

UNITED IN PURPOSE

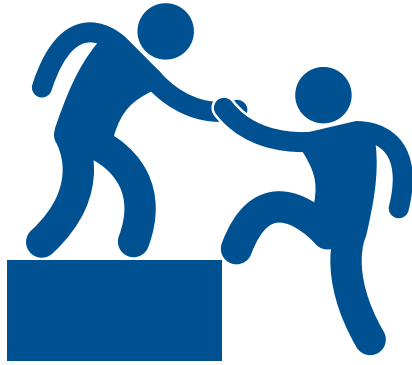
2022-2023

ANNUAL REPORT

United Way of Northwest Illinois



UNITED IN PURPOSE



You kept us United in Purpose: working towards improving health, expanding education, growing livelihoods and addressing the basic needs in our community. Thanks to you, programming support to over 23 partner agencies included:

- Improving lives by mobilizing initiatives around domestic violence prevention and economic mobility for students and young adults with disabilities.
- Improving early childhood education, by bringing together early childhood providers to provide safe, affordable, quality childcare.
- Improving lives by supporting programs that meet the basic needs of at risk populations through shelter and food.

Grant funding also provided:

- Over 32,734 Imagination Library Books to 2,200 children under the age of five.
- The new to our area - 211 resource and referral call line.
- A completed community needs assessment for youth development and gun violence prevention.

United by YOU, change is happening. Gaps are closing. Opportunities are opening for every person in our three county region, and all of this is happening- because of you. Each of us can spark change for our neighbors but UNITED, we are changing our COMMUNITY. We are United in Purpose, and United by YOU.

Thank you for Living United!

United in Financial Stability



The **FINANCIAL STABILITY INITIATIVE**

provided programming to enhance the essential financial literacy & vocational opportunities for students, which increased their job readiness skill & opportunities for job placement with the goal of being financially stable & independent.

Partner Agency of **Financial Stability**

- RAMP

To help students build a future plan by connecting school to real life opportunities that positively impact their academic achievement, classroom engagement, and career and life success.

This target area is intended to develop our area's future workforce by connecting students with local employers and job training, shadowing, or internship opportunities that increase their ability to develop a career plan and resources to execute this plan.

United in Basic Needs



The **BASIC NEEDS INITIATIVE**

was able to help our local shelter expand their capacity & hours of operation to provide individuals & families a safe, warm or cool place to stay in our community. We also were able to help ensure that healthy, home-delivered meals were available to seniors in our local communities.

Partner Agencies of **Basic Needs**

- FACC (Freeport Area Church Cooperative) - Shelter & Pantry
- Golden Meals/NICAA (Northern Illinois Community Action Agency)

CURRENTLY FUNDED INITIATIVES:

FACC (Freeport Area Church Cooperative)

- Shelter

Golden Meals

- Stephenson County
- Jo Daviess County
- Carroll County

Emergency Food & Shelter Program

- Stephenson County
 - FACC, VOICES, Salvation Army, & Pantries



- Jo Daviess County
 - Riverview Center, Golden Meals, & Pantries
- Carroll County
 - Riverview Center, Golden Meals, & Pantries

United in Education



The Education Initiative

continued to focus on ensuring that families had access to high quality, safe learning environments & to quality literacy based programs to help ready them for kindergarten.

Partner Agencies of Education

- Amity Society of Freeport
- Boys & Girls Club of Freeport & Stephenson County
- Family YMCA of Northwest Illinois
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library

CURRENTLY FUNDED INITIATIVES:

Early Childhood Consortium

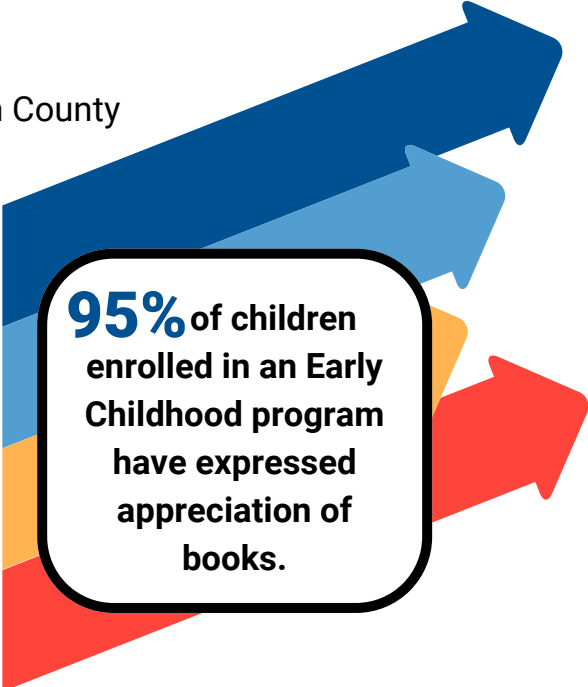
- Teaching Strategies Gold
- Safe & Dependable Childcare

Boys & Girls Club Afterschool Program

- Reading Program
- Tutoring & Mentoring

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

- Stephenson County
- Jo Daviess County
- Carroll County



95% of children enrolled in an Early Childhood program have expressed appreciation of books.



