



LIVE UNITED

**United
Way**



UNITED WAY OF VENTURA COUNTY

The United Way of Ventura County advances the common good by creating opportunities for a better life for all. Our focus is Education, Income and Health – the building blocks for a good quality of life. We invite YOU to join us!

EDUCATION

Goal: Increase the number of students who are college and career ready.

- 1,100 kids received backpacks full of new school supplies through United Way's "Stuff the Bus" campaign.
- 200+ students benefited from the United Way Young Leader Society's Book Bonanza literacy program.
- 7 AVID middle school programs received grants to enhance student performance in Math and Algebra.

INCOME

Goal: Help individuals and families become financially stable and independent.

- In 2015, there were 2,132 tax returns prepared through VITA, the Volunteer Assistance Program – infusing over \$2.8M in tax refunds into our local economy.

HEALTH

Goal: Increase the number of children, young people and adults who have access to preventative health care and are educated about healthy behavior.

- United Way's partnership with the national FamilyWise Prescription Drug Discount Program helped to save the local Ventura County residents \$220,000 in prescription drug costs.
- Over 2,000 pregnant women and parents of young children participated in the Brush Well, Drink Well, Eat Well, Stay Well educational curriculum to improve oral health awareness and home practices.

Programs and Initiatives



Good dental health is critical to children's ability to grow up healthy and ready to learn so they can succeed in school and in life. United Way and its partners: Ventura County Public Health, First 5 Ventura County, Santa Barbara/Ventura Counties Dental Care Foundation, Child Development Resources and the Ventura County Office of Education are addressing oral health care gaps in services and access to care barriers for Ventura County children.



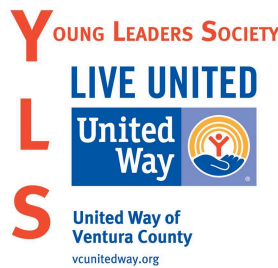
An annual campaign to provide new backpacks stuffed with donated school supplies to children from low income families.



Over 20,000 Ventura County callers are connected each year with information about services available to them, including: counseling, food assistance, domestic violence services, employment resources, health care, senior services, legal assistance, substance abuse services, resources for parents and much more.

EarnIt! KeepIt! \$aveIt!

Earn it! Keep it! Save it! Is a community partnership led by United Way of Ventura County, the Business and Employment Services Department of the Ventura County Human Services Agency, Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation, and the IRS to increase awareness of an access to EITC and to provide electronic filing of income taxes free of charge through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program.



The Young Leaders Society meets once a month to plan, organize and make progress on addressing issues that impact the lives of Ventura County young people.

bornlearning®

A public engagement campaign to help parents, caregivers and communities create early learning opportunities for young children. In partnership with First 5 Ventura County, Born Learning trails have been installed in the communities of Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, El Rio, Ventura and Santa Paula.

www.vcunitedway.org

VOLUNTEER VENTURA COUNTY

VVC engages people with meaningful volunteer opportunities to meet real community needs; assists non-profits in developing effective and efficient volunteer programs; and promotes volunteerism and civic engagement. VVC's web-based platform provides a searchable database of volunteer opportunities provided by local non-profit organizations.



Women United is a network of individuals dedicated to helping resolve single-mothers of need in our community through their collective financial and leadership power.



The Emergency Food and Shelter Program was created to expand the work of local social service organizations in assisting people with economic emergencies, funded by the Office of Homeland Security. United Way convenes the local board responsible for allocating grants to agencies providing food, shelter and rental assistance.

VENTURA COUNTY & CHILDREN'S ORAL HEALTH THE SILENT EPIDEMIC

TOOTH DECAY



IN VENTURA COUNTY THERE ARE...

53,019

KIDS ENROLLED
IN DENTI-CAL

86

DENTISTS
ACCEPTING
DENTI-CAL

617

DENTI-CAL KIDS
PER DENTI-CAL
DENTIST

300

ER VISITS FOR
PREVENTABLE ORAL
HEALTH PROBLEMS

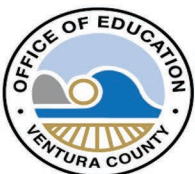
BECAUSE OF DENTAL PROBLEMS IN CALIFORNIA...

