



2022-2023

COMMUNITY  
IMPACT  
REPORT

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Impacting lives in the High  
Country since 1978

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# MISSION

**"Uniting people & resources to improve lives in the High Country"**

# HISTORY

High Country United Way was established in 1978 as Watauga United Appeal. In 1997, the agency transitioned to High Country United Way and expanded to serve the citizens of Avery and Watauga Counties. High Country United Way added Mitchell County to the service area in 2016, and the agency is also the fiscal agent for donations in Ashe and Yancey Counties. High Country United Way's mission extends beyond local funding opportunities. The agency has been instrumental in establishing multiple non-profits that continue to serve the community today.

# DIVERSITY STATEMENT

Diversity and inclusion are central to our work. We welcome the participation of the entire community without regard to race, religion, national origin, ethnicity, age, gender, gender identity, and expression, disability, sexual orientation, veteran status, familial status, or socio-economic status.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>Board Chair</b>	Mark Taggart	Publix Supermarkets
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Dr. Dan Brigman	Avery County Schools
<b>Treasurer</b>	Belinda Trivette	Wells Fargo
<b>Allocation Chair</b>	Tina Houston	Restaurateur/Chef
	Terri Lockwood	Realtor
	Joan Hearn	Community Volunteer
	Shane Triplett	Lowe's
	Walton Shephard	L \$ L Furniture
	Matthew Maniaci	Community Volunteer
	Wendy Boone	Mitchell County DSS
	Heather Casey	Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC
	Eron Thiele	MAY Coalition
	Tom Hughes	Emeritus Board Member
	Jack James	Emeritus Board Member
	Fred Pfohl	Emeritus Board Member
	Susan Poorman	Emeritus Board Member



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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Dear Friends,

As I look back at the 2022-23 fiscal year, three words come to mind, VOLUNTEER, ADVOCATE, and IMPACT.

For the first time in many years, High Country United Way organized Days of Service in Avery, Mitchell, and Watauga counties. In a partnership with W.A.M.Y. Community Action, High Country United Way gathered volunteers to help three homeowners with repairs and cleanup around their homes in a collaborative effort to make those homes safe and warm. During the fiscal year, High Country United Way spent many hours as an ADVOCATE and VOLUNTEER for our member agencies and programs. Working side-by-side with our partner agencies enabled us to understand the work and mission of these vital agencies and programs. In 2022-23, we continued to serve the community through our direct Community IMPACT project at CCC&TI - Watauga and Mayland Community College's food and basic needs pantries. Over 500 students utilized our pantries on both campuses each semester.

No ONE person, organization, IMPACT project, or group of volunteers can achieve a safer and healthier community alone. We must ALL work together and FIGHT against the barriers and obstacles to achieve self-sufficiency for our residents in the High Country.

With gratitude,



Rebecca Hall  
Executive Director  
High Country United Way

**High Country United Way allocated over \$168,000 (not including facilitating over \$25,000 of SECC funding and \$25,256 of EFSP funding) to 17 High Country nonprofit organizations that focus on our core values in HEALTH, EDUCATION, FINANCIAL STABILITY, and BASIC NEEDS.**

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## HEALTH

### FUNDED PROGRAM

Mentoring Program  
Double Up Food Bucks  
After School Program  
Drug Treatment Court  
Pharmacy Assistance  
Uninsured Program  
Senior Companion Program  
Parent To Parent

### AGENCY PARTNER

Western Youth Network  
High Country Food Hub-BRWIA  
WAMY Community Action  
Mediation & Restorative Justice Center  
Hunger & Health Coalition  
Community Care Clinic  
Appalachian State University  
Appalachian State University

## EDUCATION

### FUNDED PROGRAM

Leadership & Character Development  
School's Out After School Program  
Foster Grandparents Program  
DUAL Language Preschool  
Raising a Reader Program  
Mountain Adventures Summer Camp  
After School & Summer Programs

### AGENCY PARTNER

Mountain Alliance  
Mountain Alliance  
Appalachian State University  
Children's Council of Watauga County  
Children's Council of Watauga County  
WAMY Community Action  
Western Youth Network

