UNITED WAY
Portage County

UNITED WAY OF PORTAGE COUNTY
YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Vision: A community that fosters education from birth through high school to provide a basis for individual and social development.

Goal: United Way will partner with evidence-based programs that are most effective in helping children from birth through high school succeed in education and in life.

Priority Populations:
While individuals and families in need may exist beyond what is noted, United Way will first invest resources in the population identified below:

- Individuals and families(households) at or below 200% FPL (Federal Poverty Level) and ALICE* (Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed) thresholds.
- Individuals and families for which various social determinants of health** are barriers to their success.

Priority #1: Provide children in priority populations with programs and services that prepare them to enter kindergarten developmentally on track and ready to succeed.

Ages: Birth to Kindergarten

Strategies:

A. Equip families with the tools, knowledge and skills to enrich childhood development and reduce the incidence of child maltreatment.
B. Support quality childcare.

Priority #2: Provide children in priority populations with programs that support their path to academic success.

Ages: Kindergarten through High School

Strategies:

A. Equip families with the tools, knowledge, and skills to enrich childhood development and reduce the incidence of child maltreatment.
B. Support quality childcare.
C. Support programs that provide opportunities to help children achieve age-appropriate reading proficiency.
D. Connect students to before, during, and after school programming to support educational success and overall development (e.g., tutoring, mentoring, and homework assistance).
E. Support multi-generational educational opportunities
F. Support programs that help students develop skills to graduate on time and be prepared for success after high school.

*ALICE THRESHOLD: the difference between what is earned and the cost of living in that county or 200% of (FPL) Federal Poverty Level. As of Board approval date _____ almost one-third of Portage County households were at or below the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Threshold

**SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH: life-enhancing resources, such as food supply, housing, economic and social relationships, transportation, education, and healthcare, whose distribution across populations effectively determines length and quality of life.

United Way of Portage County reserves the right to revise its priority investment areas and associated requirements as deemed necessary.

Rev. 3/8/24