

United Way of Greater Houston BINGO Speaking Points

2024

Play online at: <https://bingobaker.com#675325c564e7c95f>

Share the link under “Share this URL with your players” and each player will be given their own clickable Bingo card.

The caller should click “Call list” to get started calling the game.

As you call squares, use the key points below to share more information about United Way. For more detailed game instructions, visit: <https://bingobaker.com/instructions>

- **102 years** – United Way of Greater Houston is celebrating 102 years of service to our community.
- **211 Texas/United Way HELPLINE** – in 2023 connected 1.2 million people with help and hope. A free, confidential social services helpline operated by the United Way of Greater Houston, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- **9,794** – In 2023-2024, the 211 Texas/United Way HELPLINE connected 9,794 people with mental health care.
- **29,353**– people were connected with food assistance through 211 Texas/United Way Helpline.
- **40,871** – in 2023, 40,871 people were connected with housing or shelter through 211 Texas/United Way HELPLINE.
- **ALICE** – an acronym which stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed, represents the growing number of individuals and families who are struggling to get by and are unable to afford the basic necessities of housing, food, childcare, health care, and transportation. 13% of families are surviving on incomes below the federal level and another 31% of individuals are employed, but struggling to afford the necessities.
- **Basic needs** – provided assistance including rent/mortgage assistance, utility assistance, access to technology, shelter, transportation, food assistance.
- **Bright Beginnings** – United Way Bright Beginnings, a partnership between United Way of Greater Houston and ExxonMobil, is an innovative early education program designed to help children from lower-income families achieve social, emotional, physical and cognitive milestones and enter school ready to succeed. Bright Beginnings’ hands-on curriculum and child-centered approach make a measurable difference in preparing children to start and succeed in school. This past year 33 United Way Bright Beginnings Centers provided 1,000 children with quality early childhood education.
- **Building Savings** - involves developing better financial habits through financial education and coaching, reducing debt, and starting a savings plan through United Way THRIVE.
- **Caring Champions** – In addition to championing their own company campaigns, Caring Champions sponsor campaign activities throughout the year.
- **Centers** - four centers that operate in neighboring communities to increase the access and availability of health and human services in the Bay Area, Fort Bend, Montgomery and Waller counties.
- **Children & Youth** – 114,592 young people got help building a foundation for future success.
- **Connecting people with possibility** - United Way partners with and invests in more than 100 nonprofit organizations working across 13 priority regions in Fort Bend, Harris, Montgomery, and Waller counties. We unite the public sector, the private sector, and you, to help bring lasting change to our community.
- **Disaster Recovery** – In times of disaster, United Way of Greater Houston is here to provide critical information and resources, to invest in immediate relief, and to lead long-term recovery efforts. Year-round, we plan, prepare, and work to help our neighbors and our community be better positioned when disaster strikes.
- **Early childhood education** – United Way of Greater Houston provides youth development programs including early childhood education, quality child care, out-of-school programs, college and career readiness programs, and parent engagement.

- **Early REACH** - Early REACH is an award-winning collaborative initiative between United Way of Greater Houston and BakerRipley aimed at creating capacity for local children to receive free, quality child care through existing programs. In its first year, Early REACH created more than 600 new child care spots, helping more than 400 families.
- **Escape from violence** - providing immediate, short-term services focused on safety for those fleeing domestic violence or human trafficking, or for vulnerable populations, like refugees.
- **Financial Stability** – United Way of Greater Houston provides programs including vocational training, employment coaching, financial coaching, safe and affordable financial products.
- **Focus on equity** - so we can begin to make headway against racism and underrepresentation. All of our investments in services and agencies are evaluated on how they incorporate diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging into policies, practices, and service delivery.
- **Going over the edge** - On November 3, 2023, 60 brave individuals, who each raised \$1,500 or more, rappelled off the 26-story Galleria DoubleTree Hotel to show their support for United Way in a big way! It was an energizing day with friends, teams, and sponsors gathered on the ground to show their support and cheer for the rappellers
- **Good Stewardship** – United Way of Greater Houston operates efficiently, effectively, and with a commitment to transparency and measurable results. Our community investments are backed by research, made by trained volunteers, and ensured by good stewardship.
- **Health care** - More than 252,029 people received health care support. Physical and behavioral health care programs, like primary care, dental care, individual and family counseling, and substance abuse recovery, help people become or remain able to fully engage in their careers, families, and lives.
- **Helping children grow** – This past year we partnered with Help Me Grow Gulf Coast (HMG), a new initiative that launched in Harris and Galveston counties in late 2023. HMG Gulf Coast connects children and their families to programs and services that enhance children’s development, behavior, and learning. Families benefit from a specialist who will listen, match, and link them to available services, and who will provide ongoing support with care coordination.
- **Helping families and neighbors** – The United Way helps families and neighbors by creating opportunities for those most vulnerable in our community with financial stability, early childhood care, health care, disaster recovery and basic needs.
- **Improved 2 million lives** – United Way helped 2 million of our neighbors improve their lives last year.
- **Increasing incomes** – last year, 3,184 clients increased their incomes through the United Way THRIVE program.
- **Integrated client journey** – our approach empowers families to create their own plan based on their goals and coordinates programs to make it easy for clients to engage across services as needed.
- **LINC** – (Lead. Impact. Network. Change) LINC harnesses the power of those age 30 and under to help kids succeed in school, to help our neighbors get through tough times and to help our community become more prosperous. Individuals aged 30 and under are invited to come try out United Way LINC any time. We hope you’ll love it and decide to join our ranks by making a gift of \$250 or more to United Way.
- **M.A.T.H. in a Flash** – United Way M.A.T.H. (Mastering Algebra Together Houston), a partnership with ConocoPhillips, continues to help students build algebra skills outside of the classroom. In partnership with ConocoPhillips and Houston Public Media we launched a series of animated math problems that air during PBS Kids programs.
- **Mentoring** – Through early childhood education, out of school enrichment, mentors and other academic support, we are helping prepare the next generation to lead our families, businesses, and communities.
- **Mission United** – a program anchored by our 211 Texas/United Way HELPLINE that helps veterans and active-duty military members, and their families with employment assistance, food, housing, health care, financial services, and legal assistance.
- **Navigators** - play a key role in the Integrated Client Journey. They work one-on-one with individuals and

