

# **COMMUNITY IMPACT**

### Dignity in Action - Meeting Immediate Needs, Opening Doors

United Way of the Lowcountry's **Dignity in Action initiatives** address urgent barriers that keep individuals from moving forward, while connecting them to resources that support long-term stability.

### **Backpacks for the Homeless**

#### A small gesture with a big impact.

Through community donations and fundraising, United Way assembles and distributes backpacks filled with essential items—food, hygiene supplies, and weatherappropriate clothing—to individuals experiencing homelessness. Partnering with local organizations and law enforcement ensures backpacks reach those most in need, providing comfort, safety, and a tangible reminder that they are not forgotten.

# Homeless ID Program (HID) Identification is key to independence.

Many homeless individuals lack governmentissued ID, preventing them from accessing housing, healthcare, employment, and other essential services. The HID program removes this barrier by helping individuals secure proper identification, opening doors to critical resources and restoring a pathway to independence.



## **Showers of Dignity**

# Cleanliness is about more than hygiene –it's about hope.

Our 24-foot mobile shower and laundry trailer offers privacy, comfort, and dignity to people experiencing homelessness or recovering from a disaster.

The fully self-contained unit requires no external water or power, allowing it to be deployed anywhere in Beaufort and Jasper counties. The trailer features two private full bathrooms, including one that is ADA-compliant. It also offers comprehensive support, providing hygiene supplies and connections to resources for housing, healthcare, and employment.

The Showers of Dignity is currently deployed in downtown Beaufort (every other Friday night); at cooling and heating stations during extreme weather; and at partner events with local outreach agencies.

### **Navigation Station**

#### A collaborative hub for self-sufficiency.

The Navigation Station (under development) is a physical embodiment of the collaborative efforts needed to solve community problems.

By bringing together diverse partners and programs under one roof, we aim to streamline the process for individuals seeking assistance, eliminate service fragmentation, and increase accessibility to vital resources.

The goal of the navigation station is to create a supportive environment where a comprehensive suite of services—from employment and training to housing and healthcare—is available, breaking the cycle of poverty and empowering individuals to achieve self-sufficiency.

Potential partners for the Navigation Station include organizations focused on Employment & Training, Financial Literacy, Housing & Homeless, Healthcare & Wellness, Childcare & Youth Development, and Basic Needs Assistance.

The result: From a clean shower to a backpack of essentials to a government-issued ID, these dignity-centered services remove barriers, restore hope, and help individuals take the first steps toward self-sufficiency in Beaufort and Jasper counties.