874,000

MISSED SCHOOL DAYS

\$30,000,000

LOSS IN ATTENDANCE-BASED FUNDING



Facts:

- ◆ In California, students miss **874,000** days of school due to dental problems, resulting in **\$30 million dollar** loss in attendance based funding.
- ◆ By kindergarten, **over 50%** of children in Southern California have experienced dental decay.
- ◆ In Ventura County, only **38%** of children covered by Medi-Cal visited a dentist last year.
- ◆ In 2015-16, there were over **300** ER visits by children to Ventura County hospitals for oral health problems.



Get Involved!

Join Building Healthy Smiles:

- ◆ Become a trained parent educator
- ◆ Volunteer to provide dental services at an event or school
- ◆ Help us spread the word about our efforts to improve oral health outcomes for children in Ventura County!

◆
For more information about the Building Healthy Smiles Initiative and to get involved, please contact the United Way of Ventura County at (805) 485-6288 x270.



Building Healthy Smiles Initiative



Building Healthy Smiles

ELIMINATING DENTAL DISEASE IN CHILDREN



VENTURA COUNTY CHILDREN'S ORAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVE



United Way of Ventura County
vcountedway.org

Building Healthy Smiles Strategies

Education

The Building Healthy Smiles curriculum is designed for pregnant women and parents with children 0-5 to encourage good oral health habits from the start.

Care Coordination

Working with our partners in the dental community, we help children with little or no access to dental care get the care they need.

Advocacy

Advocating for improved access to dental care for our County's most vulnerable



Our Goal

To eliminate dental disease in children in Ventura County.

Who We Are

The Building Healthy Smiles Initiative is a collaborative effort by public agencies, community based organizations and the dental community to address gaps in services and access

Why Does It Matter?

- Tooth decay affects more children in the United States than any other chronic infectious disease.
- Tooth decay can contribute to a wide range of problems, including poor nutrition, subnormal growth and unnecessary pain.
- Tooth decay is preventable.



VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Help low-income families achieve greater economic security.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program

United
Way



United Way of
Ventura County

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites prepare and e-file federal and state income tax returns for low/moderate income earners at no charge.

VITA sites are open from February 4 through April 15, 2017 and are located in:

