

What This Pledge Form Means for Someone in Need



Think this pledge form won't make a difference?

Think again.

No matter how much you give, your gift - combined with another person's and another person's - can impact someone's life. Here are some ways that YOU can make a real difference to people in need right here in Greater New Bedford.

What can your contribution do?

- **\$3 per week**: Provides an entire year of after school and summer camp services to a youth who would otherwise face evenings and summers with no adult supervision or structured activities.
- **\$5 per week**: Provides a full Thanksgiving dinner to 67 families.
 - **\$6 per week**: Provides a year's worth of transportation services for developmentally disabled adults, allowing them to maintain employment and volunteer positions. **Ninety-four percent of people with disabilities living in Greater New Bedford are of low income status.**
- **\$8 per week**: Provides outpatient rehabilitation services for 32 disabled children. Last year, 80% of the children that received these services were from low income families.
- **\$10 per week**: Provides hospice visits for 6 terminally ill patients and their families, offering them invaluable support during a difficult time.

DIONNE'S STORY

Both Dionne's* parents are drug addicts. Dionne was abused her whole life until she finally left home. Thankfully Dionne found the Boys and Girls Club when she was 5 years old. "I don't call my house a home because for me, my home was the Club. The Club was the place I could go to for everything I needed. It was my safe place."

Dionne, now 22, recalls, "The staff there made sure I was warm, fed and as happy as they could make me. Whenever an opportunity for a program or event happened, the staff made sure I was signed up. The Club was where I went every day."



Dionne relied on the support she received at the Boys and Girls Club. She had role models who nurtured her, guided her and supported her throughout her difficult childhood. Dionne spent almost every waking moment for 13 years in that Club, and without the love and support of the qualified staff, she may have continued on a harmful path.

Dionne never gave up - nor did the staff. She's now working as an LPN and hopes to complete her degree in nursing soon. She is just one of the children who has benefitted from United Way's standards of excellence that we require of our funded programs. And part of that is making sure that agency staff have the capacity, resources and quality training to identify and help children like Dionne needed to be helped.

Dionne is now giving back to the community and the future has never been brighter.