



United Way of Dane County Plan for Community Well-Being: Early Childhood

GOAL: Build family well-being by intentionally and simultaneously working with children under five and the adults in their lives together.

Why it Matters: Research and community input consistently show that coordinated, holistic programs and policies that help meet children’s and caregivers’ goals simultaneously lead to increased family stability and mobility from poverty – leading to greater success across generations. That’s why, in 2022,

we invested in 15 local nonprofits and 23 local programs to identify and address the historical and structural barriers that undermine a family’s overall well-being. Through these partnerships, we work with families to solve problems and provide new resources to meet their goals.

Here’s how we invested in early childhood efforts in 2022:



Investment: **\$1,364,656**



Nonprofit Partners: **15**



Programs: **23**



Program Participants: **1,923**



ParentChild+ Program – Supporting Learning, Together

As we work to help more caregivers and children get what they need to lead thriving lives, we've invested in the ParentChild+ program led by our partners at **RISE Wisconsin**. This early literacy, home visiting program helps parents and caregivers prepare their children for 4K and beyond – setting the whole family up for success!

When Stacey was concerned with her son Simon's speech, she turned to reading books to him more often. They practiced letters and numbers, but she still felt he wasn't improving,

and she didn't know what to do. So, she reached out to RISE, and they connected her with a ParentChild+ specialist. Over the course of a few months, they had many home visits at which they spent time not only reading books, but talking about how the pictures and stories related to Simon's personal experiences and playing games to help him express his learnings out loud. Now, they're about to graduate the program and both Stacey and Simon have the tools they need to keep working on his education and development together!

The impact on local families participating in Early Childhood programming in 2022:



82%

maintained housing and/or avoided eviction (103 individuals)



88%

of kids achieved developmental milestones while in programming with their families (100 children aged 0-5)



234

families reported improved parent-child interaction and/or increased parenting knowledge

United Way of Dane County Invests in Early Childhood Programs at These Organizations:

ARC Community Services

Children's Hospital of WI

Community Action Coalition for South Central Wisconsin

Community Coordinated Child Care (4-C)

Dane County Department of Human Services

Goodman Community Center

Madison Children's Museum

Porchlight

Reach Dane

RISE Wisconsin

Sunshine Place

The Playing Field

The Rainbow Project

The Road Home Dane County

Vera Court Neighborhood Center