



UNITED WAY *programs*

United Way of Greater Yankton strives to meet emerging needs by facilitating multiple direct service programs focusing on the education, financial stability and health of our community. While not all United Way programming was able to run at full capacity in 2020, many services were still provided, serving thousands of our neighbors.



946

The Clothing Closet

people served

The Clothing Closet offers community members who are struggling to make ends meet the opportunity to receive free, quality clothing in a dignified, and welcoming space. In 2020, The Clothing Closet served 946 individuals of all ages through weekly distributions totaling **14,320 items of clothing**. Of the 332 families served, 97% are living at or below the poverty level.

The success of The Clothing Closet is attributed to the commitment of its volunteers and the generosity of our community. Over **15 volunteer groups and 171 volunteers have dedicated 1,100 hours** to help with clothing collections, sorting parties, and weekly clothing distribution.

Our annual Make a Difference Day Winter Wear Drive and quarterly community clothing drives have been a great success with over **20,000 pounds of clothing donated** in 2020! Renovations to the current space at 203 E 3rd Street have also assisted in the effort to serve those in need.

960

Big Friend Little Friend

mentoring hours

Big Friend Little Friend has been **serving youth in Yankton for over 40 years** and is designed to give young people the opportunity to gain a one-to-one friendship with a positive and sincere adult mentor. Research shows that mentors play a powerful role in providing young people with the tools to make responsible decisions such as staying focused and engaged in school and promoting higher quality lifestyle choices.

United Way's BFLF program continues to make a difference with **51 match relationships** in both community based and in-school mentoring programs. 2020 posed a challenge to provide direct youth mentoring within schools, but BFLF quickly transitioned to a pen pal program, *BFLF From a Friend*, allowing mentors and mentees to connect on a monthly basis.

BFLF has an outstanding cast of community leaders and positive role models in both programs, In-School and Community Based. Thanks to these community members, and the Yankton School District, for their continuous support of BFLF!