Achieving good health requires us all to become more aware of health risks and the potential effects they have, starting from before birth. Good health helps to ensure children are prepared for kindergarten and that they succeed during their school years. Poor health can prevent families and individuals from being financially stable.

United Way is working to extend access to health care and related services that will enable more people to live healthier lives.

**Our Work in Health**

**Goals:** Provide funding to increase the number of youth and adults who
- Are healthy and safe
- Are able to live independently and with dignity
- Have access to high quality and affordable mental, behavioral, dental and general health care services
- Have access to prevention education and can avoid risky behaviors
- Have a network of support for children with disabilities, their families and caregivers
- Have access to healthy, local and affordable fresh fruits and vegetables
- Have access to high quality, affordable prenatal care and pregnancy support services

**Specific Health Issue Areas**
- Behavioral and Mental Health Care
- Chemical Abuse and Dependency
- Disabilities Services
- Disaster Recovery
- Domestic Violence
- Emergency Shelter (youth)
- Food Security
- Health Care Access
- Health Education/Prevention
- Information and Referral
- Older Adult Support and Independence
- Pregnancy Counseling/Support Services

**Fact**

Milwaukee has the fourth highest child poverty rate in the country. In addition, the issues of teen pregnancy, sexual exploitation and violence all threaten the basic needs of Milwaukee’s youth.

**Impact of United Way**

94% of homeless, runaway and throwaway youth who received services through United Way-funded shelters and programs felt their immediate needs (safety, shelter, food, clothing, etc.) were met.

Rates of disability are increasing due to population aging and the increase in chronic conditions.

Of the adults with a disability who participated in United Way-funded programs:
- 98% said they felt safe in their own environment
- 94% said they improved their daily living skills
- 93% said they attended social activities

There are at least 188,000 adults in Wisconsin with a serious mental illness (NAMI Wisconsin, 2010). Barriers to receiving treatment include high costs, access to mental health insurance, unreliable transportation and stigma.

Of those affected by mental illness who participated in United Way-funded programming:
- 94% said they had a better understanding of their problem
- 93% said they made progress toward at least one treatment goal
- 89% said they felt their lives were better than before
Helping People Live Healthier Lives

United Way of Greater Milwaukee focuses on ensuring everyone has access to quality, affordable health care. We know the health of our citizens is a strong indicator of the health of our community. In 2011-2012, United Way of Greater Milwaukee funded 63 health programs, serving nearly 270,000 individuals.

2012-2013 Investments in Health: $8,598,700

Advocates of Ozaukee, Inc.
Funded Program: Domestic Violence

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
Funded Programs: Dental Clinic, Lifepoint

American Red Cross in Southeastern Wisconsin
Funded Programs: First Aid Service Team (FAST), Local Disaster Response

Aurora Family Service
Funded Programs: Elder Service Money Management, Milwaukee Mental Health Consultants, Systemic Family Counseling

Aurora Visiting Nurse Association of Wisconsin
Funded Programs: Aurora Adult Day Center, Aurora VNA Zilber Family Hospice, Home Health Services

Bay View Community Center, Inc.
Funded Program: 50+

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Inc.
Funded Programs: Behavioral Health Services, In Home Support Services, Outreach Services, Pregnancy and Parenting Supportive Services

Centro Legal
Funded Program: Domestic Abuse and Family Law Program

Children’s Service Society of Wisconsin
Funded Programs: Counseling for Children and Families, Pregnancy Counseling and Resources

COPE Services, Inc.
Funded Program: COPE Hotline

Curative Care Network
Funded Programs: Adult Day Services, Outpatient Therapy Services

Fondy Food Center
Funded Program: Fondy Farmer’s Market

Friends of Abused Families, Inc.
Funded Program: Domestic Violence Project

Harry & Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center
Funded Programs: Older Adult Seniors, School Aged Special Needs-Shiluv, Special Needs-Chaverim

The Healing Center
Funded Program: Counseling Program for Underserved Survivors

IMPACT, Inc.
Funded Programs: IMPACT 2-1-1, Assessment and Referral

IndependenceFirst, Inc.
Funded Program: Attendant Referral

Interfaith Older Adult Programs, Inc.
Funded Programs: Family Caregiver Support Network, Neighborhood Outreach

Jewish Family Services, Inc.
Funded Programs: Case Management: Disabilities, Case Management: Older Adult, Individual & Family Counseling

Mental Health America of Wisconsin
Funded Programs: Mental Health Access, Mental Health Services

Meta House
Funded Program: Transitional Living

Milwaukee Christian Center
Funded Program: Elderly Adult Support Services

Milwaukee Women’s Center, Inc.
Funded Programs: Emergency Shelter, Nevermore Batterers Treatment

Ozaukee Family Services
Funded Programs: Counseling Services, Prevention

The Parenting Network
Funded Program: Parent Helpline

Pathfinders
Funded Programs: Clinical Services, Pathfinders Youth Shelter, Q-BLOK

Penfield Children’s Center
Funded Programs: Behavioral Health Clinic, Early Intervention/Parent Program

Portal Industries, Inc.
Funded Program: Employment Readiness and Advancement

Safe Babies Healthy Families, Inc.
Funded Program: Childbirth & Infant Preparation Services

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Dental Clinic
Funded Program: Restorative Care

Sixteenth Street Community Health Center, Inc.
Funded Program: The Great Start Program

Sojourner Family Peace Center, Inc.
Funded Programs: Batterers Anonymous - Beyond Abuse Courthouse Advocacy, Domestic Abuse Victim Advocates, Emergency Shelter

United Community Center, Inc.
Funded Program: Elderly Program

Vision Forward Association
Funded Program: Center for Blind and Visually Impaired Children

Walker’s Point Youth & Family Center, Inc.
Funded Program: Runaway Services

Wisconsin Community Services, Inc.
Funded Program: Criminal Justice Intervention

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