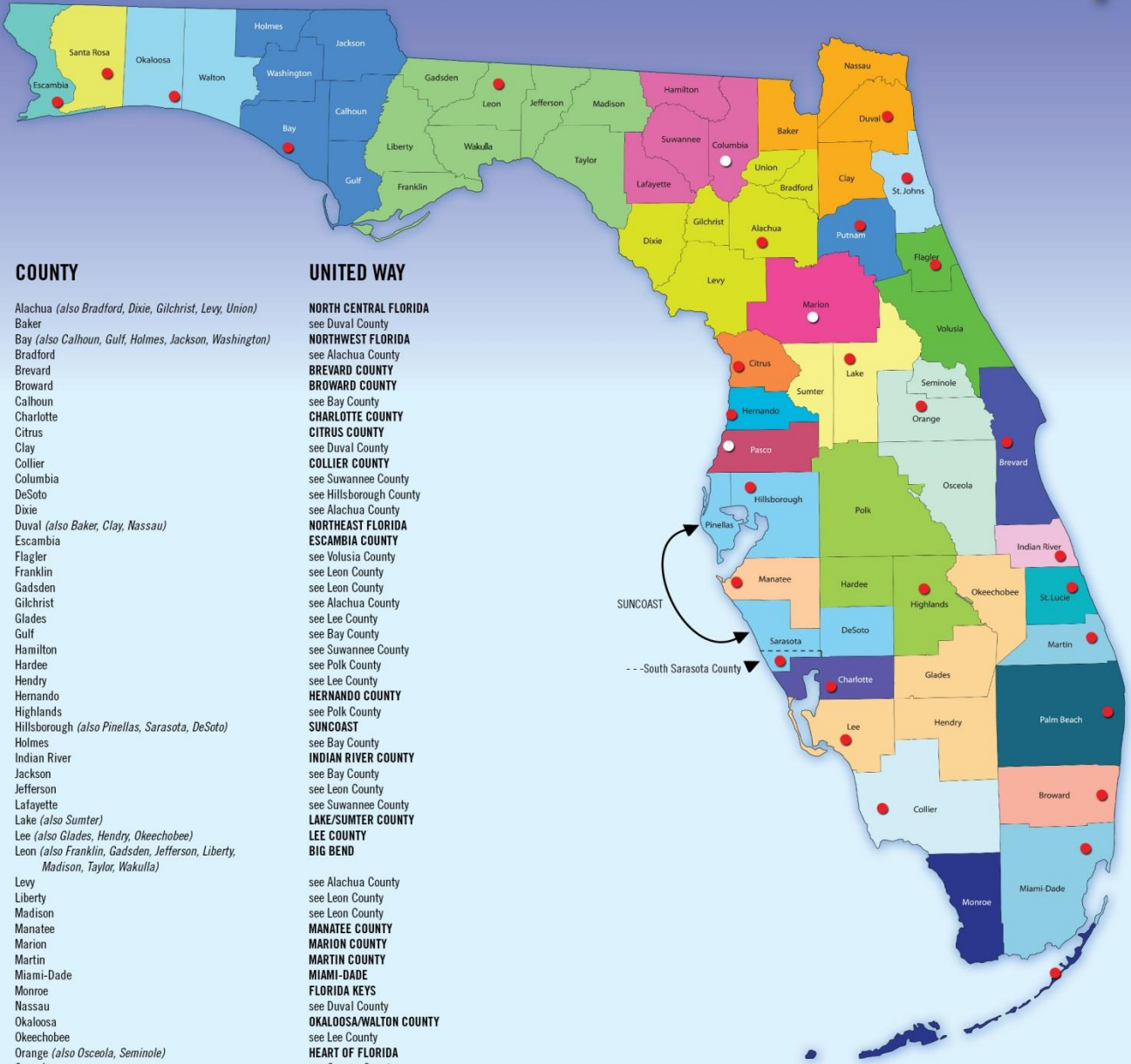




**2015 FLORIDA UNITED WAY
CONSENSUS LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**



FLORIDA UNITED WAY Area Map



COUNTY

- Alachua (also Bradford, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy, Union)
- Baker
- Bay (also Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Washington)
- Bradford
- Brevard
- Broward
- Calhoun
- Charlotte
- Citrus
- Clay
- Collier
- Columbia
- DeSoto
- Dixie
- Duval (also Baker, Clay, Nassau)
- Escambia
- Flagler
- Franklin
- Gadsden
- Gilchrist
- Glades
- Gulf
- Hamilton
- Hardee
- Henry
- Hernando
- Highlands
- Hillsborough (also Pinellas, Sarasota, DeSoto)
- Holmes
- Indian River
- Jackson
- Jefferson
- Lafayette
- Lake (also Sumter)
- Lee (also Glades, Hendry, Okeechobee)
- Leon (also Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla)
- Levy
- Liberty
- Madison
- Manatee
- Marion
- Martin
- Miami-Dade
- Monroe
- Nassau
- Okaloosa
- Okeechobee
- Orange (also Osceola, Seminole)
- Osceola
- Palm Beach
- Pasco
- Pinellas
- Polk (also Hardee, Highlands)
- Putnam
- St. Johns
- St. Lucie
- Santa Rosa
- Sarasota
- Sarasota (South County)
- Seminole
- Sumter
- Suwannee (also Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette)
- Taylor
- Union
- Volusia (also Flagler)
- Wakulla
- Walton
- Washington

