



**United Way of Acadiana**

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## **Healthy Blue Louisiana Demonstrates Commitment to Early Childhood Education with a \$10,000 Donation to United Way of Acadiana's Early Head Start Program**

**Lafayette, LA** — In a show of unwavering support for early childhood education, Healthy Blue Louisiana, a leading Louisiana Medicaid provider, is pleased to announce a generous donation of \$10,000 to the Early Head Start Program, a vital initiative led by United Way of Acadiana. The donation underscores Healthy Blue Louisiana's dedication to fostering a strong foundation for the community's youngest members.

The Early Head Start Program, administered by United Way of Acadiana, focuses on preparing children aged 0-3 years for school and provides essential support to pregnant mothers. This program plays a crucial role in shaping the educational journey of young minds and ensuring a positive start for families in the Acadiana region.

Dr. Christy Valentine Theard, President of Healthy Blue Louisiana, expressed enthusiasm about the partnership, stating, "We are delighted to support United Way of Acadiana and its impactful Early Head Start Program. At Healthy Blue Louisiana, we believe in investing in our children's early education, as it is the cornerstone of a prosperous community. This contribution is a testament to our commitment towards empowering the younger generation of the Acadiana region with the opportunities they need to thrive."

The \$10,000 donation from Healthy Blue Louisiana will go towards enhancing the resources and services provided by the Early Head Start Program, ultimately benefiting families and creating a positive impact on the local community.

"In addition to great day-care service we provided for the children, I am extremely proud of the wraparound service that we provide for family members. By offering resources and support to family members, we help position them as the first teachers of their children. This guidance and family support is critical, as we know because early brain development from the beginning is critical for children to start kindergarten ready to learn. It is one more way that we impact in lives of children and the families we serve," says Heather Blanchard president and CEO of United Way of Acadiana.

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### **About Healthy Blue Louisiana**

Healthy Blue, as a dedicated Louisiana Medicaid Provider and health plan, has been a steadfast pillar of support for the community, significantly enhancing access to quality healthcare services. Through



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innovative programs and a commitment to comprehensive care, Healthy Blue has played a crucial role in improving health outcomes and well-being for individuals and families throughout Louisiana.

**About United Way of Acadiana**

United Way of Acadiana is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Lafayette that serves the people of Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin, and Vermilion parishes. For 75 years United Way of Acadiana has worked to unite people and organizations with passion, expertise and resources to create an educated, prosperous and safe Acadiana where all individuals and families achieve their potential. For more information, visit [unitedwayofacadiana.org](http://unitedwayofacadiana.org).