families to determine their goals and build an individualized pathway to achieving those goals, make connections to programs and services, and support clients as they move through their journey to stability.

- **Nonprofit Connection** – United Way Nonprofit Connection provides the knowledge and skills that nonprofits need to achieve their mission and exceed their potential by offering workshops, computer classes, leadership and board development as well as interagency meetings.
- **Opportunity Youth** - With the generous support of JPMorgan Chase, United Way THRIVE is continuing its work to support young adults in obtaining career opportunities in health care. Our Opportunity Youth Health Care Pipeline is now in its third year and has connected nearly 240 young adults ages 18-24 to health care careers.
- **Out 2 Learn** – a partnership between United Way of Greater Houston, Houston Endowment, the City of Houston, and the Harris County Department of Education’s CASE for Kids, improves the quality of and access to out-of-school programs. This year, Out 2 Learn funded projects to help remove barriers, including language, technology, and cost barriers, that stop youth and families from participating in out-of-school programming.
- **Project Blueprint** – United Way Project Blueprint trains tomorrow's nonprofit board leadership, ensuring that Greater Houston's nonprofit sector reflects the rich diversity of our community.
- **Project Dash** - Project Dash empowers food banks, food pantries, and other social impact organizations to use DoorDash logistics to power the delivery of charitable food and other essential items. In 2023, our 211 Texas/United Way HELPLINE facilitated more than 9,750 Project Dash deliveries to support our neighbors.
- **Project Undercover** – Socks and underwear drive that engaged 30 companies to collect and donate 40,000 pairs of socks and underwear to 4,000 students last year.
- **Ride United Partnership with Lyft** - Through our Ride United Transportation Access program, we provided 610 of our neighbors with transportation for health care, employment, and social services through Lyft this year. The free transportation provided is valued at more than \$108,000.
- **Strike Team** - A new Strike Team is set to provide disaster and crisis response services to individuals and families in Harris, Fort Bend, Montgomery, and Waller counties. Through an emergency/ crisis care coordination approach, they will work with individuals to develop individual stabilization plans and partner with community service providers to provide expedited care and ongoing resources that support sustainability and resiliency.
- **Supporting caregivers** - Family caregivers frequently face challenges that may seem overwhelming. 211 identified 496 family caregivers this past year and matched them with essential resources to support them. These resources included basic necessities, support groups, counseling services, and various care arrangements within the home, from assisted living and rehabilitation to palliative/hospice care. This comprehensive support aims to alleviate the burden on caregivers, allowing them to redirect some of their focus on caregiving to their own well-being.
- **Tax Returns** – Through the THRIVE program 27,786 tax returns were completed with more than \$37.8 million in refunds returned to families and our local economy.
- **United Way THRIVE** – Launched in 2008 helping families increase income, build savings and acquiring assets. Last year 66,680 families were helped through THRIVE and put on the path to financial stability.
- **Volunteers** –This past year, more than 10,000 volunteers contributed 31,300 hours to United Way of Greater Houston. The time they have so generously given is valued at \$934,618 – but to United Way and the people we serve, it is truly priceless!
- **Women Who Rock** – In March, more than 900 incredible women and men came together to support parents in their pursuit of postsecondary education at United Way Women Who Rock. The scholarship underwrites child care so parents can work towards a degree or certification and provides recipients financial and employment coaching along with support to ensure they have what they need to achieve their goals.
- **Women’s Initiative** – 800 women strong, United Way Women's Initiative members are professionals, community volunteers, and business leaders who inspire those around them to reach out with full and

giving hearts. Throughout the year, Women's Initiative members enjoy educational, networking and professional development opportunities. WI members make personal gifts of \$2,500 or more annually and contributed \$5.8 million this year.

- **Young Leaders** – United Way Young Leaders is one of the largest, most impactful groups for young professionals in the Greater Houston area. Young Leaders unites community-minded donors 45 and younger who donate \$1,000+ annually in service of connecting people to possibility throughout our community.