2025-2026

Uplift
COMMUNITY ALLIANCE®

ANNUAL REPORT



WHERE GIVING LIFTS US ALL

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

OUR MISSION

Uplift Community Alliance is a nonprofit organization whose volunteers serve to improve the lives of children and adults in our community through our service-oriented philanthropic programs.

Dear Friends,



This past year has been a milestone for our organization. For over 50 years, we have served children, adults, and families in our community with compassion and dedication. While we now proudly carry the new name Uplift Community Alliance, our mission and heart remain unchanged. We are the same people, the same hardworking volunteers, continuing to provide hope and support through our 10 philanthropic programs.

With our new name, logo, and bright signs, we step into the future with renewed energy. Yet, our faces are the same—familiar and trusted in this community we have long been privileged to serve. The enthusiastic support of our donors, the loyalty of our Uplift Thrift customers, and the dedication of our volunteers have carried us through this exciting rebranding. Together, we have strengthened our identity while preserving our rich legacy.

Uplift Thrift continues to shine as the best thrift shop in the valley, offering gently used clothing, housewares, jewelry, and collectibles. More importantly, it continues to provide the essential funding that powers our mission and makes a direct impact on the lives of those we serve.

On behalf of the Board and our volunteers, I extend my heartfelt gratitude. Thank you for your trust, your encouragement, and your unwavering support during this time of transformation. Uplift Community Alliance is stronger than ever, and with your partnership, we will continue to uplift lives for generations to come.

With gratitude,

Carrie Drown

Carrie Drown

President

Uplift Community Alliance



Uplift Community Alliance provided 15 underserved students with scholarships this year.

Every dollar spent and every hour volunteered helps lift someone up in our community!

Clothing to 5,458 children in over 100 schools

Educational resources to 993 special needs students

Books for 9,349 students

College scholarships to six University of Utah and nine Salt Lake Community College students with demonstrated financial need

600 Uplift Comfort Kits to meet the immediate needs of those victimized by sexual violence

2,310 layettes of blankets, clothing, diapers and other essentials for newborns

Urgent dental care to 250 children in crisis who have no other access to treatment

1,225 everyday essentials and cleaning supply kits for refugees

Kauri Sue Hamilton School

"The Go Talks and Switches have been game changers for our communication-challenged students, giving them a fantastic way to share their needs and wants. You've played a crucial role in ensuring that our students have the chance to succeed."

The Christmas Box House

"Your compassion and thoughtfulness help bring essential resources–and hope–to children, teens and young adults."

CONFIDENCE

UPLIFT SCHOOL KIDS

Studies show that children perform better in school when they're proud of how they look. The mission of Uplift School Kids is to help build students' self-esteem and improve their school experience overall by providing them with new clothes. School counselors at Title I schools identify elementary students in need and our volunteers assemble an individualized bag of new clothing for each student that includes: a warm winter jacket; a hooded, zippered sweatshirt; a pair of leggings, joggers, or jeans; two shirts, six pairs of underwear and socks; and a dental hygiene kit. Middle school students are given the opportunity to choose their own school clothes and shoes at select retailers with the help of Uplift Community Alliance volunteers. Middle school students also receive hygiene kits.

BOOK BANK

A good book can inspire a love of reading and help build reading competency. A good book can also encourage curiosity and interest in the world. Uplift Community Alliance provides a new book to thousands of young readers, pre-K through middle school. Sometimes, the book provided by Uplift Community Alliance is the only book in a student's home.

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Uplift Community Alliance created the Educational Scholarship Program in 2023 to support students with demonstrated financial need who wish to attend college. Preference is given to non-traditional students: single parents or children of a single parent, those who have experienced homelessness, migrants, or first in their family to attend college. Uplift Community Alliance collaborates through agreements with Salt Lake Community College and the University of Utah to award these scholarships. Scholarship funds may be used for in-state tuition, fees, books, or other educational supplies.

HEALTH

OPERATION HEALTHY TEETH

Mouth and tooth pain are among the top reasons kids miss school. Tooth decay is the most common chronic disease of childhood. Left untreated, a child may suffer pain, problems eating and speaking, serious infection, unwillingness to play, and inability to concentrate and learn.

Operation Healthy Teeth provides a lifeline to low-income families by funding urgent dental treatment for children in our community aged pre-K through 19 who have no other access to dental care. This includes families not covered under any state or federal assistance program and those whose families do not earn enough to purchase insurance.

SERVICE

UPLIFT ASSOCIATES

Uplift Associates, an auxiliary of Uplift Community Alliance, offers a flexible opportunity for giving community service with evening program activities and meetings. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. and include a potluck dinner, work session and business meeting.

BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

Adults face many challenges when striving for a more secure life for themselves and their families. Appearance is one of those challenges. "Looking the part" boosts confidence when applying for or beginning a job or continuing their education. Brighter Tomorrows helps these determined individuals get ready for their next step.

Clients referred to Uplift Community Alliance by local agencies receive a voucher to shop at Uplift Thrift to select clothes for job interviews, job dress requirements, courses or training. Brighter Tomorrows also provides personal items and professional hair care to complete the look.

BABY BUNDLES

Uplift Community Alliance's Baby Bundles program reaches the tiniest, most vulnerable of those in need. The Baby Bundles contain blankets, clothing, diapers and other essentials to give newborns a warm welcome into the world. Social workers and nurses in the delivery rooms and nurseries distribute the Baby Bundles to newborns in need.

ACT III UPLIFT BAND

The talented musical entertainers in Act III Uplift Band awaken unforgettable moments from a senior's life through familiar songs. Hundreds of seniors in dozens of care centers in our community enjoy the music, engage with the band and each other, and often sing along. Patriotic songs and show tunes, as well as holiday and classic songs, uplift the seniors and add a little fun to their day.

EYE ON THE COMMUNITY

Eye on the Community addresses important community needs that are unmet through our other philanthropic programs. Uplift Community Alliance endeavors to fulfill "wish list" needs based on each year's giving capacity. The focus is on gifts that help support students, schools, care facilities, those with disabilities and others.

UPLIFT COMFORT KITS

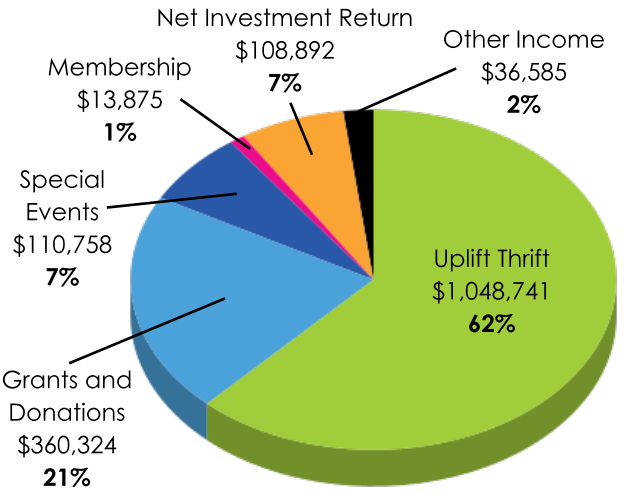
Uplift Comfort Kits were created to meet some of the immediate needs of those victimized by sexual violence. After an attack, a victim's clothing is taken by authorities as evidence. After their physical exam, the victim receives an Uplift Comfort Kit that contains new comfortable clothing, undergarments and personal hygiene products, offering dignity, comfort and hope at a very traumatic time.

UPLIFT TEENS

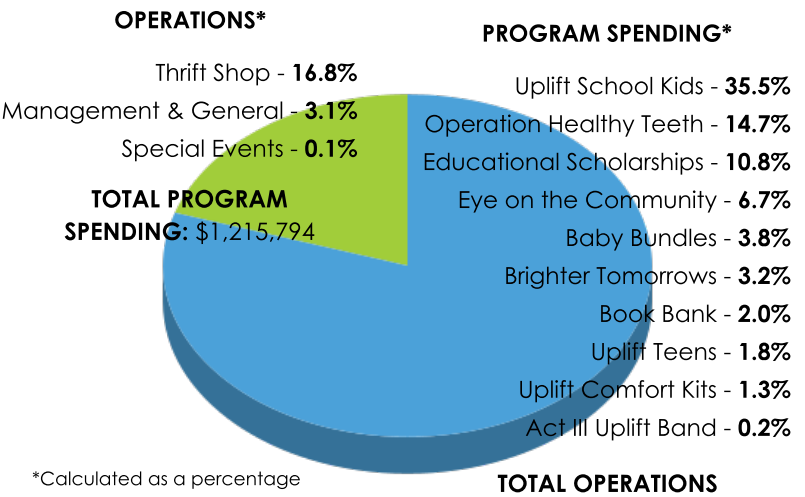
Uplift Teens is a volunteer service group and auxiliary of Uplift Community Alliance. This auxiliary provides volunteer opportunities for teens in grades 7-12 and has a current membership of approximately 25-30 teens representing over 10 schools across the Salt Lake Valley. Uplift Teens meets one evening each month, usually the second Wednesday from September through April. Adult advisors are present at all meetings and activities. The teens are encouraged to develop a sense of community responsibility, self-reliance and leadership.

