

Together We Thrive  
June 2024

The United Way of Yellowstone County logo, featuring the words "United Way" in white on a blue background, next to a circular icon containing a stylized figure with arms raised, surrounded by concentric arcs, all within a blue hand shape.

## GET CONNECTED

*with volunteer opportunities*

### Summer 2024

**June 12** **Workshop Wednesday** - 10 am - 12 noon we will be preparing for our Day of Action

**June 15** **Juneteenth Festival** - Help us at our kindness rock booth. We will need volunteers from 10:30 am - 4:30pm

**June 19** **Day of Action** - Join us for our Annual Day of Action out at Dover Park from 1:00pm-4:30pm with a post-event celebration at Tiny's Tavern.

**June 27** **CARE Academy Fishing Day** - Join us for Fishing Day with CARE Academy, if you're skilled in all things fishing this day is for you!

**June 27** **Ice Cream Social** - Join us as we welcome new Board members, and announce our Community Investment Partners.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



[unitedwayyellowstone.org](https://unitedwayyellowstone.org)

Click here if you are interested in other great volunteer opportunities

United in Action, United in Purpose



United Way  
of Yellowstone County

# DAY OF ACTION

JUNE 19 DOVER PARK

*The beauty of volunteering lies in its diversity— there's a place for everyone, a cause for every passion. Let's keep the spirit of giving alive and continue to make our community a better place for everyone.*

Hey there, community champions!  
Ready to roll up your sleeves and make a tangible difference? Then you'll love our upcoming **Day of Action** at Dover Park! It's the perfect opportunity to get involved and create a positive impact. And the best part? There's a celebration waiting for you at the finish line!

We'll be coming together to spruce up Dover Park, making it a cleaner, greener, and more beautiful space for everyone. Whether you're removing invasive trees, removing fencing, spreading rock, or staining bridges, every little bit helps!



Volunteering isn't just about fulfilling a requirement or ticking off a box — it's about making a real difference. Whether you're passionate about environmental conservation, education, or helping those in need, there's a volunteer opportunity for everyone. But why should you get involved? Here are some compelling reasons:

## Feel Good

There's an incredible sense of satisfaction that comes from giving back to your community. Volunteering allows you to see the direct impact of your efforts, whether it's a cleaner park, a well-fed family, or a happier child. The joy and fulfillment you experience can be deeply rewarding and uplifting.

## Meet Awesome People

Volunteering is a fantastic way to meet like-minded individuals who share your passion for making the world a better place. You'll forge new friendships and build a supportive network of people who inspire and motivate you. These connections can lead to lifelong friendships and even professional opportunities.

## Celebrate

You've worked hard, and now it's time to kick back and celebrate your incredible efforts! After the Day of Action, head over to **Tiny's Tavern** from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm for some well-deserved relaxation.

Come and enjoy some complimentary appetizers and snacks courtesy of Tiny's Tavern. This is our way of saying "Thank You" for your contribution. It's going to be a fun evening filled with good food, laughter, and community spirit.

So, mark your calendars, bring your friends and family, and let's make a difference together. See you at Dover Park and Tiny's Tavern!

## Let's make this Day of Action unforgettable!

Get registered now by clicking the [Register for Day of Action](#) button below! We can't wait to see you on June 19!

For questions, please reach out to Chrissy at [volcoord@uwyellowstone.org](mailto:volcoord@uwyellowstone.org)

Add event to calendar

[Apple](#) • [Google](#) • [Office 365](#) • [Outlook Web](#) • [Outlook](#) • [Yahoo](#)

Register for Day of  
Action

## Get Ready for the BEST BOGO Deal in Town!

Looking for the best deal for beer, wine, mocktails and coffee?



Purchase United Way of Yellowstone County's Beverage  
BOGO Discount Card!

Are you ready for an unbeatable summer adventure? The United Way Beverage Bingo BOGO Discount Card is back, and it's packed with 24 amazing deals at your favorite local spots!

For just \$25, you can sip, savor, and support an incredible cause. Kick off your summer in style on June 19 by purchasing your Beverage Bingo card at our Day of Action, or at Tiny's Tavern during the afterparty. Can't make it? No worries! You can snag your card online right now by clicking below.

These fantastic cards are valid from June 19 to September 12, 2024, giving you plenty of time

this summer to enjoy all the Buy One, Get One goodness. Don't miss out — we've only got 500 cards and they're flying off the shelves!

Hurry and get your Beverage Bingo BOGO card today! Enjoy great deals, have a blast, and support United Way's mission to improve lives and strengthen our community.

