United Way of New York City’s (UWNYC) Campaign for Equity responds to the urgent needs of the Black and brown communities impacted by COVID-19 to help meet their basic needs in housing, health care, and other living costs by narrowing racial gaps and fundamental outcomes to achieve self-sufficiency.

WHY IT MATTERS
People of color comprise less than two-thirds of NYC’s households, and yet they account for nearly four out of five households with inadequate income to cover these basic needs.

CHALLENGE
We develop cross-sector partnerships
- Over 630,000 lost their jobs, impacting two-thirds of low-income city residents.
- Nearly 1.1 million NYC public school students were expected to attend class virtually while nearly 30% of households do not have internet access
- Loss of income and food shortages posed a greater problem for 2.4 million New Yorkers already relying on food programs to stay nourished

OUR SOLUTION
The Campaign for Equity is comprised of five pillars that focus on racial equity and social justice
- Achieving Health Equity
- Fostering increase in Income and Economic Mobility
- Combating Hunger
- Closing Education Opportunity Gaps
- Criminal Justice Reform and Opportunity

We seek to build a city that provides equitable opportunity

Leveraging our position as a trusted partner across multiple sectors, our three-year, $50M Campaign for Equity addresses the root causes of racial injustice — access to healthcare, quality education, economic mobility, and criminal justice reform — by convening corporations, non-profit organizations, and multiple government agencies through our unique role as a backbone organization. The Campaign will help close systemic disparities by catalyzing partnerships that drive resources, build capacity, and create an innovation hub for nonprofits, donors, companies, and their employees to become an active part of transformation for our city.

To learn more about the different ways you can invest in the Campaign for Equity and play a critical role in community change, policy and systems to build a more equitable city, please contact Gina Caputo, at gcaputo@uwnyc.org or Russell Lowe, rlowe@uwnyc.org
ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY

Health equity in New York City is both an immediate crisis and a long-term challenge. The COVID-19 pandemic laid bare the underlying health disparities in the U.S. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), “long-standing systemic health and social inequities have put members of racial and ethnic minority groups at increased risk of getting COVID-19 or experiencing severe illness, regardless of age.”

As a result of the Campaign for Equity, we envision the following long-term impacts:

Achieving Health Equity: Fostering culturally competent health care services and more healthcare policies to close health disparities for Black and brown Americans.

CHALLENGE

• Black Americans are nearly twice as likely to be hospitalized for COVID-19 than White Americans, and three times more likely to die from COVID-19.
• Home confinement, school closures, and limited social and physical engagement impacted mental and cardiovascular health conditions for children and adults.
• Food insecurity increased the risk of chronic health conditions, including obesity, and developmental and mental health issues in children.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Supporting Health During the Pandemic: Choose Healthy Life (CHL) is UWNYC’s national health initiative addressing persistent health disparities through support and resources to vulnerable and medically underserved communities in New York City and 13 additional states. Since CHL launched, over 800,000 individuals have been reached through community mobilization, with nearly 40,000 vaccine doses administered, and over 800 volunteers engaged.

Supporting Health Post-Pandemic: Choose Healthy Life tackles systemic health disparities, ensures a just recovery from COVID-19, and builds a strong community approach capable of responding to public health crisis for people of color who are uninsured or under insured through the following strategies:
• Awareness and Education
• Testing those at Highest Risk
• Infrastructure for Supportive Isolation and Quarantine
• Scale a sustainable program model nationwide

To learn more about Achieving Health Equity, please contact Gina Caputo, gcaputo@uwnyc.org or Russell Lowe, rlowe@uwnyc.org