



# 2GEN (MULTIGENERATIONAL APPROACH)

**VISION:** FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER FIVE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING POVERTY HAVE COORDINATED ACCESS TO CROSS-GENERATIONAL SUPPORTS TO MEET THEIR NEEDS IN THE AREAS OF EDUCATION, INCOME AND HEALTH.

**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 point to similar strategies for family stability and mobility from poverty: coordinated holistic programs and policies that help meet children and caregivers' goals simultaneously. For example, high quality education and housing partnered with public policies that support benefits and thoughtful data use and tracking.

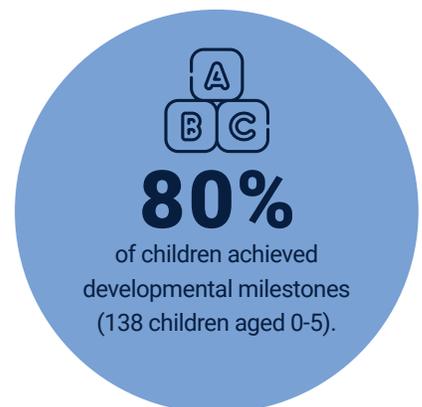
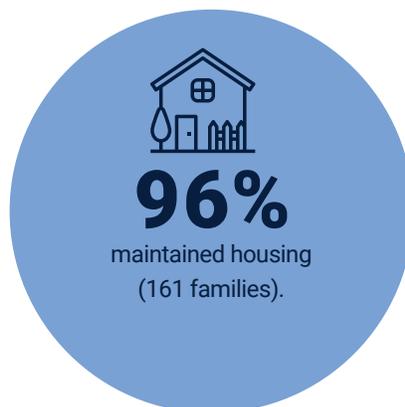
Currently, 10.7% (3,216) of Dane County children under the age of five are experiencing poverty – however, 29.9% of Black children and 28.5% of Hispanic/Latino children are experiencing poverty (2016-2020 U.S. Census 5-year estimates).

United Way of Dane County identifies local issues and invests in solutions designed to increase family well-being. In collaboration with our volunteers and community partners, we leverage resources, track data and advocate for policy to drive systems change.

Here's how we invested in 2Gen in 2021:

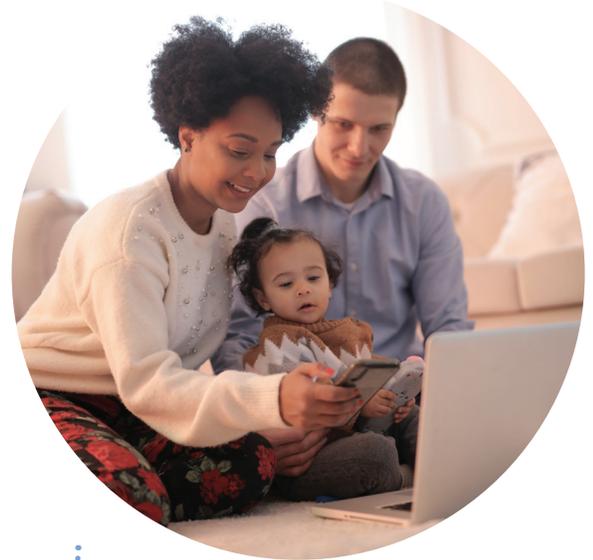


## THE IMPACT ON LOCAL FAMILIES PARTICIPATING IN 2GEN PROGRAMMING IN 2021:

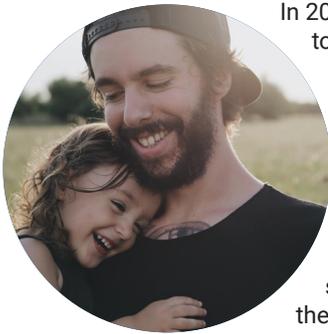


## STRATEGIES:

- Strengthen family outcomes through 2gen collaborative programs that improve family well-being through the areas of income, education and health.
- Cultivate and strengthen partners within 2gen collaborations to provide more comprehensive services for families and support quality improvement of programs.



## DEEPER DIVE: WHAT IS 2GEN?



In 2019, we launched this new area of investment in order to focus specifically on how the well-being of adults we serve directly impacts the well-being of their children, and vice versa. Through this multigenerational lens, we work with our nonprofit partners to identify the historical and structural barriers that undermine a family's overall well-being. Because we know that while adults and children have different needs, they're interdependent.