**Purchase your BOGO card  
HERE**

**BUY YOURS TODAY**

[unitedwayyellowstone.org/form/beverage-bingo](https://unitedwayyellowstone.org/form/beverage-bingo)



**For just \$25, United Way of Yellowstone County's Beverage BOGO Discount Card gets you access to BOGO deals at the best bars, breweries, wineries and coffee houses throughout Yellowstone County.**

Valued at over \$100, the Beverage Bingo Discount Card is perfect for summer gatherings, and you help a great cause!

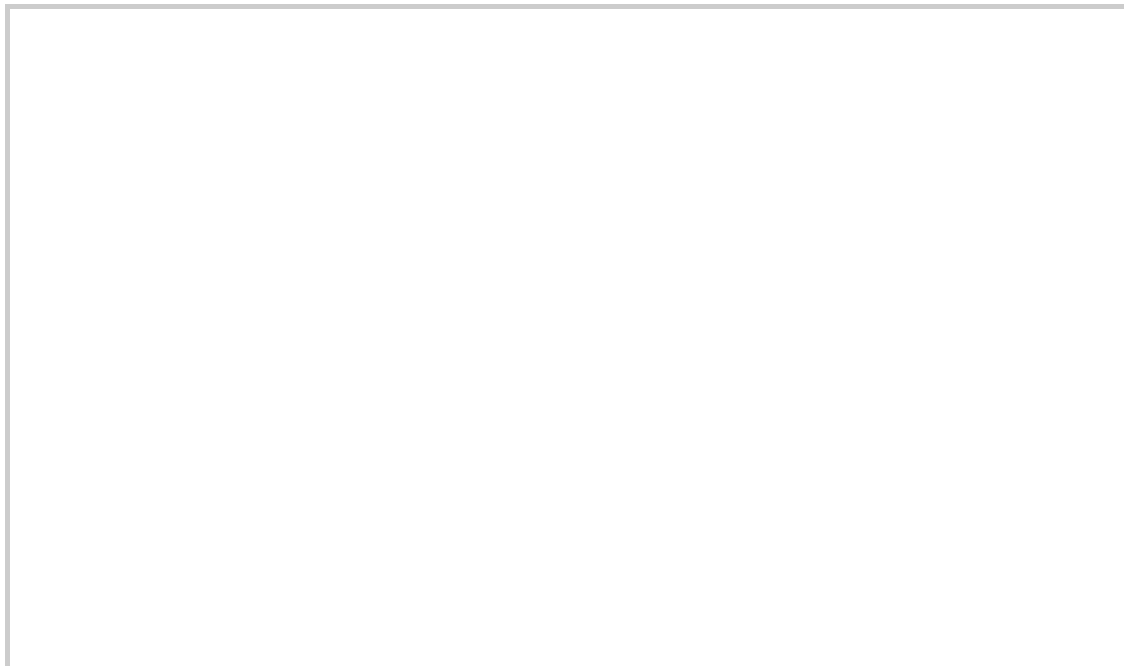
Promotion runs June 19th through September 12th.



### **Our partners include:**

406 Kitchen and Taproom  
Aloha Coffee  
American Legion  
Bar MT  
Breakfast Exchange Club  
Canyon Creek Brewing  
Carlton Depot  
Diamond X  
Hooligans  
Levity  
Magic City Casino  
Mazevo Coffee  
Meadowlark Brewing  
Montana Brewing Co.  
Palace Bar & Lanes  
Poly's Place Coffee  
Tap Inn  
The Den  
The Play Inn  
The Sapphire Lounge  
The Vig  
Thirsty Street Brewing  
Tiny's Tavern  
Yellowstone Cellars & Winery

## **Celebrating Juneteenth**







Join us on June 15 at South Park for the Juneteenth Annual Festival, celebrating a day dedicated to advocating for equity and supporting those who strive for change. This event is more than just a celebration; it's a call to action to create a more inclusive future for all.

## Stand Together for Equity

Juneteenth is a powerful reminder of our collective responsibility to stand together and amplify the voices of those who are working tirelessly for change. United Way is committed to building strong, inclusive communities.

## Volunteer and Make a Difference

United Way will host a kindness rock booth, where participants can paint and share messages of hope and solidarity, creating symbols of our collective commitment to creating a supportive and inclusive environment. We need volunteers to assist at the kindness rock booth. If you're interested in volunteering, please sign up [here](#).

