

## 2020-21 PROGRAM SUPPORT

### Working Bridges™

We understand that barriers such as childcare, reliable transportation and acute need for emergency financial assistance get in the way of continuous employment. Through shared resources, we work with employers and employees to minimize employment barriers and maximize the supports working Vermonters need to be successful and improve their lives.

### Tatum's Totes

Every day throughout Vermont, children enter the foster care system often with as little as a garbage bag filled with their few personal items, and somethings they have nothing to call their own. In partnership with DCF we provide children entering foster care a backpack filled with caring items they can call their own.

### The Volunteer Connection

We work with nonprofit organizations to recruit and coordinate volunteers to serve the needs that help them meet their missions & help our neighbors and we help volunteers find opportunities that fuel their passion.

### K.E.E.P. Financial Coaching Program

This train-the-trainer style program gives nonprofit client-facing staff and volunteers the coaching and financial literacy skills to help people to achieve financial stability while working toward their larger life goals.

### CVT Connectivity Project

A partnership between Building Bright Futures, Good Beginnings of Central Vermont, The Family Center of Central Vermont and RbTechnologies to help close the gap on connectivity for families with young children who require telehealth or remote access to activities and care.

Questions about our programs or impact areas? Contact us: [cstahler@gmunityway.org](mailto:cstahler@gmunityway.org) | 802-613-3989

### Community Impact Stories

**One thing we can all understand is that life does not always go as planned.** When COVID-19 hit Vermont, Shelby's job as a home healthcare provider was impacted – her patients were fearful of letting anyone into their homes. Shelby's hours were cut, which made it hard to feed her kids and pay her bills. She met with our Working Bridges resource coordinator to get some help. The Resource Coordinator was able to prepare and file her taxes as part of the VITA program and got a significant refund for Shelby. She was then able to use that money to get a more affordable vehicle. Then the RC helped her find other resources available to those who were impacted by COVID-19. Shelby has been able to get back a few of her hours, but she still finds it hard to make ends meet and still works with the RC to find resources, get financial coaching, and get help when she needs it. *Your gift could make a difference for a family.*

**Food is just one way communities come together** – During COVID-19 we have seen rates of food insecurity soar in Vermont. Your support for the Working Bridges program has provide a myriad of opportunities for our neighbors to be fed including food box distribution, access to the Everybody Eats program, and resources about local food pantries and food resources. In addition, your gifts support our Volunteer Connection where we recruit volunteers to support food distribution sites, food shelves, and programs like Veggie VanGo, allowing more Vermonters to have access to nutritious food during this difficult time. *Your gift could help feed your neighbors!*

**An internet connection is a new "basic need" right now** When Vermont went into the Stay Home, Stay Safe order in March, an internet connection became a lifeline for many Vermont residents. While schools were able to make sure their students could access learning, families with young children were left behind. That's when United Way and our partners created the CVT Family Connectivity Group – to make sure families with young children could access telehealth, mental health services, and educational services for their kids.