



MELISSA, 43, Watervliet

Melissa's journey became more challenging when she lost her husband in 2019 and became a single parent. Now, she and her son are without transportation, and they depend on monthly benefits to help make ends meet. Often, there are times when she is unable to afford healthy food items and fresh produce. During the most unstable points in her life, the store owners of B&B Grocery Outlet have provided a sense of security for Melissa's family.

## BECAUSE OF YOU...

B&B Grocery Outlet—a **Healthy Corner Store partner of United Way**, Be Healthy Berrien, and the YMCA of Greater Michiana—began selling fresh produce in 2019. This Healthy Corner Store is a staple for access-burdened community members, such as Melissa. The owners, Beth and Ben, see their patrons as people, not just customers. They are always willing to help when able, and they see the value of providing fresh produce year-round.



*The Be Healthy Berrien Healthy Corner Store initiative improves food access and helps build healthier communities. Be Healthy Berrien is a collective impact effort of United Way of Southwest Michigan that works in cooperation with communities and corner store owners to deliver a comprehensive approach that combines small-business support, nutrition education, wraparound services, and greater availability of affordable, nutritious foods.*



**How will you help your neighbor?**

United Way of  
Southwest Michigan