For example, if parents know that their child is in a safe, high-quality learning environment, they can focus their energy on obtaining jobs that pay a family-sustaining wage, rather than worrying about care for their child.

When we focus on ways to coordinate our efforts across our Agenda for Change pillars we're more likely to help multigenerational families find the balance they need to thrive in our community.

## UNITED WAY OF DANE COUNTY INVESTS IN 2GEN-BASED PROGRAMS AT THESE AGENCIES

Anesis Center for Marriage and Family Therapy  
Children's Hospital of WI  
Community Action Coalition for South Central Wisconsin  
Goodman Community Center  
Madison Children's Museum  
Northside Planning Council  
Porchlight  
RISE Wisconsin  
The Playing Field  
The Rainbow Project  
The Road Home Dane County  
YWCA Madison

United Way donors support 850 nonprofits.  
To see a complete list of agency partners, visit [www.unitedwaydanecounty.org/100years](http://www.unitedwaydanecounty.org/100years)

## RISE WISCONSIN

RISE Wisconsin provides care coordination, home visiting and therapeutic support to children and families to help them achieve success at home and in the community. Their ParentChild+ Program is an early literacy home visiting program that helps parents and caregivers prepare their children for 4K. This year, RISE helped Tasha, a single mother of two, by providing her children with educational resources and teaching her how to take an active role in their early education. Now, Tasha feels much better prepared to be the best parent she can be! And her kids are better set up for long-term educational success.





# EDUCATION

**VISION:** ALL STUDENTS SUCCEED ACADEMICALLY AND GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL, PREPARED FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, CAREER AND COMMUNITY.

**GOAL:** Increase the graduation rate for Dane County students of color and students from low-income families.

**WHY IT MATTERS:** Individuals who finish high school are more likely to have the skills required to be successful in postsecondary education, an increasingly complicated job market and society. Adults with higher education levels are more likely to have employment with family-sustaining wages.



Currently, 93% of Dane County students graduate high school within six years – however, the graduation rate is 80% for Black students, 89% for Hispanic/Latino students and 86% for economically disadvantaged students (2020-2021 School Year, Department of Public Instruction).

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### Here's how we invested in Education in 2021:

 Investment: **\$4,878,879**
 Agenda for Change Programs: **33**  
 Community Solutions Team Volunteers: **20**
 Program Participants: **7,108**

## THE IMPACT ON LOCAL STUDENTS AND FAMILIES PARTICIPATING IN EDUCATION PROGRAMMING IN 2021:

  
**89%**  
saw improved parent child interaction and/or parenting knowledge (2,043 families with children aged 0-5).

  
**82%**  
improved their social/emotional and non-cognitive skills – related to motivation, integrity and personal interaction (1,132 students in Grades 6-8).

  
**100%**  
graduated high school in Dane County (198 students).

## STRATEGIES:

- Support parents so they may be engaged and informed on how to be their child's first teacher to help their children be developmentally ready for school.
- Ensure young children have age-appropriate skills in five key areas (cognitive, language and speech, social and emotional, fine motor, gross motor).
- Facilitate access to additional learning opportunities across settings to enhance students' mastery of academic content.
- Build students' social/emotional and non-cognitive skills.
- Foster connection, belonging, leadership and academic success with youth (disconnected or at risk of disconnecting).
- Increase family engagement as a key component to improve student success.



For more information, please contact Cortney Dunklin at [cortney.dunklin@uwdc.org](mailto:cortney.dunklin@uwdc.org) • (608) 245-8072 • [www.unitedwaydaneconomy.org](http://www.unitedwaydaneconomy.org)

## SCHOOLS OF HOPE: CREATING ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY IN AREA SCHOOLS

The Schools of Hope Project (SOH) began in 1995 as a civic journalism project by the Wisconsin State Journal and WISC-TV that studied how active community engagement could address critical local area needs. Led by United Way and in partnership with the Madison and Sun Prairie School Districts, the project focuses on increasing reading achievement for K-5 students. United Way has received grant support since 1998 from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and local donors to provide in-school tutoring for area elementary schools. Schools of Hope provides:

