



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **United Way of Rhode Island Receives \$20,000 from Point32Health Foundation to Support “United We Vote RI” Campaign**

*Statewide effort focuses on diverse communities to ensure every Rhode Islander has the opportunity to make their voice heard through the power of voting*

**Providence, R.I.** (October 15, 2024) – United Way of Rhode Island has received \$20,000 from Point32Health Foundation to support its ongoing “[United We Vote RI](#)” campaign as the November election draws closer. The grant is part of a larger investment by the foundation to support advocacy work to promote policies that include the perspective of diverse communities, and fund programming that encourages engagement and participation in the civic process.

United Way launched its “[United We Vote RI](#)” campaign in late summer with the goal of increasing voter turnout and engagement in the 2024 elections among the state’s diverse and historically underserved communities. The campaign provides resources, education, and supports to eliminate barriers to voting and create a more inclusive and representative electoral process. In the 2020 election in Rhode Island, turnout among Black voters was 54% and 52% for Hispanic voters. And only 50% of eligible young voters (ages 18-29) participated.

“We are deeply grateful for the support from Point32Health Foundation, whose grant has strengthened our United We Vote RI campaign and our ability to reach more Rhode Islanders,” said **Cortney Nicolato, United Way’s president and CEO**. “By increasing voter education and turnout, we are building a more inclusive and equitable future for everyone in our community.”

The grant awarded to United Way of Rhode Island is one of nine new investments totaling \$230,000 from Point32Health Foundation, which is the philanthropic arm of Point32Health and its family of companies that includes Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and Tufts Health Plan. Funding to advance civic engagement and equity in aging in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

“We know that for our company to be strong, the places where we live and work also must thrive,” said **Greg Shell, chair of the Point32Health Foundation board of directors** and vice chair of board for the parent company, Point32Health. “These new grants signal our values and how we prioritize engaging diverse voices of people experiencing systemic barriers.”

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*United Way of Rhode Island is uniting our community and resources to build racial equity and opportunities for all Rhode Islanders. As a member of the world’s largest nonprofit network, we bring together individuals, business, nonprofit, community leaders and government to tackle the root causes of inequity and achieve specific, measurable goals. Our programs include 211, the statewide front door connecting Rhode Islanders with social services, resources, and vital programs. Both directly and through grants to nonprofits, we are investing to build economic opportunity, advance childhood learning, expand philanthropy, and to drive policy and participation. To learn more, visit [unitedwayri.org](http://unitedwayri.org), or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X \(formerly known as Twitter\)](#), or [YouTube](#).*