestic violence as well as the advocacy, education, and resources needed for them to regain their independence and self-sufficiency.

## LEGAL AID HOTLINE

In 2017, with funding from the Child Support Division of the Kentucky Cabinet of Health and Human Services, Legal Aid Society created the Custody and Visitation Hotline. Residents in all 120 counties in Kentucky can call the hotline to speak directly with an attorney about issues related to the custody of their children or grandchildren. If the individual lives in one of Legal Aid Society's 15 counties and are further eligible to receive services (i.e. income eligible), Legal Aid Society will place the case with an attorney for further direct representation - free of charge.

In 2018, the hotline aided over 700 individuals. If you or someone you know is seeking legal advice related to custody and/or visitation, please call 1-844-673-3470.

## 2019 FELLOWS PROGRAM



Centered around the region's current social service needs, this five-month program focuses on the examination of factors that prevent individuals and families from becoming self-sufficient and explores how United Way is working to help overcome those barriers. With the purpose of the Fellowship program being to create knowledgeable, networked, involved, skilled and passionate leaders, participants will meet for a monthly luncheon and funded community partner tour. In its sixth year, the program also affords participants a unique opportunity to develop their leadership and professional skills through volunteerism. Apply today at [www.unitedwayck.org/unitedwayfellows](http://www.unitedwayck.org/unitedwayfellows).