- **Trained one-on-one literacy tutors** for elementary students identified by teaching staff
- **Ongoing tutor training** provided by school district professionals
- **Tutoring sessions** guided by materials provided by the classroom teacher
- **Support** for school-based family literacy programs

## LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Many of our partners focus on helping kids and families build a foundation for educational success through literacy, access and tutoring. Some programs inspire kids to embrace learning outside of the classroom, too. Last summer, the Goodman Community Center offered a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) program to local middle-schoolers through their Girls Inc. of Greater Madison Initiative. Zhu, an attendee of this program, had never before heard of STEM. But, thanks to this inspiring program, she was able to learn through fun workshops – such as making ice cream to learn about phase changes and freezing/melting points. Before long, she was hooked! Now, Zhu looks forward to more science classes and hopes to one day pursue a career in STEM.



## UNITED WAY OF DANE COUNTY INVESTS IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT THESE AGENCIES

100 Black Men of Madison  
Access Community Health Centers  
ARC Community Services  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dane County  
Boys & Girls Club of Dane County  
Briarpatch Youth Services  
Centro Hispano  
Charles Hamilton Houston Institute  
Children's Hospital of WI  
Community Coordinated Child Care (4-C)  
Families & Schools Together (FAST)  
Goodman Community Center  
JustDane  
Literacy Network  
Lussier Community Education Center  
Operation Fresh Start  
RISE Wisconsin  
Simpson Street Free Press  
The Hmong Institute  
The Rainbow Project  
Trained To Grow  
Urban League of Greater Madison  
Vera Court Neighborhood Center

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## PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

- Expand access to affordable, high-quality early care and education for under-resourced families and early learning opportunities that meet children's developmental, cultural and linguistic needs for all children in Dane County.
- Provide effective professional development and equitable compensation to early childhood educators and help the early care and education industry respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.
- Close educational achievement and opportunity gaps, particularly for children of color.
- Increase access to affordable, high-quality post-secondary education and training programs to ensure all Dane County students are prepared for college, career and community life.
- Expand broadband services to increase children's access to educational opportunities and bridge the digital equity divide in learning.





# INCOME

**VISION: DANE COUNTY FAMILIES ARE ECONOMICALLY STABLE.**

**GOAL:** Increase the number of families, particularly families of color, who become economically stable through strategies that integrate family-sustaining jobs, secure housing and food supports.

**WHY IT MATTERS:** When individuals have jobs earning family-sustaining wages and safe and affordable housing, they are less stressed and more able to provide for themselves and their families.

Currently, 77.4% of Dane County individuals have an income that is 200% above the Federal Poverty Level (2015-2019 U.S. Census 5-year estimates) leaving 22.6% of residents struggling to afford basic necessities such as food, housing and health care. Federal Poverty Level in 2021 = \$26,500 for a family of four.



United Way of Dane County identifies local issues and invests in solutions designed to increase family well-being. In collaboration with our volunteers and community partners, we leverage resources, track data and advocate for policy to drive systems change.

**Here's how we invested in Income in 2021:**

-  Investment: **\$3,806,066**
-  Agenda for Change Programs: **31**
-  Community Solutions Team Volunteers: **15**
-  Program Participants: **7,625**

## THE IMPACT ON INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN INCOME PROGRAMMING IN 2021:



**76%**

were employed at \$15+/hour (456 individuals).



**83%**

maintained housing and avoided eviction (2,051 individuals).



**89%**

did not return to prison (205 individuals).

## STRATEGIES:

- Increase the number of individuals who obtain or maintain stable housing through case management and financial assistance.
- Increase access to healthy food as a housing strategy to free up funds in family budgets for rent.
- Increase the number of individuals who gain family-sustaining employment.
- Increase the number of individuals who receive education services to gain family-sustaining employment.
- Provide Residency, Employment, Treatment, Education and Support (RESET) for returning citizens (formerly incarcerated individuals).



For more information, please contact [impact@uwdc.org](mailto:impact@uwdc.org) • [www.unitedwaydanecounty.org](http://www.unitedwaydanecounty.org)

## HIRE INITIATIVE: BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS, PREPARING PEOPLE FOR EMPLOYMENT

Many jobs go unfilled in Dane County because employers cannot find workers with the right qualifications. Similarly, those in need of a job do not have the necessary skillset to be hired in jobs with family-sustaining wages. Especially in light of current talent shortages, we're working to close that gap!

