



# COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND

## ADDRESSING CRITICAL HEALTH AND HUMAN CARE NEEDS IN CENTRAL ILLINOIS

- As the largest non-governmental funder of local health and human care programs, the Heart of Illinois United Way's Community Impact Fund supports programs and initiatives that position our organization as the leader in addressing the education, financial stability and health needs in central Illinois.
- Through a multi-year grant process, Heart of Illinois United Way funding is a reliable and steady source of income for our partner agencies. Multi-year funding enables our United Way to spend more time evaluating and measuring outcomes, maximizing the impact of funded programs and collaborating with community partners.
- Every program funded by the Heart of Illinois United Way's Community Impact Fund is scored by approximately 75 local volunteers who evaluate programs based upon benchmarks set by the Peoria Area Community Assessment. Every quarter, United Way uses a performance-based review process to ensure funded programs are achieving strong, positive outcomes year-round.
- Approximately 1/3 of the total population in Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford, Stark, Marshall And Putnam Counties is helped annually by the Heart of Illinois United Way Community Impact Fund's programs and initiatives.

## WHY EDUCATION, FINANCIAL STABILITY AND HEALTH?

Education, financial stability and health are vital for building safe and stable lives. Below are a few examples of how Community Impact Fund programs are making a positive impact in central Illinois ...



**Quality education is essential to earning a livable wage**

81% of preschool children demonstrated the literacy skills needed for school readiness

90% of preschool children demonstrated social-emotional skills needed for school readiness

89% of youth achieved academic success in reading and 88% achieved success in math

72% of adults who obtained tutoring or went back to school increased their knowledge



**Improving financial stability leads to increased independence**

91% of individuals and families improved life skills and made positive behavior change towards self-sufficiency

85% of individuals and families in need of housing found affordable homes

93% of low-income seniors and persons with developmental or intellectual disabilities were able to live independently with food, shelter and transportation assistance



**Access to healthcare promotes wellness for all ages**

79% of youth increased knowledge of healthy choices related to nutrition and risky behaviors

89% of adults increased knowledge about eating properly and exercising

88% of adults in health treatment programs increased knowledge and improved overall physical health

85% of individuals who received counseling and mental health services improved