

Our October 2025 Impact

Dollars & Sense...

We are pleased to announce the great success of the Dollars & Sense Reality Fair which took place at New College Institute on Thursday and Friday, October 30 and 31. This biannual event is provided to local high school seniors to allow them real world budgeting experience while prioritizing their needs versus wants, tracking their income, and making critical decisions about their future. Using fun, hands-on activities that allowed students to interact with their classmates and local community members representing many area businesses and organizations, they were able to apply these skills to pay bills, open accounts, donate to charity, and even save for special occasions.



We are grateful to our area's volunteers and UWHCM staff who made this two-day learning event possible! Thank you to Bassett High School for your attendance and participation on Thursday, as well as Martinsville and Magna Vista High Schools on Friday.

We look forward to Dollars & Sense in the Middle, an outstanding program for middle schoolers! The first event will be held on December 16, at Fieldale-Collinsville Middle School, and is designed to provide 7th graders with a better understanding of budgeting, understanding their wants and needs, as well as how their current financial decisions may come with future financial consequences. For more information on the Dollars & Sense program, please contact Lisa Frick at: [276-403-5965](tel:276-403-5965), or Lisa@UnitedWayofHCM.org.

For any individual interested in financial education, regardless of age, please reach out to





Campaign 2025-26 Update...

The Time Warp Theatre on October 24 and 25 proved to be a successful fundraiser. We are grateful to Movie Town for hosting the event, [TheatreWorks Community Players](#) for their hard work and dedication in bringing the show to life, and [Starling Cards & Comics](#) and [MHC Pride Coalition](#) for sponsoring the event. Shoutouts to each guest in the audience who attended and made the interactions that much more enjoyable!

Carter Bank staff have collectively raised over \$25,000 and Eastman over \$14,000 for UWHCM 2025-26 Campaign.

Our 2025-25 Campaign is at 53% of its goal! Thank you!

Now, more than ever, we need your support. If you are able to give, please visit us at www.UnitedWayofHCM.org and select "donate."

CAMPAIGN UPDATE



TO OUR 2026 GOAL

\$480,000

MHC Partners for Children...

Our **MHC Partners for Children** had a busy month with several fall events!

The team participated in Uptown Martinsville's Oktoberfest on October 4, featuring activities for children. Then, on October 8, over 38 parents and kids decorated pumpkins and shared halloween stories at the Maplewood Housing Community. Several days later, these busy ladies were volunteering time at the **Grace Network Pumpkin Patch**, helping families pick festive pumpkins and take family photos.



On October 17, the **Pittsylvania County Community Action** (PCCA) Head Start hosted a "Touch a Truck" event at the **Smith River Sports Complex**, attracting over 150 attendees. The MHCPC team provided fall art activities, books, treats, and educational resources to all.



Also on October 17, our local childcare partners and the MHCPC team completed VKRP assessments

for all pre-K3 and pre-K4 students at seven sites. The Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (VKRP) utilizes the EMAS screener to assess early mathematical skills and the CBRS tool to evaluate social-emotional development. These assessments help teachers identify each child's strengths and needs, ensuring they receive the necessary support for kindergarten readiness.



YMCA Soup Fundraiser...

Each year, the Henry County-Martinsville YMCA hosts a special fundraiser to support UWHCM by selling delicious homemade soup. This year, the YMCA will offer a variety of soups served with grilled cheese, crackers, a drink, and a dessert, all for just \$7.

Guests can choose to dine-in or carry out. This annual event not only provides a tasty meal, but also brings the community together.

SOUP FUNDRAISER

November 17 | 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
3 Starling Ave., Martinsville

BENEFITS:  Henry County and Martinsville UNITED WAY

HOSTED BY:


the YMCA
MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY FAMILY YMCA

COST: \$7

Cost Includes: Soup, Grilled Cheese, Crackers, a Drink, and Dessert!

DINE-IN OR CARRY OUT!



Financial Security in Our Community...

On October 22, our Eviction Reduction Coordinator, China Tatum, attended the Housing Virginia's Most Vulnerable conference in Richmond. While there, she was also a speaker, along with other grantees throughout the state, on the VERP (Virginia Eviction Reduction Pilot) panel entitled "Collaborative

Strategies for Eviction Reduction: A Virginia Pilot Program." This panel provided data points on how funds are stretched, presence is proved and continues to make a difference in the courtroom, and how the partnerships formed within communities extends beyond the work of the pilot program each day.



Senta Leslie, Associate Director, Office of Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD); China Tatum, Eviction Reduction Coordinator, UWHCM; Jen Cherry, Community Impact Manager, United Way of the Virginia Peninsula

Healthy Community...

Our CHWs are pleased to announce the beginning of the Virginia Heart Ambassador Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring Program (HHA BPSM)! This series will be 8 sessions, alternating weeks, focusing on home blood pressure monitoring and nutrition education.

How It Works: UWHCM's CHWs Healthy Heart Ambassadors will provide one-on-one office hours and nutrition information to participants.

Participant Eligibility*: All participants must be 18 years or older and diagnosed with hypertension by a healthcare professional.

Equipment: Participants receive a free blood pressure monitor as part of the program.

For more information on how to enroll, please contact one of the following UWHCM CHWs:

Christa Moore, 276-759-3991
Loleader Valentine, 276-759-3764
Karen Millner, 276-759-3131

*Eligibility to participate in the program may still depend on certain health conditions.



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