## Join Us

Together, we can create a future where equity and inclusion are at the forefront. Let's make the Juneteenth Annual Festival a memorable and impactful event. We look forward to seeing you at South Park on June 15.

For questions, please reach out to Chrissy at [volcooord@uwyellowstone.org](mailto:volcooord@uwyellowstone.org)

## CARE/Discover Zone Carnival



Despite inclement weather, our annual CARE Academy/Discover Zone carnival was a tremendous success. Families turned out in droves, and joy filled the space as the families enjoyed games, information from partner agencies, and fun activities.

A HUGE shout out to Circle K for sponsoring hot dogs, and Altana Federal Credit Union for providing delicious ice cream. Special thank you to the Friendship Cafe food truck for joining us, and to the Shriners for bringing their train and giving the kids an unforgettable experience cruising the parking lot. Photolanthropy brought their amazing photo booth, capturing all the fun moments!.



Big Sky Hot Air Balloon added a touch of magic to the day, and we couldn't have done it without our fantastic volunteers from First Interstate Bank, Wells Fargo, Billings Federal Credit Union and Circle K. One excited kiddo summed it up best by saying, "this is the best day of my life!"

It was truly a joy to watch and experience all the smiles, laughter, and fun shared by all. Thank you to everyone who helped make this day special!



TM



**Get Connected. Get Help.™**



**CALL 2-1-1**



**MONTANA211.ORG**

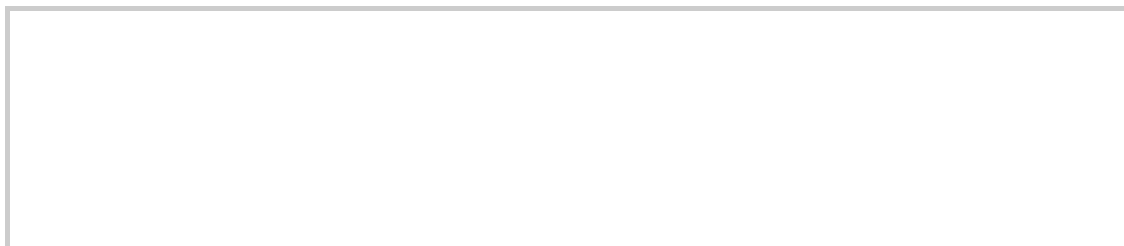
211 is Montana's go-to resource for information about health and social services like housing, employment, mental health, food access, transportation, healthcare access, legal services, family and childrens needs, and crisis services. Need help with rent assistance? Check 211. Looking for help finding a counselor? Check 211. Have questions about public transportation? Check 211. Call 2-1-1 or go to **Montana211.org**. It's free, it's easy, and it's built for our community.

Best Beginnings gives families resources that get kids off to a promising start, from parenting advice for newborns to information about preschool. Find resources on reading, healthcare, fun activities for kids, and much more. Check out Bright by Text, a program that directs expert parenting advice straight to your phone. Visit [unitedwayyellowstone.org/best-beginnings](http://unitedwayyellowstone.org/best-beginnings) to learn more.



**Strong Families - Thriving Children**

**Community Builders:**  
**CHS, Inc.'s Dedication to United Way's Mission**







We are proud to highlight CHS, Inc., a dedicated corporate donor that exemplifies commitment to our community and mission. CHS, Inc., a diversified global agribusiness cooperative owned by farmers and member cooperatives across the United States, has consistently demonstrated its support through various forms of community giving. Their dedication to youth and volunteerism is evident in their active participation in our workplace giving campaign and sponsorship of several events.

We are especially grateful for their recent sponsorship of our Laurel CARE Academy, one of our out-of-school-time program locations. Individuals from CHS, from volunteers to committee and board members, actively engage with our mission and make a significant impact. We extend our heartfelt thanks to CHS, Inc. for their unwavering support and their invaluable contributions to building a stronger, more vibrant community.

## BOOST Conference 2024



Michelle and Haiven attended the 2024 BOOST (Best of Out-of-School Time) Conference in Palm Springs, CA, April 30-May 3. The BOOST Conference is the largest, most recognized, and comprehensive global convening for after school, expanded learning, and in and out-of-school time professionals. This annual, extraordinary event is geared to rejuvenate passion, boost direction for quality programming, and provide tools and resources that inspire the creation of change in the Out-of-School Time arena. Michelle and Haiven brought back a wealth of knowledge that they will share with our programs.