## FINANCIAL STABILITY & BASIC NEEDS

### FUNDED PROGRAM

Family Support Program  
Housing Repair Program  
Affordable Home Ownership Program  
Family Self-Sufficiency Program  
Housing Repair Program  
Food/Basic Needs Assistance  
Food/Basic Needs Assistance  
Emergency Shelter Program  
Emergency Shelter Program  
Food/Basic Needs Assistance  
Food/Basic Needs Assistance

### AGENCY PARTNER

Avery County Habitat for Humanity  
WAMY Community Action  
Watauga County Habitat for Humanity  
Blue Ridge Opportunity Commission  
Blue Ridge Opportunity Commission  
Mitchell County Shepherd's Staff  
Hunger & Health Coalition  
Hospitality House of NWNC  
OASIS  
High Country United Way  
Neighbors Feeding Neighbors

Each funding cycle, High Country United Way requires funded partner agencies to report how our grants are being utilized in their organizations. We organize that data to derive COLLECTIVE IMPACT in the High Country. Presented below is the data for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023.



High Country United Way

# 2022-23

## REVIEW IN NUMBERS

### HEALTH

Over 1,500 individuals received monthly prescription medication assistance

717 individuals received low cost/free healthcare

34 lives were saved as a result of treatment programs for substance abuse

Over 500 high school students were engaged in activities that promote health and wellness

### EDUCATION

143 pre-school children were served in 9 classrooms. 71 parent trainings were offered to Watauga county families.

500 students utilized food and basic needs pantries at CCC&TI and Mayland Community Colleges

37 at risk youth were empowered by a mentor through High Country mentoring programs

### FINANCIAL STABILITY & BASIC NEEDS

152 individuals achieved financial education and self-sufficiency through Financial Management programs

360 High Country individuals were provided emergency shelter in Watauga and Avery counties

Over 15,050 High Country individuals received emergency assistance with food, clothing, rent, and utility assistance

21,056 plates were served at 60 Community Meals in Mitchell County

37 High Country families received home repairs and rehabilitation which allowed them to stay in their homes

4 High Country families were dedicated new homes and entered into home ownership

520 High Country families received weekly healthy local food to improve their well being



None of this is possible without the support of our \*donors.  
We THANK YOU for your dedicated support of the mission  
of High Country United Way and our partner agencies.

### **de toqueville Society**

*Donors Over \$10,000*

Donald & Cynthia Miller  
Jack & Karen James  
Richard L. McNeel

### **Community Pillar**

*\$5,000 - \$2,500*

Mr. & Mrs. James G. Whitton  
Vaughn & Nancy Bryson  
Jacqueline Barnes  
Brad & Martha Peete  
Roger & Cilie Hudson  
John & Faye Cooper  
Elizabeth Lake Inman Snyder  
Patrica Taylor  
John Tickle

### **Executive Leadership**

*\$2,499 - \$1,000*

Allen Shifflet  
Mark Taggart  
Michael Collier  
J.P. Greene  
Emily Kern  
Kenneth Wilcox  
Jason Triplett  
Lillian McKay  
Michael Condon  
Geanna Dopico  
Coral Martin  
Kyle Matheson  
Justin Robert  
Kaden Rogers  
Mark Gould  
Anne & Alex Bernhardt  
Michael Brenner  
Jerry & Janet Enos  
Carolyn & Tim Hilton  
Sarah & Tramm Hudson  
Joseph Jenkins

### **Executive Leadership - Continued**

*\$2,499 - \$1,000*

James Kaufman  
Margaret & David Koehler  
Shelby Lane  
Kay & James Lauritsen  
Allen Moseley  
Robert & Linda Salisbury  
Gail & Dan Steele  
Richard Sparks

### **Leadership Giving**

*\$999 - \$500*

Douglas McFatter  
Priscilla & John Mills  
Lisa Cooper  
Kemp Baker  
Linda Larson  
Donald & Claire Olander  
Lottie & Bill Kay  
Bill & Kathy Leahey  
Belinda Trivette  
Michael VeHorn  
Ricky Wilson  
Tommy & Sandy Rouse  
Hanes Boren  
Thomas Bunn  
Gary & Emily Childers  
Susan Corcoran  
Kathy Cox  
Ashley Fisher  
Connie Gioscio  
Larry & Diane Hall  
Dwight Jundt  
Ann Lovern  
Patricia Mauldin  
James Napier  
John Nolan  
Harold & Sandra Parker  
TC & Carol Spell

