Join United Way Bay Area’s Emerging Leaders donor network to meet like-minded philanthropists dedicated to improving the Bay Area and the world.

Emerging Leaders is a dynamic network of young professionals dedicated to fighting poverty in the Bay Area—with a special focus on empowering youth—through volunteerism, philanthropy, and advocacy. Meet other young movers and shakers with a minimum annual gift of $250.

Have questions? Contact Amanda Huff at EL@uwba.org
Did you know 1 in 4 Bay Area children lives in poverty?
Or that children living in poverty are 5x more likely to drop out of high school than their higher-income peers? Only 9% will go on to obtain a college degree. We are on a mission to disrupt this cycle of poverty by educating, training, and empowering at-risk youth through early work experience.

Not only are we helping prepare today’s young people to become tomorrow’s business and community leaders, we are transforming lives—just ask Emilio.

Like many youth his age, Mission native Emilio Diaz says he enjoyed the social aspects of school, but that “schoolwork was never really my thing.” Fortunately Emilio got connected with Youth Jobs+, which helped him identify his interests and get an internship with advertising agency Goodby Silverstein & Partners.

Emilio thrived in the internship, which turned into a full-time, paid apprenticeship after he graduated high school. “Being Mexican-American and so young, coming from the Mission, it’s definitely great to be here,” he says. We help place Bay Area youth like Emilio in jobs or paid internships—and it’s all because of you.

“Where I come from, there’s not really opportunities like that.”

Because of you, we can do what we do best. United Way brings together individuals, nonprofits, businesses, and government partners to address the greatest challenges facing our community—and we need your help.

**GIVE**
Donate to UWBA directly to support a variety of proven programs that fight for the basic needs, education, and financial stability of each and every person in the Bay Area.

**ADVOCATE**
Join an affinity or advocacy group for opportunities to show support for issues affecting our most vulnerable residents, or follow us on social media and help spread the word.

**VOLUNTEER**
From mentoring youth to volunteering at your local food pantry to getting trained to help do tax returns, we offer a variety of hands-on (and hands-off) opportunities to give back.