



Did you know...

The community plan creates lasting change in people’s lives by supporting a range of programs in three key priority areas. These programs are selected for their ability to deliver lasting, measurable results in people’s lives.

Priority area	Goals	What we support*
EDUCATION Helping children and youth achieve their potential	Quality early education that leads to school readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to affordable quality early care centers • Training for parents and guardians to provide age appropriate, quality early care and education to children
	Academic achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to positive and enriching activities that increase academic skills
	Productive and engaged youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to safe and enriching activities for youth that provide good decision making skills to avoid risky behaviors
INCOME Promoting financial stability and independence	Permanent and transitional housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to shelter, stable foster care, adoption and permanent placement for children, with an emphasis on children over the age of ten • Access to housing and basic needs services for individuals and families
	Job readiness skills training and employment opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job readiness skills and employment opportunities for youth • Quality support services for children “graduating” from the foster care system • Job training and placement services to help people achieve skills that respond to the job market.
	Financial education to increase savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial management skills that help individuals and families effectively manage and increase their financial resources
HEALTH Improving people’s health	Maternal health and infant wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prenatal services
	Healthy children and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to age appropriate health screenings, nutrition and immunization services for young children • Access to services that effectively address the unique issues faced by gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth • Communication and conflict resolution skills in families through effective counseling, training and preventive outreach at key points of contact • Family preservation efforts for families that have experienced domestic violence, abuse and/or neglect • Preventive health screenings • Mental health and substance abuse intervention, treatment and support services • Support services for people living with disabilities
	Productive older adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total wellbeing of older adults by improving their mental, emotional and physical health • Opportunities for older adults to work and volunteer • Services that support families and other informal caregivers in the care of older adults

While many of these programs will take years to achieve their full impact, we're proud of the results that are already beginning to emerge.

EDUCATION:

Here's how the community plan is helping children and youth achieve their potential:

Early high-quality education leads to successful start in life

- Over 3,500 preschoolers and their families were provided high-quality early care and education throughout 16 United Way funded programs.
- More than 5,000 adults and 80,000 children benefit annually from training provided by United Way's Center for Excellence in Early Education and its partners.

Children and youth are improving their academic skills

- Last year, over 13,000 elementary, middle and high school students received support services to help them prepare for standardized tests such as the FCAT, SAT, PSAT, as well as help improve their math, science and literacy skills.
- 85% of students that participated in a program focused on literacy improved their reading skills.
- In another program focused on the FCAT, 95% of the students improved their scores and 65% in the lowest percentile moved up one level in math.

At-risk youth engage in positive activities

- 37,000 boys and girls enrolled in United Way afterschool and/or summer sports and mentoring programs, and social and life skills workshops.
- Over 1,000 at risk youths learned how to write a resume, fill out job applications, techniques on job searching and job interviews to help them transition into the job market.

INCOME:

Here's how the community plan is promoting financial stability and independence:

Individuals are learning how to manage their money

- 3,279 individuals received financial education and counseling on basic budgeting, credit card management, first-home purchasing assistance and foreclosure prevention.
- 827 individuals were provided with debt management plans, of which 264 are now debt-free.

Families and individuals are receiving help to secure their homes

- 1,440 individuals/families received housing assistance with rent, mortgage, utilities, and food vouchers in order to help them prevent homelessness during their financial crisis.

Individuals are being trained and employed

- Last year, 4,422 individuals with disabilities received job training through a United Way funded program.
- 72% of those individuals were placed in competitive jobs throughout our community.

HEALTH:

Here's how the community plan is improving people's health:

Children are getting a healthy start

- Over 4,600 children between zero and five years of age received health screenings and interventions.
- 268 children received immunizations. Of that number, more than half had never been immunized.
- 3,975 uninsured children under the age of 18 received screenings for early detection and follow-up care for asthma, ADHD and obesity.
- 88% of the children who successfully completed a United Way funded psychological treatment program improved their social skills, cognitive and behavioral functions.

Early Care professionals are trained on health and nutrition

- 360 early care professionals received training in health practices.
- 152 directors enrolled in Early Childhood Program Administrator's Institute received instruction on how to implement high-quality health policies in their programs.
- 15 parent/community trainings were provided on health and nutrition, focusing on obesity prevention among children.

Gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth are reaching out

- Over 125 GLBTQ youths participated in a United Way program to help them deal with issues unique to this population. Special focus is placed on suicide, sexual and substance abuse, harassment, depression, and HIV/AIDS and STDs.
- As a result of the program, 86% of the youths showed a decrease in depression and suicidal thoughts; 92% showed improved self-esteem; and 88% are now able to protect themselves against violence and harassment.
- United Way supported the Alliance for GLBTQ Youth, a national model that coordinates a full range of quality services for GLBTQ youths including one-on-one and group counseling, social and network activities, HIV/AIDS testing, and runaway shelter care, among others.

Women are taking better care of themselves

- 17,485 individuals received breast and cervical cancer education.
- 3,870 women were screened for breast and cervical cancer through a United Way funded program.
- Over 400 mothers-to-be received prenatal services, increasing the chances of a full-term pregnancy and delivery of a healthy baby.

Older adults working on sounder minds and bodies

- 1,995 older adults took part in social, education and recreational activities as well as fitness and nutrition classes to maintain an active mind and body.
- 3,414 seniors were provided with community-based home care services, allowing 100% of them to remain in their own home.
- Last year, 10,955 seniors regularly received hot, nutritious meals.