United in Health



The **HEALTH INITIATIVE**

brought together local community agencies to bring awareness & education to the prevention of violence & abuse against vulnerable populations, specifically seniors, children & adults with disabilities. Programming also allowed at-risk girls to develop life & leadership skills.

Partner Agencies of **Health**

- RAMP
- Riverview
- Tyler's Justice Center
- Voices of Stephenson County
- Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois



CURRENTLY FUNDED INITIATIVES:

Domestic & Sexual Violence Safety Collaboration

- VOICES
- RAMP
- Tyler's Justice Center
- Riverview Center

Project Opportunity

- Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois

75% of youth that participated in a leadership experience curriculum developed their ability to act ethically, honestly, and responsibly with knowledge and awareness of signs of human trafficking, and show concern for others



UNITED IN PURPOSE

Board of Directors

Scott Winter
President

Brad Stewart
Vice President

Joel Flemming
Past President

Amy Powers
Treasurer

Ryan Stodden

Clay Cunningham

Ramón Viveros

Quincy Carter

Hilary Fiene

Merisa Ritschard

Monica Burkholder

Liz Gerber

Renata Hepler

Peter Morrison

Affinity Groups

- United We Stand
- Women United - Jo Daviess County

224 care packages were delivered to seniors throughout Stephenson, Carroll, and Jo Daviess Counties

Grant Projects

- Restore, Reinvest, Renew (R3) Planning Grant
 - Violence Prevention Study in Freeport
- Birth to Five Grant
 - Early Childhood Education Consortium
- Illinois Charitable Trust Grant
 - Senior Care Packages
- 211
 - Local Resource Call Line



Annual Events

- Small Town Heroes
- Day of Action
- Celebrity Dinner



Strategic Plan

FINANCIAL

Increase & Diversify Funding

Through donations, campaigns, grants, and endowments, the UWNWIL has sufficient and sustainable funding to meet our mission, while ensuring long term financial stability to assist and serve our community.

MARKETING

Enhance UW Standing & Awareness Within the Community

Using social media, digital marketing, and website enhancement along with traditional means, we increase awareness which leads to an increase in collaboration, funding, positive perception, and volunteers and partners.

IMPACT

Enhance the Well-being of our Community Through Impact & Equity

Through the mission of UWNWIL we enhance the well-being of our community through education, health, financial stability and basic needs pillars.

CAPACITY

Ensure & Develop an Effective Diverse, Engaged Board of Directors, Volunteers & Staff

Our organization is sufficiently staffed through diverse board members, staff, and volunteers that reflect the diversity of our community, community engagers, influencers and doers at leadership and other levels.

2023-2024 Designated Allocations

FINANCIAL STABILITY INITIATIVE

- Total: \$13,350

BASIC NEEDS INITIATIVE

- Total: \$20,800

EDUCATION INITIATIVE

- Total: \$256,250

HEALTH INITIATIVE

- Total: \$58,100



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2022-2023

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United Way of Northwest Illinois

In 1950, United Way of Northwest Illinois began its work as the Freeport Community Chest. Citizens and civic organizations joined together under the principle that “Working together we can accomplish so much more for our community.” For the last 72 years we have played a unique role in our community by bringing together people from the communities of Stephenson, Jo Daviess and Carroll counties.

TOGETHER, with our agency partners, we are identifying our communities’ toughest challenges and gaps in services and programs, that hinder the growth of a sustainable, stronger and healthier Northwest Illinois. We are **UNITED** in taking on some of these challenges and leveraging investments and partnerships to address these issues at their roots.

We invest in local programs focused on our Community Impact Initiatives: Basic Needs, Education, Health and Financial Stability. We transparently track and measure the results of those investments to maximize impact, and to hold ourselves and our partners accountable.

GIVE

United Way combines your contribution with donations from others and invests in proven programs making a real, measurable impact.

ADVOCATE

United Way brings together partners and passionate individuals to advocate for the people of Northwest Illinois through policy and regulation changes at state and local levels.

VOLUNTEER

United Way coordinates volunteer activities for Northwest Illinois programs and projects that support community initiatives in our region.



To support our community impact
text **UWNIL815** to **41444** to donate.

Scan the QR code to
visit our website!



uwni.org

GOLD SEAL

United Way of Northwest Illinois is a recognized Gold Seal nonprofit organization on GuideStar – a research tool that provides donors with detailed information about an organization, aiding them in their search for trusted organizations. guidestar.org

Gold
Transparency
2023

Candid.