

**Helping others live life to the fullest**  
*Newark, NJ*

Martha’s boyfriend of several years got sick one day and was admitted to the hospital. During his stay, Martha learned her boyfriend had HIV, and soon discovered she too was HIV positive. Martha was devastated and angry, and felt she had no place to turn. Living with the reality of HIV has been extremely difficult for Martha; however, with help from United Way of Essex and West Hudson she has found much needed support.

**In New Jersey, one in every 264 residents is living with HIV/AIDS.** United Way of Essex and West Hudson and their community partners are working to increase HIV/AIDS awareness and access to healthcare for HIV/AIDS patients through their UW CARES council. By focusing on preventative education, United Way of Essex and West Hudson addresses the HIV/AIDS issues in their community by focusing on the root causes of the problem.



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Like United Ways across the country, they are also committed to health issues including alcohol and substance abuse counseling and preventative services, and increasing access to health care for the uninsured or underinsured population.

With the help of United Way of Essex and West Hudson, Martha received personal health guidance, counseling, and help meeting basic needs such as food. United Way of Essex and West Hudson **helped 90 individuals gain access to job training and placement services, 259 individuals get access to mental health services, including counseling and support groups and connected 175 individuals to resident services for pregnant mothers living with HIV/AIDS.**

Martha decided she is going to live life to the fullest and is now a volunteer and HIV/AIDS ambassador, speaking to the public at a variety of venues. She takes great satisfaction in helping others.

Your United Way support is an investment in your community. Together we can get results no one can accomplish alone.

- Nearly 16% of the U.S. population – 46.6 million people – do not have health insurance.
- More than 8 million U.S. children are uninsured. That’s 11.2% of children under 18 without access to health care.
- African-American and Hispanic people are the most likely to be uninsured. Nearly 20% of African Americans and more than 32% of Hispanics do not have health insurance.
- In New Jersey, one in every 264 residents is living with HIV/AIDS.