

PETERSBURG/SOUTHSIDE

Helping children, families and older adults throughout the community



Programs supported by United Way's Community Action Fund: 2011-2012

Agency Name	Program	Description
EDUCATION		
Boys and Girls Club of Petersburg	<i>Youth and Teen Programs</i>	The Boys and Girls Club of Petersburg works to help youth, especially those from disadvantaged populations, realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. The program offers after-school activities that promote youth development in core areas such as character and leadership, health and life skills, education, career development, the arts, and sports, fitness and recreation. Participants benefit from daily interactions with trained, caring, professional staff and volunteers who help them take control of their lives, envision productive futures, and reach their goals.
Family Lifeline	<i>CHIP of Petersburg</i>	CHIP is a home visitation program for low-income, high-risk children in the city of Petersburg. The program is designed to improve the health of children in these families, increase family self-sufficiency, and reduce barriers to the delivery of comprehensive services to these families. In order to meet these goals, CHIP's multidisciplinary staff works with families and community agencies to help families gain access to medical care. CHIP's model is one of collaboration through family support services, care coordination services, and primary health care services.
	<i>Healthy Families Petersburg</i>	This program works to ensure that participating children are healthy, developmentally on target, free from abuse and neglect, and ready to learn when they reach kindergarten. To reach these goals, the program uses a combined strategy of intensive home visitation, connections to community resources, and education groups targeted towards high-risk new or expectant parents. The services are comprehensive, long-term (3-5 years), strengths-based, culturally-component, and family-centered.
PARC (Progressive Adult Rehabilitation Center, Inc.)	<i>Osage House</i>	A 24-hour residential facility, Osage House provides specialized housing for 12 adults with mental retardation and severe functional deficits in adaptive skills. The program addresses the mental, emotional, physical, and social impairments of its residents and provides individualized support, assistance, supervision, and training designed to help them maintain and improve their independent living skills. The Osage House service area includes Petersburg, Colonial Heights, Hopewell, and the counties of Dinwiddie and Prince George.
	<i>Sheltered Employment</i>	This community-based rehabilitation facility provides training and employment opportunities for individuals with mental retardation and other secondary disabilities that interfere with their ability to be competitively employed in the community. The program works to increase knowledge and skills, improve work-related behaviors, foster productivity, and increase independence in individuals with disabilities.

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PARC (Progressive Adult Rehabilitation Center, Inc.)	<i>Supported Employment</i>	These coordinated, comprehensive employment services are for individuals with mental retardation who have been unable to gain entrance into the competitive job market through traditional vocational or rehabilitation services. The program is based on the philosophy that individuals with moderate and severe handicaps can be employed and fully integrated in the community with proper training, support, and follow-along services.
The Petersburg Child Care Quality Improvement Project	<i>Community Services</i>	In partnership with the Petersburg Alliance for Children and Families (PACF), and with additional funding from the Cameron Foundation and the Virginia Department of Social Services, this program provides assistance to improve the standards of early care and education to nearly 60% of the licensed Child Care Centers within the city of Petersburg through the Virginia Star Quality Initiative. The Virginia Star Quality Initiative is a voluntary Quality Rating and Improvement System that rates childcare programs on quality standards. In addition to being rated, participating child care programs receive support services to improve their quality. This community-wide effort is moving the needle from custodial care toward increased developmental and quality care. A change in philosophy and practices has opened the lines of communication between the local public school system (Headstart and Pre-K), our Child Care Center participants, and parents. In addition to working towards a quality rating, these groups are emphasizing the need for improved school readiness for all children in the city of Petersburg.
Southside YMCA	<i>School-Age Child Care</i>	The YMCA provides affordable before- and after-school child care to low-income children attending elementary schools in the city of Petersburg. The curriculum provides learning opportunities that promote academic success, build relationships, develop character, and inspire discovery. In addition, the program helps parents stay employed, enhancing the family's financial stability.
Petersburg Health Department	<i>Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative</i>	The initiative provides age-appropriate, comprehensive sexual health education to help reduce teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. There are various activities associated with the initiative, such as educational sessions conducted through Petersburg Public Schools, coalition meetings with community partners, and educational sessions conducted with youth and parents in the community setting. The coalition includes key community stakeholders who come together to create and adopt strategies to reduce the teen pregnancy rate.
INCOME		
AI-A-Mo Recover Center	<i>Housing and Substance Abuse Rehabilitation</i>	AI-A-Mo provides residential services to men who are recovering from alcoholism and/or drug abuse. The program helps participants achieve continued sobriety and abstinence so that they can successfully return to the community. Residents are encouraged to stay at least three months, but may stay longer depending on their progress. During this time, they are expected to work, pay a portion toward room and board, attend regular 12-step meetings, and develop a program of recovery.
American Red Cross Southside Area Chapter	<i>Disaster Services</i>	The Southside Area Chapter is continually on-call and prepared to mobilize supplies and volunteers in the event of an emergency. The mission of Disaster Services is to provide timely, innovative and effective planning, preparedness and relief that enhance the ability of people to anticipate, survive and recover from disasters. There are various activities associated with the program, such as on-site emergency assistance, counseling, family needs identification, and outlining of a recovery plan.