2025-2026 SUMMARY

TOTAL REVENUE:
$1,679,175



TOTAL EXPENSES:
$1,519,453



*Calculated as a percentage of the Total Expense.

TOTAL OPERATIONS SPENDING: $303,659

ENDING NET ASSETS: $3,087,848

OVER $0.80 OF EVERY DOLLAR SPENT WAS GIVEN BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH OUR PHILANTHROPIC PROGRAMS

2025-2026 LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Carrie Drown

President-Elect: Merilynn Kessi

First Vice President Philanthropic Programs: Debbie Smith

Second Vice President Community Relations: MaryAnn Mackley

Third Vice President Member Services: Linda Stimpson

Recording Secretary: Jennifer Nicholas

Treasurer: Peggy Carpenter

Bylaws Chair: Val Mercer

Strategic Planning Chair: Heidi Makowski

Technology Chair: Barb Engen

Uplift Thrift: Stephanie Hatton-Ward

Uplift Teens Auxiliary Liaison: Barbara Slater

Uplift Associates Chair: Liz Hendricks

Parliamentarian: Carol Coulter

UPLIFT ASSOCIATES GOVERNING BODY

Uplift Associates Chair: Liz Hendricks

Uplift Associates Chair-Elect: Christine Mezek

Member Services Chair: Emily Rushton

Philanthropic Chair: Michelle Interdonato

Secretary: Maureen Casper

GIVING AND GRATITUDE

FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE DONORS

American Express

The Archer Family Charitable Corporation

Ashton Family Foundation

Ruth Eleanor Bamberger and John Ernest Bamberger Memorial Foundation

HJ & BR Barlow Foundation

R. Harold Burton Foundation

Jeffrey and Helen Cardon Foundation

Lawrence T. and Janet T. Dee Foundation

George S. and Dolores Dore Eccles Foundation

Marriner S. Eccles Foundation

Eskuche Foundation

Florence J. Gillmor Foundation

Richard K. and Shirley S. Hemingway Foundation

Intermountain Health

IPA Foundation

Kennecott Utah Copper Charitable Foundation

Linde Corporation

Masonic Foundation of Utah

McCarthey Family Foundation

Merrick Bank Corporation

Larry H & Gail Miller Family Foundation

MLD

Old Navy Market Group

Bruce and Cecelia Petersen Foundation

Sorenson Legacy Foundation

Synchrony Financial

C. Scott and Dorothy E. Watkins Charitable Foundation

Williamsen Family Foundation

FINANCIAL SUPPORT, GOODS AND SERVICES, $1,000 OR MORE

Ann Atkinson

Kristen Wann Anderson

Carolyn Brady

Howard Brady

Carol and Dave Coulter

Paul Cunningham

Joan Dahle

Joni and Rob Dahle

Dan and Martina Devenport

Carrie and Randy Drown

Kari Duensing

Donald Froese

Marion D and Maxine C Hanks

Peg Hardin

Janet and Hugh Harnsberger

Ann Hoffman

Cathy House

Bryce Johnson

Robert Keener

Merilynn and Alfred Kessi

Kathryn King

Michael & Ina Korek

Sandra Kragthorpe

Jan Kucera

Kathleen and Paul Littlefield

Kathy Mackie

Diane and Jim Mackin

Phyllis Man

Craig Martucci

Tristen McDonald

Valerie Mercer

Craig L. Neibuhr, CN Insurance Associates, Inc.

Rick Noyes, The ND Group

Connie Overly

Alisa and Stephen Parks

Presbyterian Women

Liz Quealy

Linda Stimpson

Don Stirling

Martin A. Watkins, True North Wealth



SCAN OR VISIT
ULCAUTAH.ORG/DONATE
TO DONATE:



Uplift THRIFT®

Uplift Thrift generates a large portion of the funding for our philanthropic programs. We served over 30,000 individuals locally this year!

Uplift COMMUNITY ALLIANCE®

upliftcommunityalliance

Uplift Community Alliance

ulcautah.org

UPLIFT THRIFT

Address:
2090 East 3300 South
Millcreek, UT 84109
Shop:
Tuesday - Friday 12-4pm
Saturday 10am-4pm
Thursday 12-7pm
Donate:
Tuesday - Friday 12-3pm
Saturday 10am-3pm

UPLIFT OFFICES & PROGRAMS

Address:
2060 East 3300 South
Millcreek, UT 84109
Phone number:
(801) 484-3401

Platinum Transparency 2026 Candid.

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