### **Leadership Giving - Continued**

*\$999 - \$500*

Brent Torstrick  
Christopher Vasiloff  
Dewey Wells  
Joseph Williams

### **Friends of High Country United Way**

*\$499 - \$250*

Sheri Moretz  
Timothy Miller  
R. Craig & Rosella Bridgeman  
Clarence & Rosa Eidt  
Bernd & Melony Winkleman  
Adele Dunbar  
David & Kathryn Ervin  
Jearld & Carolyn Leonhardt  
Jeffrey Carter  
Susan Hazlewood  
Eugenia Huelsman  
J. Fox Kinsman  
Jennifer Krix  
Gracie Vance  
Tina Houston  
Betsy Alden  
Thomas Barnhardt III  
Todd Bowland  
Michael Brown  
Carol & Jeff Burgess  
John Healy  
Jeanette Kimmel  
Fred Mills  
Paige Murray  
Frank Nickell  
Kidy & Chad Oakley  
William Osteen  
Susan Stuber  
Rebecca Hall



High Country United Way

# 2022- 2023 BUSINESS PARTNERS

High Country United Way is grateful for the following corporate business partners who have joined us in the mission to improve **HEALTH, EDUCATION, and FINANCIAL STABILITY** in the High Country.

## Community Pillars



### The Josephine S. Leiser Foundation



## Community Builders



## Community Supporters



**High Country United Way is proud to facilitate the North Carolina Governor's Volunteer Service Awards in Avery, Mitchell, Watauga, and Yancey counties. In May of 2023, the following volunteers were recognized for their relentless efforts to make the High Country the BEST it can be.**

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### 2023 Avery County Award Recipients

**Erin & Derek Buchanan  
Avery County Schools**



### 2023 Yancey County Award Recipients

**Karen & Joseph Ventrice  
American Red Cross**



### 2023 Watauga County Award Recipients



**William Butler  
Ken Connelly  
Curt Gillespie  
Lisa Berry Shelton  
Judith Phoenix  
Gerald Trout**

**Western Youth Network  
Mediation & Restorative Justice Center  
Habitat for Humanity - Watauga  
Just Trying To Live Our Best Lives  
Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture  
Habitat for Humanity - Watauga**

# HIGH COUNTRY UNITED WAY AT WORK IN 2023

\$25,256 of EFSP funding facilitated for Avery, Mitchell, and Watauga Counties in 2023.

The NC 211 Center fielded a total of 132,018 calls from North Carolina residents in 2023.

NC 211 staff answered 381 calls from residents in Ashe, Avery, Mitchell, Watauga, and Yancey counties.

NC 211 verified 416 programs available through 134 agencies for a 97.2% verification rate in the High Country.

Distributed 6002 pounds of food to our sponsored pantries at Caldwell Community College - Watauga and Mayland Community College.

## Executive Director Community Involvement

Volunteer at Neighbors Feeding Neighbors  
Took the Polar Plunge at Chetola  
Visit to Western Watauga Senior Center  
Homestead Recovery Center Open House  
Visits to Mayland Community College  
Visit to OASIS Avery County Office  
Attended UWNC Annual Meeting  
Volunteer during Publix Serves Weeks  
Visit to Dual School Preschool  
Facilitated NC Governor's Volunteer Awards  
Attended WCCI Recharge Event  
Visit BROC in Wilkes County  
Visit to Community Care Clinic  
Attended The Big Cheese - Watauga Habitat  
Attended Hospitality House Grant Luncheon  
Attended Regional United Way ED Meetings  
Participated in Avery Chamber After Hours  
Participated in Boone Chamber After Hours  
Graduated from Watauga Leadership  
Graduated from Avery Leadership  
Attended Watauga Habitat 30th Anniversary  
Presented at Boone Sunrise Rotary  
Volunteered at Mitchell Day of Service  
Participated in UWNC Marketing Training  
Attended Boone Chamber Annual Dinner  
Attended Avery Chamber Annual Dinner  
Attended Blowing Rock Chamber Annual Luncheon  
Collected Food and Basic Needs Items for Agencies



High Country United Way



211 is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

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1675 Blowing Rock Road, Suite 400, Boone, NC 28607  
Post Office Box 247, Boone, NC 28607  
[www.highcountryunitedway.org](http://www.highcountryunitedway.org)  
828.265.2111

High Country United Way  
PO BOX 247  
Boone, NC 28607



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