United Way of Weld County fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in our community. We are more than fund-raisers. We are hand-raisers. We raise our hands not only to lead the fight, but to reach out to people who need help. And hope.

We win when we Live United. By forging unlikely partnerships. By finding new solutions to old problems. By mobilizing the best resources. And by inspiring individuals to join the fight against our community’s most daunting social crises.

WHY WE FIGHT
When employees are able to manage family responsibilities they are more likely to be dependable and productive at work. A 2016 survey of working parents found:
-Nearly 1/5 reported leaving full-time employment for part-time work because of child care issues
-Almost half of both men and women missed work regularly due to problems with child care
-1/6 had quit and 1/13 had been fired because of problems finding or paying for child care

Affordable high quality child care is a service with which many families struggle—the average annual child care cost in Colorado is $12,736 per infant and $9,619 per preschooler. While costs are often high, the need for a good experience is essential. Children who spend their early years in consistent, nurturing, stimulating environments have a better chance at becoming fully participating members of the community later in life.

Companies currently participating in United Way’s Family Business Solutions do so to help their employees afford child care and to increase employee retention and recruitment.

Over 90% of brain growth occurs during the early years, between ages 0-5. The people who help care for your child are also those who help shape your child’s mind.
**HOW WE FIGHT**
When a company decides to partner with the Family Business Solutions program, they designate a certain amount up to which they will contribute for child care provision. Full-time employees with children who are eligible for medical benefits at enrolled companies can then qualify for Family Business Solutions.

Each qualifying family receives assistance for each child aged 12 and under. United Way of Weld County acts as the liaison between child care providers and the company. The provider bills United Way each month, and United Way in turn bills companies quarterly for applicable company employee child care costs.

Providing child care benefits doesn’t just help the employee. When companies provide child care, employee absences decrease by up to 30% and job turnover declines by as much as 60%. A 2016 survey of 3,100 employees who worked where on-site childcare was provided:
- 80% said that the availability of child care was important in their decision to work there
- 90% said child care made them more likely to continue working for their organization
- 90% said access to child care enhanced their productivity

In 2017, over 30 families were served through Family Business Solutions.

In 2017, the monthly business contribution to child care costs was $5,680.

**JOIN THE FIGHT**
- **Give**
  Consider being a business that offers Family Business Solutions to its employees.
- **Advocate**
  Tell your employer about the Family Business Solutions program and how it benefits employees and employers alike.
- **Volunteer**
  Volunteers are needed for a variety of clerical tasks.

*Please contact Family Business Solutions at Impact@UnitedWay-Weld.org or 970-353-4300 for more information or to get involved.*