Santa Paula

Ventura

Oxnard

Camarillo

Thousand Oaks

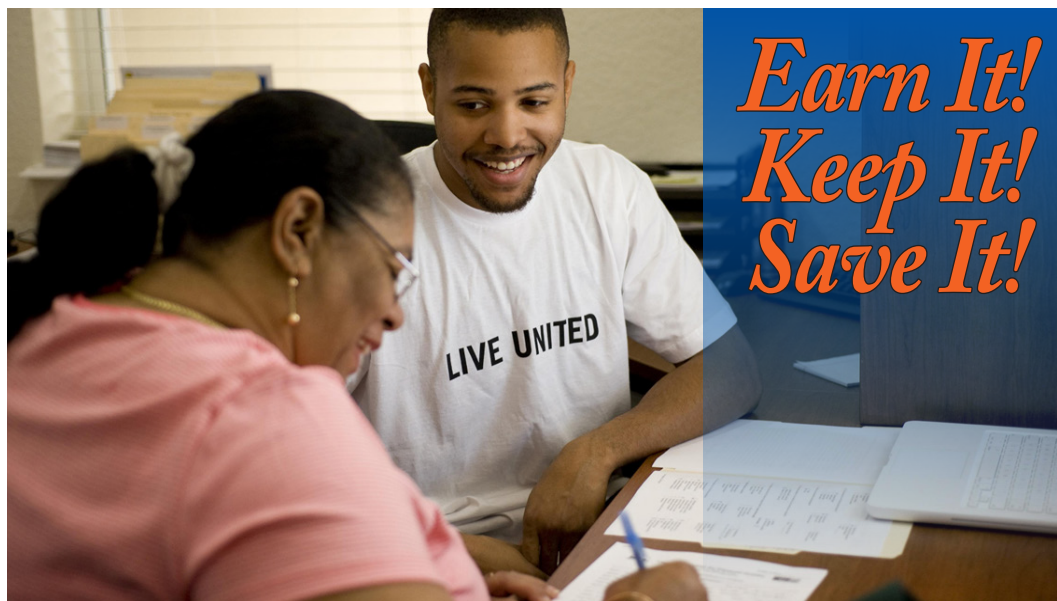
Moorpark

Simi Valley

For more information call or email Susan Englund at (805) 485-6288 ext 226 or susan.englund@vcunitedway.org

Please Register Online

www.volunteerventuracounty.org



*Earn It!
Keep It!
Save It!*

What volunteer opportunities are available?

Tax preparation volunteer and Intake/Screening volunteer

Do I need to be an experienced tax preparer to participate?

No, training will be provided for Tax Prep volunteers on tax law and how to electronically prepare and file the necessary federal and state tax forms using TaxSlayer software.

Intake/Screening volunteers will receive training on how to assist the tax filer to complete the intake form and how to review their paperwork to ensure they have everything necessary to complete their tax return. Bilingual English/Spanish Intake/Screening volunteers are especially needed.

Both opportunities are a great way to expand your resume and help your community!

Who will I be helping?

You will be helping families & individuals with earnings below \$54,000 file their return and claim the tax credits they're entitled to for the 2016 tax year. The most valuable tax credit is the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which can be worth as much as \$6,242 to families with three or more children. Many low/moderate-income earners are also eligible for the Child and Dependent Care Credit, the Child Tax Credit, Education Credit, and CalEITC.

What kind of commitment is required?

Volunteers are asked to give 4 hours per week during the tax season, February 4th through April 15th. Training (approximately 16 hours) will be offered for Tax Prep volunteers December 3rd and 10th with online sessions also available. Training for Intake/Screening volunteers (approximately 4 hours) will be provided in January.

Thanks for your support!



CEDDC
CABRILLO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



COUNTY OF VENTURA

JOIN US! CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING

United Way will help you connect your employee teams to meaningful volunteer experiences that impact lives within our focus areas. Whether it's one-day activities or quarterly team building projects, our Volunteer Center is available to assist you through the entire process. No other local nonprofit can connect companies and their employees to socially responsible programs like we can.

Volunteer Questions?

Contact:

Yvonne Flores
(805) 485-6288
ext. 276

Company Benefits:

- Build stronger teams
- Boosts employee morale & commitment
- Allows individuals to share their skills & strengths with others
- Creates opportunities to develop future leaders & strengthen civic engagement



Opportunities

Day of Caring (Annual)

This county-wide volunteer event is held once a year, in various cities across Ventura County. Through the United Way Day of Caring event, individuals, students, families and corporate teams complete a meaningful volunteer project that allows them to see first hand how their time and financial support impact local communities.

Stuff the Bus (Annual)

This is a 3 hour - one day volunteer event. Volunteers are needed to sort donated school supplies for United Way's annual Stuff the Bus campaign. Stuff the Bus is a community effort to send children from low income families back to school with a backpack full of supplies.

VITA: Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (Annual)

Volunteers are needed to assist low and moderate income families (under \$52,000) prepare and e-file tax returns. Training and materials will be provided. Training will be in October with VITA sites opening in late January/ early April.

Oral Health Project Kit (Year Round)

The Oral Health Project will allow your team to work together all in one location. Team members will pack oral health youth kits. Project materials will include children's toothbrushes, dental floss, children's flossers, timers and tooth paste. – United Way representatives will be on site to manage all project details. A budget is required for this project due to the supplies needed.

Books Bonanza (Year Round)

Books Bonanza is a monthly reading club where community volunteers read aloud to children and advocate the value of reading. Change a child's story. In as little as 3 hours a month, you can make a difference.

To learn about United Way year-round sponsorship opportunities, contact Vicki Raven at (805) 485-6288 ext. 229 or at vicki.raven@vcunitedway.org

Thanks for your support!



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