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CARES	<i>Emergency Sheltering</i>	CARES provides emergency shelter to women and children experiencing homelessness due to a housing crisis or domestic violence. The program strives to help families achieve emotional and financial stability in addition to affordable, permanent housing. Staff work with the women to develop plans for obtaining jobs, accessing needed services, and determining what type of housing best fits their needs and resources. Children receive tutoring and participate in age-appropriate activities.
Central Virginia Legal Aid Services	<i>Southside Homelessness Reduction Program</i>	This program provides legal assistance to low-income individuals and families who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. Attorneys work with clients on income maintenance problems (ex. Social Security, SSI, Medicaid), domestic issues, foreclosure problems, and bankruptcies. In addition to these services, clients can receive legal advice pertaining to issues that could affect the stability of their housing situation.
Southside Salvation Army	<i>Family Services</i>	The Family Services Program assists low-income families and individuals with basic human needs such as housing, utilities, medicine, food, and clothing. The services provided by the program include financial assistance to pay for heat or heat-related utility bills, mortgage/rent, food, and clothing.
	<i>Men's Emergency Shelter</i>	The Emergency Shelter Program provides services to help homeless men transition into affordable housing and independent living. In addition to shelter, the program provides drug and alcohol counseling, budgeting and life skills classes, job skills training, and case management. Outcome goals for the men include gaining employment, improving budgeting skills, and moving into permanent or transitional housing.
HEALTH		
Dinwiddie Department of Social Services	<i>Emergency Medication Fund</i>	The fund provides low-income individuals with financial assistance to cover the cost of medications, nutritional supplements, medical supplies, physician visits, and transportation to medical appointments. The Dinwiddie Department of Social Services provides all administrative services, enabling all donated monies to be used for direct assistance for those in need.
Petersburg Department of Social Services	<i>Emergency Medication Fund</i>	The Emergency Medication Fund provides crisis financial support that will enable citizens to remain in their own home and to ease the financial burden of citizens living on a fixed income. Services offered by the program include financial assistance for medical supplies, prescriptions, transportation to medical appointments, and emergency financial assistance for rent or utilities.
Foster Grandparent Program of Petersburg	<i>Supportive Services</i>	The mission of the Foster Grandparent Program is to enhance the lives of the senior population by providing a tax-free stipend, transportation, annual physical, training, insurance coverage, a daily meal, and socialization. The target population, low-income seniors ages 60 and older, serve as mentors or tutors to young children or teens having special or exceptional needs. These individuals serve daily in public schools, childcare facilities, homeless shelters, juvenile detention centers, institutions for mentally challenged clients, and alternative schools. The program benefits both the senior citizens and the children they mentor.

Agency Name	Program	Description
Crater Area Agency on Aging	<i>Transportation for Older Adults</i>	Individual mobility is critical to the psychological, social, and physical well being of all people. This program provides low-income, older adults with safe, timely and reliable transportation to essential medical appointments. Without this support, older adults are at risk of losing their independence and their ability to remain in the community. The service area for this program is Petersburg, Prince George, Dinwiddie, and Colonial Heights.