

United Way of Mid & South Jefferson County

2024 Newsletter





Valero Energy and Diamond Green Diesel Partner with United Way to Inspire Hope

We celebrated the incredible support of the employees at Valero Energy and Diamond Green Diesel for our community and United Way. Their generous donation represents a meaningful investment in creating change, supporting neighbors, and inspiring hope. We are so grateful for this impactful partnership!



Valero & Diamond Green Diesel's REEL UNITED Big Bass

United way MSIC held our 7th annual REEL United Fishing Tournament. We raised \$290,600 to support our mission and vital programs locally. This year's tournament has grown so much and broke multiple records. 821 anglers and 47 youth anglers along with hundreds of volunteer hours. We are truly thankful to our generous sponsors for going ABOVE AND BEYOND!

Learn more or Register for REEL UNITED Big Bass 2025 at www.unitedwaymsjc.org/reel-united



HEB & United Way, what a great team!

The Port Neches Senior Citizen Center was thrilled to receive generous donations from our wonderful friends at H-E-B. Their support has helped us ensure our seniors feel cared for and valued. Thank you, H-E-B, for making such a meaningful impact on our community!



Zachry Team Revamps United Way West Port Arthur Garden

The United Way & Zachry @ CPChem partnered to give the West Port Arthur Community Garden a makeover. The Zachry team did an incredible job rebuilding 37 garden beds! We look forward to spring planting, working on the play area, and refreshing the soil. Things are growing in the garden!



Large Donation for First Impression nitiative

Valero FRC donation to 1st Impression.
Valero Energy gave our 1st Impression
Closets the most generous donation.
These donations remove barriers making
it possible for more individuals to obtain
employment and achieve financial
stability.



15 and Thriving: Expanding Super Reader at Langham Elementary

We celebrated our 15th Book Vending Machine Ribbon Cutting with Langham Elementary, Neches Federal Credit Union and Nothing Bundt Cakes! It was an exciting day to expand our Super Reader Initiative by continuing to place books in the hands and homes of our youth.





Celebrating New Book Vending Machines at Local Elementary Schools

We celebrated the unveiling of Highland Park Elementary, Groves Primary Elementary, and Hillcrest Elementary's brand-new Book Vending Machines, and the kids were thrilled! A heartfelt thank you to the amazing volunteers who made these special events possible!



OCI Methanol Safety Day: Sharing Stories and Connections

OCI Methanol hosted a wonderful and busy Safety Day. We had the pleasure of sharing the United Way MSIC story and visiting with everyone!





Roschon Johnson's Football Camp Brings Fun to the Community

NFL Chicago Bears' Roschon Johnson held his very own football camp. From donuts with his young fans, to Story Time with United Way, to time spent in the community garden, he brought smiles and fun giving back to the community that has been cheering him on since he was a kid learning the game!



Scan to visit our website



Restocking the First Impressions Workforce Readiness Closet

The First Impressions Workforce Readiness closet at the Hospitality Center was restocked to help individuals in the service industry report to work ready and safe with nonslip shoes.



Chevron Phillips Tackles Food Insecurity at West Port Arthur Garden

Chevron Phillips Chemical spent the day in the West Port Arthur Community Garden, working to prepare garden beds and plant 100 veggies and pollinator plants. This beautiful day was well spent working together addressing food insecurities in our community!



Girls Scout STEM Day at West Port Arthur Community Garden

Betchel, Port Arthur LNG, and the AKA Sorority came together to set up and celebrate Girl Scout Stem Day at the West Side Community Garden.







Valero's Annual Campaign & Cook-Off for United Way MSJC

We attended the annual Valero Campaign for United Way MSJC. It was a great day supporting our community that ended with a delicious Gumbo/Chili Cook-Off. This year was one for the books!





Target's 'The Great Gift Together 2024': Holiday Donations for Families in Need

Target held "The Great Gift Together 2024" event, supporting families with those that have special needs through the Special Elf Project.



