



United Way of the Big Bend 2023-2025 Gadsden County Program Funding Summaries of Programs

Housing

- **Gadsden Housing**– A **Big Bend of Habitat for Humanity, Inc.**, volunteer-based construction program providing simple, decent housing for individuals and families currently living in substandard housing, enabling them to create generational wealth opportunities for their families. Prospective homeowners complete 400 sweat equity hours and participate in homeownership classes and workshops. **\$5,000**

Early Learning

- **Childcare Tuition Assistance** – An **Early Learning Coalition** program providing tuition assistance for families of young children enrolled in high quality early learning environments. The program specifically targets ALICE families whose income, although below the median income level, disqualifies them from other subsidy programs. This allows parents to work knowing their children are in a positive educational environment. **\$7,000**
- **Great Futures Start Here** – A **Boys and Girls Club** program providing positive afterschool and summer sessions focused on character and leadership development, education and career development, Health and life skills, arts and sports, and fitness and recreation. The goal is to ensure all the kids graduate from high school with a plan for his or her future. **\$10,492**
- **Healthy Families Gadsden** – A **Brehon Institute for Family Services** program which supports community home visits providing prenatal services for up to five years, with trained staff helping families identify needs and create plans focusing on early learning goals for the child. **\$3,000**

Safety Net

- **In-Home and Community Based Services** – A program of **Elder Care Services** providing care for seniors who need help to remain safely at home; specifically for seniors who are frail, functionally impaired, and homebound or suffering from chronic diseases or dementia. Services are based on individualized care plans and may include companionship services, homemaking, personal care services, respite care services and transportation. **\$5,000**
- **Residential Services Program** – A **Refuge House** program offering life-saving support targeted and tailored for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault including safety services for adults and children after attacks. Support services include emergency shelter, basic needs including food, clothing, personal care supplies, school supplies for children, emotional support, and transportation assistance. **\$7,000**
- **Helpline 2-1-1** – A **2-1-1 Big Bend** program that crosses all five strategic priority impact areas of the UWBB to connect low income and ALICE individuals with service providers. It helps fill service gaps for clients ineligible for help from other agencies. **\$3,500**
- **Food Bank Operations** – An **America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend** program to meet the short-term nutritional needs of the food-insecure people in Gadsden County. Food assistance can also free up funds for families to pay for other expenses such as medicines, school expenses, rent, and utilities. **\$3,500**
- **Access to Independence** – A program of **The Center for Independent Living dBA Ability 1st**, the Access to Independence program helps people under the ALICE threshold with mobility/self-care needs obtain the necessary services, medical equipment, and supplies that allow them to remain safely in their homes. **\$4,500**
- **Disaster Services** – A program of the **American National Red Cross** providing persons affected by a disaster free and immediate help with basic needs including emergency services in the area of health and mental health. **\$5,000**
- **Stable Income, Secure Housing** – A program of **Legal Services of North Florida** providing assistance to help individuals and families increase available income and stabilize housing. **\$5,000**

Health and Mental Health

- **We Care Network** – A program of **Capital Medical Society Foundation, Inc.** to decrease healthcare disparity and improve health outcomes by facilitating access to specialty

healthcare for Leon County's vulnerable, low-income, uninsured adult patients by coordinating donated specialty medical and dental care. **\$3,407**

Skills Development

- **Career Readiness and Vocational Training** – A program of **AMI Kids Gadsden** that operates a nonprofit after school program in Gadsden providing comprehensive programming to help local students ages 11-17 determine and develop career pathways through vocational education and training, job placement, and support services. Their aim is to give students who are demonstrating risk behaviors in school and/or the community an opportunity to learn useful vocational career technical skills as well as earn industry recognized certificates, which prepares them to make better choices and contribute to the community. **\$2,000**
- **Employment Readiness Training and Support** – A **Lighthouse of the Big Bend, Inc.** program helping teens, adults, and seniors who are blind or visually impaired overcome barriers to employment with job readiness assessment, skill development, supported job search, paid work experience and on-the-job training and support. **\$2,500**