In 2013, we launched our HIRE Initiative, which is a program that focuses on helping adults train for and find employment. We work with six local partner agencies to connect participants with resources they need to earn a diploma and/or receive industry-specific training. We partner with 41 local employers to place participants in jobs that pay family-sustaining wages with career growth.

To learn more, visit [www.unitedwaydanecounty.org/hire](http://www.unitedwaydanecounty.org/hire).

## HOUSING HELP WHEN IT'S NEEDED MOST

Affordable housing is central to creating economic stability for local families. In addition to our annual community investment in programs and services to end homelessness, we launched the Affordable Housing Fund in 2018 to address funding gaps, increase the stock of workforce family housing and prioritize housing projects by nonprofit developers. We have secured more than \$400,000 in donations to create a sustainable source of funding as loans are repaid. Current projects include:

- The Graaskamp, 44 units on East Washington Avenue by Madison Development Corporation, completed in summer 2020.
- A joint project by Movin' Out and Red Caboose Childcare, with 38 residential units and a childcare center, at Milwaukee Street and East Washington Avenue, beginning construction this year.
- Two new affordable housing projects are recommended for this year – Uno located on the west side of Madison, and the Klassik to be built in Verona.



## UNITED WAY OF DANE COUNTY INVESTS IN INCOME PROGRAMS AT THESE AGENCIES

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Madison  
Centro Hispano  
Community Action Coalition for South Central Wisconsin  
Community Coordinated Child Care (4-C)  
Habitat for Humanity of Dane County  
JustDane  
Literacy Network  
Middleton Outreach Ministry  
Porchlight  
Sankofa Behavioral & Community Health  
Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin  
Stoughton Area Resource Team (START)  
Sunshine Place  
The Road Home Dane County  
The Salvation Army of Dane County  
Urban League of Greater Madison  
Vera Court Neighborhood Center  
YWCA Madison

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## PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

- Strengthen access to job training and workforce development programs and supports (including expanded access to childcare, transportation and broadband services) that align to jobs with family supporting wages, benefits and stable work schedules.
- Promote equitable, anti-racist labor market practices and work environments that provide opportunities for career advancement for all.
- Promote economic stability, decrease income inequality, help individuals and families increase their earning potential and build wealth, with particular focus on addressing the racial wealth gap.
- Expand access to affordable housing and address disparities in homeownership rates.
- Prevent eviction and support housing stability.





# HEALTH

**VISION: A DANE COUNTY ABSENT OF RACIAL HEALTH DISPARITIES.**

**GOAL:** Decrease racial disparities in Dane County by providing equitable access to affordable, accessible and culturally-safe health care.



**WHY IT MATTERS:** While Dane County remains a top place to live, raise a family and retire, for our BIPOC neighbors (including Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Southeast Asian and people of color), education, income and health inequities and disparities remain consistent. Unfortunately in Dane County, the color of your skin and the ZIP code in which you live have a significant impact on your quality of life, life expectancy and a wide range of health outcomes.

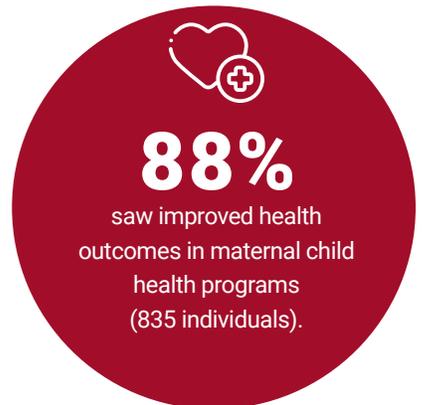
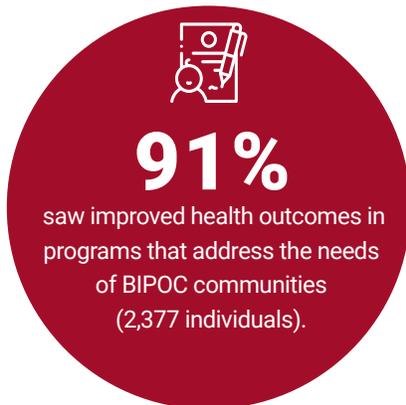
Currently, the overall life expectancy in Dane County is 81.8 years old (2017-2019 County Health Rankings) – however, life expectancy for Black residents is 73.7 years old.

