



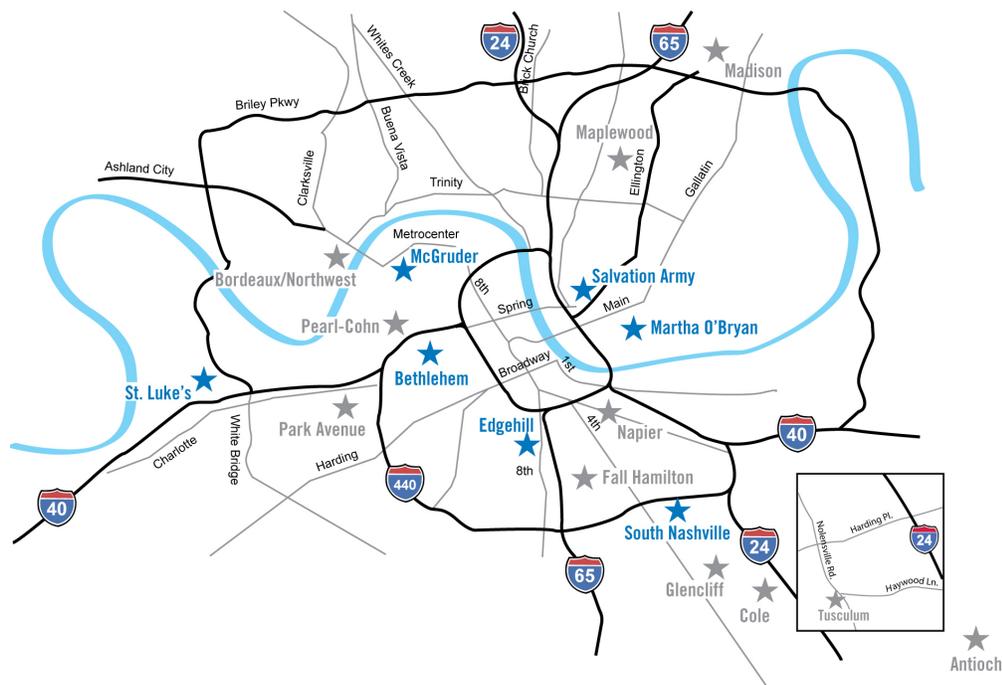
FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS

Building Strong, Healthy Communities

United Way of Greater Nashville’s network of Family Resource Centers works to strengthen communities and lift up our most underserved neighbors. We do this by providing a safe, welcoming space where children, families and seniors can access services and opportunities that empower them to lead stable, healthy and productive lives.

Currently, United Way serves seven Family Resource Centers throughout the greater Nashville area. The services and environment at each center are tailored to meet the specific needs and cultures of the residents in that particular community. Just as each neighborhood is unique, so are the needs of its residents. The families we serve often face challenges like poverty, unemployment, low academic achievement, rent burden, single-parent households, lack of transportation and more.

In response to these challenges, United Way’s Family Resource Centers work to provide residents not just with a central location for services but also a sense of belonging and a voice in defining the most pressing needs and possible solutions for their own neighborhoods. Services offered include food, clothing, books, supplies, counseling services, referrals, employment resources and more.





McGruder: A Model in Neighborhood-Led Service

The McGruder Family Resource Center serves North Nashville, the epicenter of the African-American community in Nashville.

Home to the city's four Historically Black Colleges and Universities, the neighborhood has a rich history. Once a vibrant corridor of music and culture, it also served as a backbone of the Civil Rights Movement in Nashville. Unfortunately, the construction of two major highways 50 years ago dissected the neighborhood and triggered a shockwave of disinvestment, resulting in high unemployment, high crime and limited opportunities in the area. One in three North Nashvillians lives in poverty and the 37208 zip code has the highest incarceration rate in the country.



The McGruder Family Resource Center currently operates a multitude of programs to serve the members of its community, including:

Education, Workforce Development and Career Pathways

- After-school tutoring and enriching summer camps
- Graduation guidance and support
- Digital literacy classes
- Professional attire for women in the workforce
- Entrepreneurship training and lending
- Education, support and advocacy for formerly incarcerated mothers
- Girl Scouts
- Hospitality training programs
- Summer youth employment and education programs
- Senior employment and workforce development
- Sewing production, textile and tradecraft workforce training

Health and Human Services

- Child care resource and referral services
- Community garden and nutrition education
- Therapeutic counseling services
- Group fitness and yoga classes
- Family homelessness prevention, diversion, support and case management
- Fatherhood training
- Health insurance enrollment
- Juvenile justice services
- In-home support services for seniors

Community Outreach

- Financial assistance and financial literacy
- Food and diaper assistance
- Participatory defense for individuals facing criminal charges and family support
- SNAP enrollment and service

Arts, Culture and Civic Engagement

- Social practice artistry
- Ballet and dance instruction

Taking the Model to Scale

The McGruder Family Resource Center is a shining example of how a neighborhood-centric, tailored set of services and opportunities—provided in a community center setting—can deliver real and lasting results.

The McGruder Center has made a true, meaningful difference in the lives of its neighbors.

In 2019, more than...

60 children participated in after-school tutoring or summer camps

1,042 individuals received workforce development training and support

2,109 people received health and human services care or support

108 families were moved into safe, stable housing

586 individuals received free or low-cost quality health care services

31 families received support services to avoid homelessness

856 families received emergency food or supplemental nutrition assistance

245 people engaged in arts and cultural understanding programs

Together, as we continue to expand this model, we can create a community where every person and every family thrives.

Learn more about how United Way is fighting to give every person an equal chance at a bright future at unitedwaygreaternashville.org.



United Way
of Greater Nashville