UNITED WAY

- NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA**
see Duval County
- NORTHWEST FLORIDA**
see Alachua County
- BREVARD COUNTY**
see Bay County
- CHARLOTTE COUNTY**
see Suwannee County
- CITRUS COUNTY**
see Duval County
- COLLIER COUNTY**
see Hillsborough County
- DE SOTO COUNTY**
see Alachua County
- DIXIE COUNTY**
see Leon County
- DUVAL COUNTY**
see Leon County
- ESCAMBIA COUNTY**
see Volusia County
- FLAGLER COUNTY**
see Leon County
- GULF COUNTY**
see Bay County
- HAMILTON COUNTY**
see Suwannee County
- HARDEE COUNTY**
see Polk County
- HERNANDO COUNTY**
see Polk County
- SUNCOAST**
see Bay County
- INDIAN RIVER COUNTY**
see Bay County
- LEE COUNTY**
see Suwannee County
- LAKE/SUMTER COUNTY**
see Suwannee County
- LEE COUNTY**
see Lee County
- BIG BEND**
see Alachua County
- MANATEE COUNTY**
see Leon County
- MANATEE COUNTY**
see Leon County
- MARION COUNTY**
see Suwannee County
- MARTIN COUNTY**
see Polk County
- MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**
see Hillsborough County
- FLORIDA KEYS**
see Duval County
- OKALOOSA/WALTON COUNTY**
see Lee County
- HEART OF FLORIDA**
see Orange County
- PALM BEACH COUNTY**
see Hillsborough County
- PASCO COUNTY**
see Hillsborough County
- CENTRAL FLORIDA**
see Hillsborough County
- PUTNAM COUNTY**
see Hillsborough County
- ST. JOHNS COUNTY**
see Hillsborough County
- ST. LUCIE COUNTY**
see Hillsborough County
- SANTA ROSA COUNTY**
see Hillsborough County
- SOUTH SARASOTA COUNTY**
see Orange County
- SUNWANNEE VALLEY**
see Leon County
- VOLUSIA-FLAGLER COUNTY**
see Alachua County
- VOLUSIA COUNTY**
see Leon County
- OKALOOSA COUNTY**
see Okaloosa County
- BAY COUNTY**
see Bay County

SUNCOAST
--- South Sarasota County



For additional information, please contact the United Way of Florida at: (850) 488-8276.

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.
LIVE UNITED

2015 FLORIDA UNITED WAYS CONSENSUS LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The *2015 Florida United Way Consensus Legislative Agenda* represents the priorities that Florida's 32 United Ways will pursue during the 2015 Florida Legislative Session. Each of the issues in the *Consensus Agenda* supports education, income, health, and nonprofits.

Advocating for Working Families:

Across the State of Florida, 45 percent of households fall below the survival threshold for the basic necessities of housing, transportation, childcare, food, and healthcare. These are men and women of all ages and races; they are the child care workers, mechanics, home health aides, store clerks, office assistants and other workers who provide services we all rely on in our daily lives. These working families are vulnerable; when just one health emergency, car repair or harsh storm occurs, they can quickly spiral into poverty.



OUR PRIORITY ISSUES

Florida's United Ways urge the 2015 Florida Legislature to:

- **Provide access to high quality early learning programs for children.** Early learning, as well as early detection and treatment of childhood developmental and behavioral challenges, sets the foundation for a lifetime of success.
- **Expand access to free tax preparation and financial prosperity programs.** Helping hard-working Floridians attain and maintain self-sufficiency is good for the economy and results in more stable and well-functioning families.
- **Expand access to healthcare for all Floridians.** Access to affordable health coverage for all Floridians will improve educational outcomes, result in a healthier and more productive workforce, and prevent Floridians from paying hidden taxes through increased healthcare costs.

2015 FLORIDA UNITED WAYS CONSENSUS LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

OUR SUPPORT ISSUES

EDUCATION

Afterschool Programs—Support expansion and access to afterschool programs.

Mentoring— Maximize mentorship and internship opportunities to benefit Florida’s children and students.

Teacher Education and Compensation Helps— Appropriate \$4.5 million to maintain T.E.A.C.H program excellence.



INCOME

Financial Literacy— Support granting authority for school districts to increase the number of hours/credits available for financial literacy courses.

Homelessness—Support maintaining the \$1 million appropriation for Local Homeless Coalition Staffing and converting it to general revenue, maintaining Challenge Grant Funding at \$4 million, and exempting the personal identifying information of homeless persons from public record disclosure.

Predatory Lending—Support eliminating predatory lending practices, and strictly regulating lending activities targeted specifically at low income Floridians.

Sadowski/Affordable Housing— Support appropriating all monies in state and local housing trust funds exclusively for affordable housing.

HEALTH

Behavioral Health—Support maximizing funding for adult behavioral health programs.

Children/Families at Risk—

EARLY STEPS:Support increased funding per child served and increase the number of case supervisors. **GUARDIAN AD LITEM:**Support \$5.6 million in new recurring funds to represent 100 percent of children who are under court supervision. **HEALTHY FAMILIES FLORIDA:**Support a \$5 million increase for Healthy Families Florida to sustain quality and serve additional high risk families.**HEALTHY START:**Support increased funding for Healthy Start.

Food Deserts—Support flexible strategies (such as corporate tax credits and other financing mechanisms) to increase access to healthy foods in areas designated as food deserts.

Home and Community-Based Care for the Elderly— Support maximizing funding for Community Care for the Elderly and maintaining its community-based structure.

NONPROFIT SUPPORT

2-1-1—Maximize use of technology, reduce governmental costs, and enhance self-reliance by providing funding to support 2-1-1.

Background Screening—Support legislation to ensure all volunteers and employees working with vulnerable populations are able to have their background screenings completed with as little cost as possible, and that their fingerprints are maintained in the Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse.

