

The LABOR-UWBA COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM
An Enduring Partnership to Advance the Common Good

Since 1946, United Way and the American Federation of Labor – Congress of Industrial Organizations have worked together to support and operate the Community Services Program throughout the United States.

In 2016, this Partnership was reaffirmed by the AFL-CIO and United Way Worldwide – reinforcing our shared vision and reflecting the common goals of both organizations to address the root causes and effects of inequality in our communities and jointly develop strategies.

Locally, in partnership with United Way Bay Area, Labor Liaisons focus on individual and community impact- supporting community programs and policies that enhance self-sufficiency, expand workforce training, health, education, immigration rights, transportation, workers’ rights and workplace health and safety.

“Labor is a powerful partner, providing direct services to underserved, vulnerable low and middle income working populations and is a bridge to elected officials, enhancing UWBA’s ability to move critical policies and ordinances.”

Labor Liaisons offer information and referral and direct hardship assistance to individuals and families facing complex problems due to unemployment, family crises, health issues, immigration and other challenges exacerbated by lack of adequate income.

Labor’s Direct Service Work includes:

- Information and Referral Services –this is a continuous service offered by our program.
- Emergency Hardship Assistance for housing, health, utilities payments and job access issues
- Specialized Hardship Food distribution program
- High impact Workforce programs – pre-apprenticeships, leading to self – sufficient union construction apprenticeship jobs
- Comprehensive Immigration Legal and wraparound services
- Policy partnership to create Living Wage and Living Wage Ordinances
- EKS VITA support and site operation
- Labor - Community Partnerships that
 - Advance Community Benefits Agreements and promote self sufficiency / equality
 - promote Sanctuary/Safe Haven city / county status
 - support anti- predatory lending / payday loan initiatives
- Annual Letter Carriers Food Drive
- Community Education – Immigrant Workers Rights / Know Your Rights, Workers Rights
- Impact public policies and investments that benefit working families

Raising Funds for United Way

- Each year, hundreds of union workers associate the assistance they receive thru the Community Services program with UWBA. Labor Liaisons are able to open doors for UWBA campaigns and provide a service that resonates with union donors.

Labor Community Services Goal #1:

To conduct a program of community services for union members, their families, and others in the community; provide assistance to active and retired union members and others including but not limited to information & referral, customized workshops and trainings, food pantries and hardships funds.

Labor Community Services Goal #2:

To enhance the Labor-United Way partnership; to support the development, planning and implementation of United Way, Labor and community based initiatives focused on self-sufficiency, consistent with AFL-CIO priorities; to mobilize Labor, United Way and community resources to ensure economic stability and access to services; and to build stronger communities through civic engagement and leadership.

Labor Community Services Goal #3:

To encourage financial and volunteer support of union members for United Way of the Bay Area and to provide assistance in fundraising for UW campaigns at organized workplaces and other settings.