In 2016, United Way partnered with local mental health providers after state funding changed and three fourths of the funding that was once provided by the state was cut.

Through community collaboration, it was possible to avoid many members of our community losing access to behavioral health services.

Nancy Greenwalt, Promise Health Care Executive Director recognized how much Champaign County would have been affected. “To lose access to your psychiatrist and access to the medications that are keeping you healthy, it would have been devastating,” she said.

Through a United Way grant, community teamwork, and a seamless transition of services, 1,200 community members were able to maintain a sense of normalcy and stability.

“Patients can still go to the clinic that they were going to, see their psychiatrist and nurse and get the care that they are used to and that they need”.

Mental health challenges can affect anyone, anywhere, at any time. Unmet mental health needs can lead to a myriad of other issues:

- Poor physical health
- Homelessness
- Job loss
- Substance abuse
- Suicide

Without access to services, community members often cycle in and out of emergency rooms or the criminal justice system. With services, people can lead healthy, safe lives.

In Champaign County, thanks to a community effort, mental health services were saved for over 1,200 people in our community.

When you make a gift to United Way of Champaign County, you are providing a brighter future to thousands of our neighbors with behavioral health needs.

This is your IMPACT.