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**Here's how we invested in Health in 2021:**



## THE IMPACT ON DANE COUNTY RESIDENTS PARTICIPATING IN HEALTH PROGRAMMING IN 2021:



## STRATEGIES:

- Increase culturally relevant, reflective and safe wellness models and programs defined and/or led by BIPOC neighbors (including Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Southeast Asian and people of color).
- Increase capacity in communities to address health disparities for BIPOC communities.
- Increase community-based health programs that address BIPOC communities.
- Increase community-based maternal child health programming for BIPOC communities.
- Increase culturally-safe and responsive trauma and resiliency programs for BIPOC communities.
- Embed culture brokers into care teams for individuals and families in BIPOC communities disengaged from mental health supports due to racism, power dynamics and distrust.



For more information, please contact [impact@uwdc.org](mailto:impact@uwdc.org) • [www.unitedwaydanecounty.org](http://www.unitedwaydanecounty.org)

## SHAPING OUR FOCUS, DEEPENING OUR IMPACT

At United Way, we know that Wisconsin leads the U.S. in racial disparities that exist within our communities -- and we see that right here in Dane County. In an effort to deepen our impact and specifically serve populations who experience poor health outcomes due to long-standing inequities, we've focused our strategies within our health portfolio.

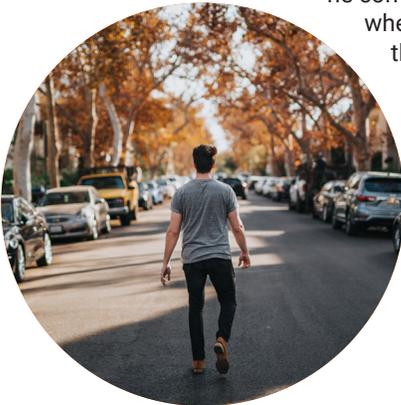
This evolution allows us to address issues that affect people at all stages of life who are not getting the care they need. With that in mind, we've updated our health priorities with two new goals:

- Reduce racial health disparities in Dane County
- Increase resiliency and trauma supports for Dane County residents

Our vision is that, over time, we will see Dane County's health disparities reduced. We'll accomplish this by working together with our partners to ensure an equitable, affordable, accessible and culturally-safe healthcare experience for all.

## FINDING SAFETY AND COMFORT IN HMOOB KAJ SIAB

Many programs transitioned back to in-person programming in 2021 after being closed or virtual for more than a year. One program, Hmoob Kaj Siab run by The Hmong Institute, reopened on June 7. One male elder shared that this program provides a lifeline for him. When he heard the news that the center was re-opening, he compared it to the happiness and excitement he had when he was in a refugee camp and received news that he and his family were accepted to come to America. After being home during the pandemic, coming to the center meant he would be able to see his friends, participate in the activities and not be isolated anymore. During the pandemic when he saw reports of violence against Asians, he stopped walking around his neighborhood for exercise. Now, he comes every day to walk in the gym. He is so thankful for Hmoob Kaj Siab and the mental health support he receives from staff.



## UNITED WAY OF DANE COUNTY INVESTS IN HEALTH PROGRAMS AT THESE AGENCIES

Access Community Health Centers  
Access to Independence  
ARC Community Services  
Canopy Center  
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Madison  
Centro Hispano  
East Madison Community Center  
Jewish Social Services of Madison  
Journey Mental Health Center  
NewBridge  
Pharmacy Society of WI  
Safe Communities of Madison & Dane County  
SSM Health at Home  
The Hmong Institute  
The Rainbow Project  
Triangle Community Ministry  
Urban Triage  
Vera Court Neighborhood Center  
Vivent Health

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## PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

- Protect and improve access to affordable, high-quality health care coverage and increase the provision of culturally safe, trauma-informed care to achieve health equity.
- Expand access to healthy food by addressing food deserts and inequities in food security and ensuring basic nutritional programs are available to everyone.
- Address bias and racial inequities in health care and help grow and diversify the health care workforce.
- Support and promote health equity initiatives that address the social determinants of health.