## Want to get more involved with United Way?

If you are looking for a way to give back and make a huge difference in our community, consider becoming a **board or committee member**. If you are eager to make a difference by helping to align business resources to the complex and growing needs of our most vulnerable in the community, United Way of Yellowstone County may be a good match for you. **A board or committee member is responsible for defining and supporting the nonprofit's vision, goals and mission by setting sound policies.** Board members are vitally important to helping effectively steer the organization to greatness and towards a sustainable and brighter future. They also carefully oversee the nonprofit's budget and are responsible for helping to set new budgets. Board or committee members are vitally important to helping effectively steer the organization to greatness and towards a sustainable and brighter future while ensuring that



the organization has sufficient resources and funds to continue to create an impact in the communities they serve.

Not only does a nonprofit board or committee member add value to the organization, but the opportunity works both ways. A nonprofit can actually help leaders improve their soft skills. For example, teamwork, problem-solving, and analytical skills can be further honed by serving as a board member, regardless of your experience level or age. It can be an ideal opportunity for a young professional to help a great cause while gaining an additional community perspective. Joining a nonprofit board or committee is a great way to expand your network and connections from around the region and across industries.

Learn more [here!](#)

For more information on volunteering as a Board or Committee member, contact Kim Lewis at [klewis@uwyellowstone.org](mailto:klewis@uwyellowstone.org) or 406-272-8501

## Partner Agency Spotlight



Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch (YBGR) plays a vital role in improving the lives of high-risk youth and their families in our community, with a strong focus on school readiness. Through their comprehensive behavior health services, YBGR supports Seriously Emotionally Disturbed (SED) youth by providing emergency needs, fostering long-term stability, and implementing thorough evaluation processes to ensure lasting success. Their dedication to school readiness and social success empowers young individuals to meet milestones and graduate high school, building a strong foundation for their future.

Through funding from United Way of Yellowstone County, YBGR has been able to provide essential support in many ways. One heartwarming example is when they provided school supplies to a young student in need, creating a lasting bond and sense of security for the child and their family. This collaboration highlights the profound impact we can achieve together, demonstrating the gratitude and appreciation these families feel for the unwavering support from YBGR and United Way. We value this partnership and look forward to continuing to make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

## Connecting with Kiwanis Clubs

United Way of Yellowstone County staff was lucky to meet with the Billings Kiwanis clubs, a great group of local service organizations, over the last month. Like United Way, Kiwanis clubs have a long track record of providing services and aid to kids in the Billings area – from pancake breakfasts to reading programs to



fundraising.

Billings has three different clubs: Billings Golden K Kiwanis, Billings Kiwanis, and the Billings Heights Kiwanis. Each participates in valuable programs and marshals volunteering efforts across the Billings area.

Kim Lewis, United Way of Yellowstone County's President and CEO, especially appreciated the Kiwanis clubs work in education. "They have an impressive commitment to children and literacy," she said.

The communication between UWYC and the Kiwanis clubs is already bearing fruit; representatives from the Golden K club met with CARE Academy leadership to talk about opportunities to bolster reading programs for elementary school children attending CARE Academy programs.

It's a perfect example of why local non-profits should work together, Lewis said, instead of staying in individual silos.

Kiwanis clubs are a great volunteer opportunity for both retirees and younger folks; membership in the Billings Golden K club range from ages 25 to 90! UWYC is proud to have Kiwanis as a local partner to help build a community that provides opportunities for everyone. Find more information about Kiwanis clubs in Montana [here](#), and visit the Kiwanis [Golden K Facebook page](#), [Kiwanis Heights website](#), and [Billings Kiwanis website](#).

Are you interesting in learning about other civic clubs in the Billings area? Check out [this database](#) from the Billings Chamber of Commerce or click the button below.

### Billings civic groups



## Dive into a Day of Adventure

Join us for an unforgettable day at the CARE Academy Discover Zone Fishing Field Trip at Lake Elmo on June 27th from 10:30 am - 2:00 pm!

### Why We Need You

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers who love the outdoors, want to make a positive impact on young lives, and maybe even inspire the next generation of anglers. Volunteers don't need a fishing license. Here's how you can help:

- **Setting Up:** Assist with the initial setup of fishing gear and other equipment.
- **Fishing Assistance:** Help students with lines, casting, and reeling
- **Supervision:** Engage with students at the playground for safety and fun

- **Clean-Up:** Pick up equipment and leave the site pristine

The trip is more than fishing – it's about teaching patience, fostering love for nature and building confidence.

- **Learn the Basics:** Hands on instruction in fishing technique
- **Team Building :** Participate in group activities that promote teamwork.
- **Environmental Education:** Learn about local wildlife and conservation
- **Have Fun:** Enjoy the playground and make new friends

Ready to make a splash in a child's life? Sign up to volunteer [here](#). Together, we can create cherished memories for these students. See you at the lake!

