

NEWS RELEASE

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United Way
of Greater Stark County
Serving Stark and Carroll Counties



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stark County 2-1-1 transitions to STARKHELPCENTRAL.COM January 1, 2023

(Stark County, OH) December 7, 2022. United Way of Greater Stark County is pleased to join the partnership that supports StarkHelpCentral.com, a searchable community resource website supported by Stark County Mental Health & Addiction Recovery (StarkMHAR), Stark County Job & Family Services, Stark Educational Service Center, Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Stark County Family Court and Stark County Family Council.

The site launched in 2018, made possible by a System of Care grant awarded to StarkMHAR by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). StarkMHAR's System of Care team initiated the project and worked with a local vendor to launch the site, make ongoing plans for maintenance and updates and execute an awareness plan that continues through this transition. The site currently houses more than 700 resources.

"It's a great way for us to continue to partner with area organizations and provide support to those in need," explained Angela Perisic, chief executive officer, United Way of Greater Stark County. "Anytime we can work together and collaborate on a service, it has great community impact."

With this partnership, Stark County 2-1-1 will close its 2-1-1 information line and online database. This move will establish StarkHelpCentral.com as the primary source of information about community resources in Stark County.

"StarkHelpCentral.com was forward-thinking when it launched several years back and continues to be relevant as it's routine for most people to do an online search when they need help today," said John Aller, executive director of Stark County Mental Health & Addiction Recovery. And United Way is the ideal partner to expand on that with due to the addition of their resources, so now people can visit one site quickly and easily," Aller continued.

Recently, UWGSC began the internal transition to StarkHelpCentral.com website. Stark County 211 callers can now automatically transfer to programs addressing top needs like rent, utility and homeless services. To raise awareness about the transition, recent and current 211 callers will receive text messages and hear announcements when they call. "Another part of the plan is to educate the broader community via local organizations, schools, health systems and libraries," said Adrienne Price, VP of Community Impact for UWGSC. A brief resource guide containing contact information for the most requested resources in our community will be mailed to residents of ZIP codes where most of 211's calls originated.

For more information about the Stark County 2-1-1 transition, contact (330) 491-0445.

About United Way of Greater Stark County

For 100 years, United Way of Greater Stark County has served Stark and Carroll Counties. During that time, we have continued to build a better, equitable community where every person has the potential for a healthier life, a better education and more financial stability. We look to the future through our investment priorities, which ensure our community will have the foundation it needs to thrive: Access to Health, Childhood Success, Youth Success, Economic Mobility and Basic Housing Needs. With the support of volunteers, community partners and donors, we invest donor dollars efficiently and effectively into local community programs serving the most critical needs. Learn more at uwstark.org.

About Stark County Mental Health & Addiction Recovery

Stark County Mental Health & Addiction Recovery is a multi-faceted organization of expert professionals, dedicated volunteers and concerned community leaders close to mental health and addiction needs right here at home. StarkMHAR is responsible for planning, funding and monitoring public mental health and addiction prevention and early intervention and treatment services delivered to the residents of Stark County. It is one of approximately 50 boards coordinating the public behavioral health system across Ohio. StarkMHAR also advocates for residents with behavioral health issues at both the local and state levels and provides educational opportunities for local providers and other community stakeholders. For more information online about the work of StarkMHAR, visit www.StarkMHAR.org.

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Did you know?

There's ONE website where you can find just about any resource in Stark County.

utilities | rent | homeless services | food
car repairs | tax help | clothing | mental health
addiction treatment | LGBTQ+ | medical care
crisis numbers - and more



Scan this code with your phone's camera



StarkHelpCENTRAL.com