



“Our daughter had never attended a formal school. She passed her kindergarten assessment with flying colors and we are so proud of her. She is excited to meet new friends in school this fall.” - *Parents of a student enrolled in a United Way funded preschool program*

“I was struggling to find a job in retail, I needed a driver’s license, and my support dog needed vaccinations so I could stay in my apartment. The outreach staff helped me with my job search and got me back on track with vet services I didn’t know about.” - *Adult participating in a United Way funded supportive employment program*

“I had a stroke in my early twenties and it permanently damaged my eyesight. I lost my job at a preschool because my vision was too blurry and I couldn’t manage my depth perception. With mobility training and new magnification tools, my job coach is helping me apply for work at a new preschool.” - *Young adult participating in a United Way funded health treatment program*

More than 90% of preschool students enrolled in Heart of Illinois United Way funded programs developed and maintained core skills in the areas of social-emotional learning, literacy, and math.

More than 95% of adults who participated in Heart of Illinois United Way funded vocational and supportive employment programs increased their knowledge of community resources and improved their financial stability.

More than 90% of youth and adults who received treatment from Heart of Illinois United Way funded health programs improved their physical health.

United Way funded education programs provide:

- Ages Pre-K through adult with literacy success
- After-school tutoring that leads to grade promotion
- Mentoring to improve grades and social-emotional skills
- Parenting skills to build healthy parent-child relationships

United Way funded financial stability programs provide:

- Basic needs and support for housing and more
- Work-force skills to improve employability
- Life-skills and financial management education
- Legal assistance to address individual and family crises

United Way funded health programs provide:

- Screenings and treatment for physical and mental health needs to improve overall health
- Support and crisis intervention to improve individual and family stability
- Nutrition, physical fitness, and substance abuse education to improve healthy choices

The Heart of Illinois United Way works to ensure our children are ready to succeed when they enter kindergarten and people of all ages are prepared for work, postsecondary education, and life.

The Heart of Illinois United Way is focused on ensuring individuals and families achieve financial stability. To ensure people can thrive, our work focuses on providing opportunities to get them on their feet again and helping during emergencies and crises.

The Heart of Illinois United Way is focused on ensuring the people of central Illinois have access to quality, affordable healthcare. The health and well-being of our citizens is a strong indicator of the health of our community.

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WHY EDUCATION, FINANCIAL STABILITY, AND HEALTH?

Education, financial stability, and health are vital for building safe and stable lives. The Heart of Illinois United Way is committed to ensuring these fundamentals are available for all individuals in our community.





“My son was struggling and falling behind by midterms. The staff and tutors worked with him and he raised his grade by a full letter and had a terrific final report card. Thank you!” - *Mother of a 4th grade student enrolled in a United Way funded after-school program*

“I had been homeless since I was 19 and didn’t know where to start. My case manager helped me apply for benefits and create a budget for the first time. She also helped me learn how to cook for myself and clean my new apartment.” - *Young adult participating in a United Way funded supportive housing program*

“My daughter is in the hospital for her mental health. I took my grandbaby in but I work full time. I needed help until I could find affordable daycare. The agency provided emergency childcare and helped me find a daycare program. Because of them, I have kept my grandchild out of the welfare system until my daughter gets better.” - *Grandparent who used a United Way funded crisis program*

More than 90% of students enrolled in Heart of Illinois United Way funded after school programs achieved grade-level academic success in reading and math.

More than 96% of adults who participated in Heart of Illinois United Way funded life-skills programs maximized their independence.

More than 95% of families receiving Heart of Illinois United Way funded case management services improved their health and well-being through coordination of services and community support.

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“I knew what I wanted to achieve and the instructors assessed my skills and matched me with the classes I needed to succeed. After several technology classes, I’m on my way to starting my own barber business.”
 - Adult learner enrolled in a digital skills class at a United Way funded training program

“When we adopted our grandchildren, we only had a small two bedroom home. The agency helped us learn how to budget for a down payment. Just before Christmas last year, we moved into our new home. Our grandkids have their own rooms now and are doing well in their new schools.”
 - Grandparents in a United Way funded housing program

“We didn’t have any fresh fruits or vegetables at home. My after school program started sending me home with a backpack full of food and recipes each Friday night. Now every weekend, my family and I cook lots of healthy meals together.” - Student of a family participating in a United Way funded nutritious meal program

More than 90% of adults 16 and older increased their knowledge through Heart of Illinois United Way funded academic and vocational training.

More than 99% of low-income adults and families who participated in Heart of Illinois United Way funded housing programs improved their safety and wellness by connecting to community resources.

More than 93% of youth and adults who participated in Heart of Illinois United Way funded health education classes increased their knowledge about healthy eating, exercise, and more.

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