For questions email Michelle at [ostdirector@uwyellowstone.org](mailto:ostdirector@uwyellowstone.org)

## Help provide a window into poverty



### Poverty Simulation Volunteers Needed

Volunteering for the Poverty Simulation is not just about giving your time; it's about making a real impact on our community. This event sheds light on some of the realities faced by individuals and families living in poverty. Your participation helps create an immersive environment where participants can better understand the financial and emotional barriers experienced by those struggling to make ends meet.

### What Volunteers Will Do

Volunteers are essential to this event. You'll operate community agencies within the simulation, helping to build a realistic environment that highlights the daily struggles of those living in poverty. Your role is crucial in creating a transformative experience for participants.

### The Impact of Poverty

Poverty is more than just a lack of money; it's a complex issue that affects every aspect of a person's life. From accessing healthcare and education to finding stable employment and housing, the challenges can seem insurmountable. This simulation allows participants to "spend an hour in someone else's shoes," fostering empathy and understanding that can drive meaningful change.

### How to Sign-Up

Click [HERE](#) to sign-up for the June 25<sup>th</sup> poverty simulation from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

Click [HERE](#) to sign-up for the August 13<sup>th</sup> poverty simulation from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

Click [HERE](#) to sign-up for the August 27<sup>th</sup> poverty simulation from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

For any questions or additional information, please reach out to:

Maia Dickerson: [mdickerson@uwyellowstone.org](mailto:mdickerson@uwyellowstone.org) or 406-272-8506

**Get Ready to Rally:**  
**Rock the block with us on September 12th**



# COMMUNITY RALLY

SAVE THE DATE!

United  
Way



United Way  
of Yellowstone County



- Thursday, September 12
- 4:00-7:00 PM
- 2173 Overland Ave

- Live Music from Counting Coup
- Food Trucks
- Lawn Games
- Soda and Beer

Scan for more info:



Add event to calendar

[Apple](#) • [Google](#) • [Office 365](#) • [Outlook Web](#) • [Outlook](#) • [Yahoo](#)

YOU'RE INVITED TO AN

## Ice Cream Social

WE'RE EXCITED TO INVITE YOU TO OUR UPCOMING ICE CREAM SOCIAL,  
WHERE WE WILL:

- ANNOUNCE OUR INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS
- THANK THOSE WHO ARE TERMING OUT
- SHARE AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF OUR 2024-2025 COMMUNITY IMPACT PARTNERS

JUNE 27, 2024 | 1:30 PM | UNITED WAY OF YELLOWSTONE COUNTY  
2173 OVERLAND AVE

United  
Way



United Way  
of Yellowstone County

## Accessibility upgrades

Thank you to Grizzly Glass for upgrading

our doors and making them ADA accessible. Their donation of automatic door openers is greatly appreciated, and their crew did excellent work on the installation at our two main entrances. We're proud to be an organization that prioritizes accessibility for all!



## Monthly Honor Roll

Thank you to the following donors for contributing to improving lives through health, education, and crisis stabilization for those in Yellowstone County.

Anvil	Sandra Gatica	Gerald Oyon
Arrowhead PTA, Inc.	Jessica Graesser	Charles Paris
Associated Food Stores	Green Dot Bank	Mark W. Petesch
Carol L. Atchison	Randy Hammerquist	Justin Rath
Marquice Barnett	Mark Horn	Darlene Reay
Billings Clinic	James Hutton	Luke Reinschmidt
Billings Public Schools	Intermountain Children's	Ryan Reitz
Billings Yellowstone Kiwanis	Home	Steven Restad
Stephanie Bond	James Irwin	Dustin Rhodes
CHS, Inc.	April E. Keippel	Riley Robbins
Donald Cooks	Jana Keller	Angela Sanders-Gordon
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Tawnyia Crotty	Dennis Krenz	Michael A. Shmidt
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First Interstate Bank	Travis Mummey	Crystal Welch
Kobe French	Bill & Margie Murry	Wells Fargo
Sandra Gatica	Mark O'Connor	Shane A Zumbrun
	Daniel G. Oakes	

Want to see your name here? Donate below!

[DONATE](#)

# United Way of Yellowstone County



**United Way of Yellowstone County**

406.252.3839

[www.uwyellowstone.org](http://www.uwyellowstone.org)

2173 Overland Ave, Billings, MT 59102

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