Dollars raised through United Way are invested through local programs and agencies that support quality childcare, family support, early intervention, school readiness and student success for all youth.

**EDUCATION SUPPORT IN ACTION:**

Jeni was in the third grade. Both of her parents were incarcerated, and she lived with her aunt, grandmother and cousins in a neighborhood considered by most to be unsafe, so she was often not allowed to play outside. Her school and family felt that a mentor and consistent adult could provide Jeni with opportunities and positively impact her life. She was matched with a Big Sister through Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass and they began meeting at school once a week. They quickly bonded, played games, ate lunch and did a lot of talking. Jeni’s Big Sister took her out into the community for activities like shopping, going to the movies and out to restaurants. Jeni says she loves her Big Sister because she is generous, and she can talk to her about anything. Jeni’s Big Sister says that Jeni is a great kid and the experience of being a mentor has been more rewarding than she ever expected. Together the “sisters” have formed a bond that will help Jeni grow and achieve as she navigates through elementary school and beyond.

The Sweet Dreams Project is a pajama and book drive to support local elementary school students in the Central Kentucky region during the holiday season. Each gift provided to a student includes a new pair of pajamas, a new book to read and other items to enjoy during their winter break such as snacks and a new toothbrush. In 2019:

- 2000+ children served
- 33 schools
- 75+ volunteers
- 11 school districts
- 9 counties
- 2 early learning centers

**EDUCATION PARTNERS**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass
Bluegrass Community Action Partnership
Child Care Council of Kentucky
Child Development Centers of the Bluegrass
Chrysalis House
Clark County Children’s Council
Girl Scouts of Kentucky’s Wilderness Road Council
Growing Together Preschool
Life Adventure Center of the Bluegrass
Mentors&Meals
Paris-Bourbon County YMCA
Repairsers Lexington
Telford Community Center YMCA
The Hearing & Speech Center
The Nest - Center for Women, Children and Families
The Salvation Army
Urban League of Lexington-Fayette County
Visually Impaired Preschool Services
Woodford County 4-H Council
Woodford County Reading Club
Woodford County Theatrical Arts
YMCA of Central Kentucky