



What is Women United?

A branded affinity group of the Cape and Islands United Way. We engage women in philanthropy and service to better our local community. We've chosen to direct our support and efforts toward lifting-up children and families, and are galvanizing specifically around the “Strong from the Start” initiative.

What is Strong from the Start?

A platform of programs and activities designed to reduce the achievement gap, create an ecosystem of care and connection for parents of young children, and promote positive social and emotional development of children ages 0 to 3. Strong from the Start has been developed by a coalition of child and family serving organizations from throughout the Cape under the leadership of the Cape and Islands United Way. Find out more about [Strong from Start](#) on our website.

Who are the members of Women United?

Anyone who cares about the community and is willing to help volunteer, fundraise, or advocate in support of the Strong from the Start initiative is welcomed to join the movement. A donation of \$240 a year or \$20 a month is suggested, or supporters may opt-in by committing to volunteer their time, or by being an existing donor of the Cape and Islands United Way.

I want to be part of Women United. I am already an annual donor to the Cape and Islands United Way, does that count?

Yes! You may “opt-in” to Women United – just check that option on the [sign-up form](#).

May I pay my contribution monthly?

You bet! Just check the monthly donation option on our [Women United sign-up page](#).

What do you do with the money?

ALL of the money raised is restricted in support of “Strong from the Start” programs and initiatives for local children and families.

What if I don't have the resources to make a donation?

While we encourage everyone to support the initiative at whatever level is comfortable for you, we happily welcome all who are willing to commit their time, regardless of financial contribution.

What does my involvement entail?

Your experience is customizable! Participation can range from simply donating, to occasional participation in events or volunteer opportunities, to deeper engagement on committees or as a lead volunteer for certain programs.

There are no monthly meetings. There will be an event or activity quarterly that you may choose to attend. These quarterly meetings will include social events, fundraising events, and volunteer opportunities.

Anyone who would like to may serve on a committee. Women United Committees include: “Power of the Purse” fundraising event, Community Baby Shower, Reach Out and Read and Recruitment. Do you have a skill or idea that you think would help this effort? [Let us know!](#)

How do I volunteer?

Just [send an email to Sarah Eldredge](#), our Community Relations Officer, and let her know what you’d like to do!

Do you have a goal?

Yes. Our financial goal: Attract 200 Women United members and raise \$200,000 in support of early childhood efforts by the end of 2019. Our impact goal: Reduce the Achievement Gap and provide our youngest children with the social, emotional and language skills they need to thrive.

How is Women United governed?

A Steering Committee meets monthly, plans activities, and strategizes how to build interest and support. Women United is organized as an affinity group of the Cape and Islands United Way, a local 501c3 nonprofit organization, and is governed by their bylaws.

Do you have to be female to join?

We welcome all who care to fundraise, advocate, and volunteer to support better lives for local children!