



## United Way of Dane County Foundation Grant 2015 Request for Proposals Criteria

The United Way of Dane County Foundation requests proposals from Dane County not-for-profit agencies, faith-based and community organizations or groups to ensure that more people are on pathways out of poverty. A total of \$10,000 will be distributed. These one time funds are made available through the United Way of Dane County Foundation's interest earnings.

Note: Organizations submitting proposals are not required to have 501c3 status.

The United Way's 2015 focus is to move more people on the pathways out of poverty. Our goal is to decrease the number of families living in poverty.

### *Why addressing poverty matters:*

- Over 58,000 people in Dane County are living in poverty. The biggest contributors to poverty are unemployment and underemployment (i.e. working fewer hours and/or in lower skilled jobs than a person's availability and talents). Dane County is fortunate that our overall unemployment rate has come down to 3.8% as of May 2014, from a high of over 6.8% during the Great Recession.
- Dane County is an expensive community in which to live with its extreme lack of affordable housing in a market with a 2% vacancy rate, many residents spend far more than 30% of their income on housing.
- We know that homelessness and poverty have a profound affect on children. Many homeless people have experienced trauma prior to becoming homeless such as multiple moves, food insecurity, domestic violence and living with chronic stress. The outcomes from children across health and educational measure are significantly worse than their stably housed classmates.
- Low-income households are more likely to move often, which interrupts education of children as well as social relationships with teachers and classmates. Stable housing improves stigma and stress, family unification, routines, and more opportunities for parental involvement.

To achieve our goal of moving more people on the pathways out of poverty, we are looking for 2 Generational Strategies that will help decrease the number of families living in poverty.

2 Generational strategies intentionally link 3 components: high-quality early childhood education, job training that leads to a credential for high-wage/high demand jobs, and wrap-around family and peer support services<sup>1</sup>.

We encourage programs to collaborate and will consider awarding additional dollars to programs that are collaborating to provide programming.

This year we are encouraging funding requests in the following fashion.

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<sup>1</sup> Foundation for Child Development: Mother's Education and Children's Outcomes: How Dual Generation Programs Offer Increased Opportunities for America's Families. (2) July 2014.

1. Individual funding request may be awarded up to \$2,000.
2. Collaborative funding requests may be awarded between \$2,000 to \$10,000.

We will also look at piloting a program if it is not currently in existence.

Funds available through this grant must be used for services provided in Dane County and should be spent by no later than October 30, 2016.

Areas considered when reviewing proposals:

- Target population
  - Number of families served
  - Strategy used to reach target population
- Expected outcomes
- Proposals submitted must demonstrate:
  - A collaboration between two or more organizations, groups, etc.
  - A 2 Generational strategy that intentionally links 3 components: high-quality early childhood education, job training that leads to a credential for high-wage/high demand jobs, and wrap-around family and peer support services<sup>2</sup>.
  - A strategy to move more people on the pathway out of poverty
  - How success will be identified.

***Application Deadline is Monday, August 3rd, 2015 by Noon. Applications will not be accepted after Noon.***

***Please note: You must be available to present your application on Tuesday, August 11 between 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will call you to set up a time for your presentation.***

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<sup>2</sup> Foundation for Child Development: Mother's Education and Children's Outcomes: How Dual Generation Programs Offer Increased Opportunities for America's Families. (2) July 2014.