

## OUR FIGHT TO IMPROVE SUMMER LEARNING



Last year, United Way supported five programs focused specifically on reducing the summer learning slide and improving educational outcomes for economically disadvantaged children. These programs helped **over 1,400 Forsyth County students**

improve or maintain their reading and math over the summer by providing academic support (Reading, Math, and STEM), Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), leadership and character development, decision making, healthy life choices, and family engagement.

While United Way and its funded programs are doing some amazing work in our community, we also know we must do more to help every child succeed.

**Over 18,200 students in Forsyth County** are attending Title 1 Elementary Schools (schools with a large low-income student population).

**This is about 65%** of the county's total elementary student population who need additional support in the summer to prevent summer learning loss.

**We're working to raise \$300,000** so we can expand our existing programs and immediately help more of those students who need this support over this summer.

**You can give today and change a child's tomorrow at [www.donateunited.org](http://www.donateunited.org)**



Most students lose **TWO MONTHS** of mathematical skills every summer and low-income children typically lose another two to three months in reading.



Summer learning loss during elementary school accounts for two-thirds of the **ACHIEVEMENT GAP IN READING** between low-income children and their middle-income peers by ninth grade.



**9 in 10 TEACHERS** spend at least three weeks re-teaching lessons at the beginning of the school year.

## BECAUSE OF YOU

**United Way of Forsyth County** was able to positively impact **over 147,000 people** last year, investing in over **70 programs and initiatives** with more than **40 local partner nonprofit organizations** focused on the key impact areas of **Education, Financial Stability, Health, and Basic Needs.**

# THE LIFE CYCLE OF SUPPORT

*The United Way Wraparound Approach*

**“I wish I had a list of everyone who gave to United Way during those years and write them a thank you letter... because they’ll never realize the profound impact they made on my life and my family’s future.”**

— Israel Suarez, PhD Student, *Wake Forest University School of Medicine*



**Meet Israel Suarez:** He and his two siblings live with their mother who makes \$13,000 a year. Without a high school diploma, her opportunities for acquiring a job that pays a living wage are very difficult. She's a hardworking member of the community, who is employed, yet does not earn enough to afford the basic necessities of life.

When Israel is in high school his brother is diagnosed with cancer during his first semester of college. His family doesn't have the means to pay for his surgery or treatment and his brother has to drop out of college to begin his battle against cancer.

Israel and his family are referred to **Cancer Services, a United Way partner agency**, which provided financial assistance and pro bono care and treatment for Israel's brother. Throughout the community, Cancer Services addresses the needs for individuals with any type of cancer and their families. The help Israel's family received meant they would not face decades of insurmountable debt.

During this time Israel is introduced to **Crosby Scholars** and his plans to simply graduate from high school and work to support his family take a different turn. Israel successfully completed Crosby Scholars, and received a full scholarship to Catawba College.

**Crosby Scholars is a United Way partner agency** that prepares students academically, financially, and personally for successful college enrollment. Students receive advisory services, take part in career and college exploration activities, and participate in college admission and financial aid workshops. Students completing the program in grades 10, 11, and 12 are eligible to apply for “Last Dollar Grants” for college.

Upon graduation, Israel decided to give back to his community and applied to Wake Forest University School of Medicine. He is now in his second year as a PhD candidate in cancer research, and he serves on the Board of Directors for Crosby Scholars.



## SAVE THE DATE!

**Moonlight Madness 5K and Fun Run** is United Way of Forsyth County's Community Kickoff for the 2019 campaign! This event is the largest and one of the oldest in Winston-Salem drawing over 1,200 participants! Register your team now at: [www.moonlightmadness5k.com](http://www.moonlightmadness5k.com)

# MOONLIGHT MADNESS 5K+FUN RUN

SEPTEMBER 20, 2019  
BAILEY PARK • WINSTON-SALEM