Howard Energy and GT Logistics Launch United Way Campaign with Day of Caring

Howard Energy Partners/GT Logistics held a United Way Campaign kickoff and a fun day of volunteering! They assembled kid friendly activity bags to be distributed to our partnering agencies that do case management. These bags help keep the children occupied while the adults fill out necessary paperwork and answer vital questions.

Valero Energy Supports Workforce Readiness with Donation to First Impressions Closets

Valero Energy Port Arthur Refinery donated to the First Impressions Closets at The Hospitality Center and Community Care- Prayer Outreach. This closet helps individuals with clothing they need to return to the workforce.



BASF, TotalEnergies, and Golden Triangle Support PAISD's 'As I Change' Initiative

"As I Change" is a PAISD Initiative to collect feminine hygiene items for 5th grade girls. Our donors from BASF TotalEnergies Petrochemicals and Golden Triangle Emergency Center- Port Arthur, donated feminine hygiene products and were able to provide them for 350 girls.





Pearls & Purses for Literacy 2025

Emcee Charlee Chelette

A Designer Purse Bingo benefitting the United Way MSJC's Early Literacy Initiative

We held the Pearls and Purses for Literacy Bingo, benefiting United Way of MSJC. This event features a variety of new designer purses, silent auction, and luck of the draw. It was such a wonderful night, and a special thanks to our title sponsors at BASF TotalEnergies Petrochemical, supporting sponsors, volunteers, and the crowd. This event raised \$22,006!





OCI Methanol Texas Donates to The Special Elf Project

OCI Methanol Texas added to the magic this holiday season by donating the most generous gift towards The Special Elf Project!





Summer Reading Palooza: 1,500 Books for Home Libraries

Travis Elementary and Hillcrest Elementary along with multiple other schools held a Summer Reading Palooza. We distributed over 1,500 books to K and 1st grade students to begin their very own libraries at home over the summer!



Inside the Future Women and Children's Shelter with Family Services of Southeast Texas



Our staff had the opportunity to visit the future Women and Children's Shelter. This facility will offer a safe place to recover, plan their future, and so much more. We are so excited to see the next chapter for Family Services of Southeast Texas take shape as they prepare and plan to serve those impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and associated traumas.

OCI Methanol's Donation Supports Hillcrest Elementary Students



Members of the OCI Methanol team made a generous donation of children's undergarments to Hillcrest Elementary. The items donated are necessary for unexpected emergencies during the day allowing children to remain in school and not lose valuable class time. They also got the privilege of seeing the UWMSIC BVM and hearing from the school principal about the positive impact this donation has had on his students!



United Way's Virtual Volunteer Center

The United Way launched a regional virtual volunteer center in 2024, with plans to expand through a partnership with the United Way of Orange County in 2025.

Volunteers are able to search local activities, volunteer opportunities, and events for the right match to their interests. Nonprofits are able to promote volunteer opportunities, needs, and events that support programs in the region. Both organizations and volunteers are able to track their impact and volunteerism with the help of online reports and calculators.

SETXvolunteers.org is a free resource to support our regional communities.







INITIATIVES



EVENTS



Born Learning Trails

Active play areas for mind and bodies



Day of Caring

Community Investment Projects linking volunteer engagement, and community needs



EARLY LITERACY

programs increasing access to books for I youth. We will provide at least 20,000 books to the local youth this year.



Community Garden

A Community Garden addressing food insecurities in West Port Arthur



Community Grants

Three Grant programs supporting local community needs & working families.



First Impressions

Workforce Readiness Closet making sure worker are ready from interview to worksite



United We WORK

A workforce readiness & financial stability program



SETXvolunteers

A virtual Volunteer Center for linking nonprofits and community volunteers. Visit www.SETXvolunteers.org



365 Small Business Circle

Helping small business engage and impact the community in meaningful ways.

