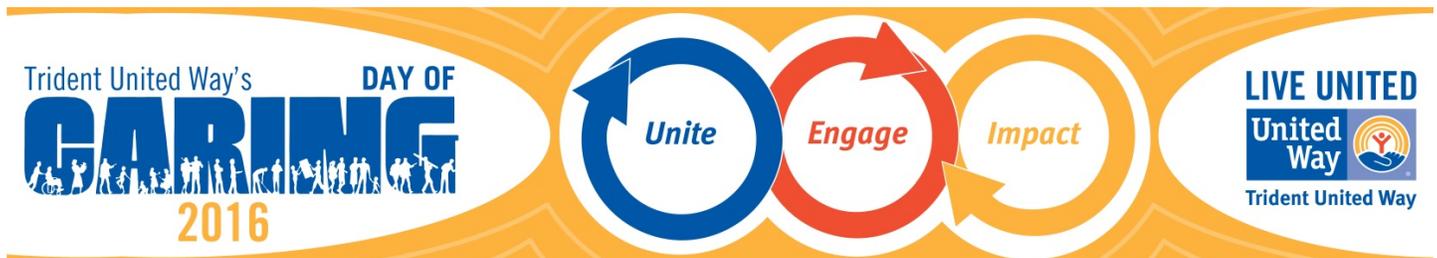


Save the Date: Trident United Way's Day of Caring

The largest annual day of volunteering in the Lowcountry will be on Friday, November 18, 2016



Charleston, SC – Trident United Way's (TUW's) Day of Caring brings together hundreds of nonprofit agencies and schools with thousands of volunteers all on one day to improve our Tri-County community. TUW's Day of Caring is the largest community service day in the area. "Day of Caring truly is a community wide event," event chair and publisher of *The Post and Courier* PJ Browning said. "The power of Day of Caring resides in the collective impact we can make on the entire community." This year's annual event will fall on Friday, November 18, 2016.

TUW matches nonprofits with volunteer teams that help advance their mission and build capacity—all while fostering community engagement. "This year, in 2016, we expect to see more corporate volunteer teams than ever before," Amanda Netsch, the event organizer at TUW, said. "As we see more and more businesses, large and small, embracing values such as community service and philanthropy as part of their culture, we see more workplaces investing their employees' professional skills and time on Day of Caring."

In response to the trend of increasing corporate social responsibility, TUW will provide resources on and after Day of Caring to corporate partners for engaging their workforce in year-round volunteerism. Nonprofits who host projects also benefit from the shift in corporate culture. "Our focus this year is on fostering year-round engagement and maximizing the impact that our local nonprofits and businesses both experience when people volunteer together," Netsch said.

In 2015, the event spanned 264 community service projects in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties. The 4,776 volunteers reported serving a total of 23,980.6 hours, or an estimated \$493,000 value of labor invested in the community. Many companies include participation in Trident United Way's Day of Caring as part of their annual calendar. "Giving back is part of our company culture. Giving back is necessary to be successful and it is the life blood of our company," Gabrielle Sanders said, the corporate citizenship coordinator at Blackbaud and a Day of Caring volunteer.

Nonprofits, schools and community agencies can register to host projects in September via tuw.org/day-caring. Volunteer teams will be able to view and register for projects in October. New to the registration process this year, teams can select projects in real time using advanced search features. All volunteers receive a free t-shirt and often gather after their project for prizes and discounts at designated after-party sites. Trident United Way's Day of Caring has been a cornerstone of community engagement in the Lowcountry for more than 15 years. For more information, please email dayofcaring@tuw.org or visit www.tuw.org/day-caring.

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Trident United Way works to make long-lasting, measurable community transformation around the issues that matter most in people's lives: education, financial stability and health.