

Red = program Blue = community Green = both

United Way of Greater Waterbury – Basic Needs Impact Area

Helping people become more self-sufficient in meeting their basic needs
Vision: All Greater Waterbury residents have adequate healthcare, housing and food.

Outcomes for People #A: Greater Waterbury residents have timely access to appropriate, affordable physical, dental & behavioral healthcare, incl. prevention & intervention services.

Community Change #1: Greater Waterbury residents have improved access to coordinated comprehensive services appropriate to their needs.

Strategies:

- A. Maintain or expand programs' capacity to provide basic physical, dental, and behavioral healthcare services, including related prevention and intervention services, through adequate funding.
- B. Improve coordination of the current system for providing services, including for special populations.
- C. Educate providers about 2-1-1 Navigator or other linkages for services.
- D. Facilitate 2-1-1 and providers to work together more effectively.
- E. Support multi-lingual educational campaigns to help residents know how to access existing services and obtain medical insurance using conventional & unconventional methods appropriate to specific special populations.

Outcomes for People #B: Greater Waterbury residents have expanded access to safe and affordable housing - temporary and permanent.

Community Change #1: Greater Waterbury individuals and families have improved access to support services that enhance their likelihood of acquiring and retaining safe, affordable housing.

Strategies:

- A. Fund agencies that help people have the necessary resources (financial resources, knowledge, skills, etc.) to obtain and maintain homes. (including support services for home owners & potential home owners and support services for tenants)
- B. Promotion of broad scope of 2-1-1
- C. Promote/support greater communication & coordination to provide a continuum of services related to affordable housing.
- D. Support training/education about existing programs for various provider groups (e.g. faith-based, medical & public school communities)

Comm. Change #2: Greater Waterbury stakeholders increase investment in public-private partnerships that create opportunities for permanent affordable housing.

Strategies:

- A. Convene or support others to convene a public forum on affordable housing issues, including city and other housing plans; and support efforts to identify profitable investment options for investors and educate potential investors.
- B. Support expansion of permanent affordable housing options.
- C. Support the Waterbury Coordinated Access Network community plan to end homelessness.

Community Change #3: Greater Waterbury has increased safe emergency housing (shelter) and support services for homeless individuals and families.

Strategies:

- A. Fund emergency shelters.
- B. Support shelter life skills programs that promote self-sufficiency.
- C. Support coordinated access to continuum of services including diversion and prevention.

Outcomes for People #C: Greater Waterbury residents have access to affordable, nutritious food.

Comm. Change #1: Greater Waterbury eligible residents increase participation in federal food assistance programs.

Strategies:

- A. Support increase in capacity of programs that provide support to applicants.
- B. Support efforts for special multi-lingual, unconventional types of outreach and education (faith based, peer-to-peer) to educate residents about availability and how to access programs.

Comm. Change #2: Greater Waterbury emergency food providers have increased resources to obtain nutritious food.

Strategies:

- A. Fund emergency food programs.
- B. Continue efforts to educate the public and funders.
- C. Continue efforts in Food Resource Committee to obtain greater cooperation and coordination of efforts to obtain resources.

Community Change #3: Greater Waterbury emergency food providers collaborate to provide a coordinated delivery system that improves efficiency.

Strategies:

- A. Facilitate and support efforts by Food Resource Committee to identify and address gaps in the food delivery system.
- B. Support efforts to identify special funding for offsetting infrastructure costs.

Community Change #4: Greater Waterbury has a system in place that seamlessly links residents seeking food assistance to other services that help reduce food insecurity.

Strategy:

- A. Support efforts by Food Resource Committee to provide training for staff/volunteers of food assistance programs so that they can identify needs and connect clients to services.

Increasing opportunities for children and youth to succeed
Vision: All Greater Waterbury children have the opportunity to learn and achieve their potential for success in life through positive experiences supported by parents, families, schools and the broader community.

Outcomes for People #A: Greater Waterbury children birth-5 have expanded access to quality early educational experiences.

Outcomes for People #B: An increased number of Greater Waterbury children and youth 5-18 have opportunities to experience success and achieve their potential.

Community Change #1:
Greater Waterbury has a multi-pronged approach in place to enhance families' ability to be their young children's "first teachers".

Community Change #2:
Greater Waterbury early care and education providers have easier access to further their professional development leading to widespread adoption of best practices.

Community Change #3:
Greater Waterbury decision makers accept the importance of early care & education to subsequent school success.

Community Change #1:
Greater Waterbury has a system to foster families' knowledge, skills, and engagement so they can help their children succeed in school.

Community Change #2:
Greater Waterbury offers adequate access to out of school time programs that focus on children's cognitive, physical and social/emotional competencies.

Proposed Strategies:

- A. Use "Born Learning" materials as a method of exposing parents & caregivers to Child Development and Early Literacy milestones.
- B. Support ongoing home visiting programs that focus on early literacy.
- C. Support collaboration (incl medical, faith, business and social service communities) that focuses on working with parents and parents-to-be during pregnancy, at time of birth and ongoing pediatrician visits to promote child development and Early Literacy

Proposed Strategies:

- A. Increase access to professional development for child care staff.
- B. Support implementation of quality measures at child care sites that demonstrate improved instruction.
- C. Collaborate with others to develop creative approaches to educate home-based child care providers about opportunities to improve their knowledge.

Proposed Strategies:

- A. Collaborate with others to develop a marketing campaign aimed at decision-makers (including Born Learning) that fosters public education.

Proposed Strategies:

- A. Support mentoring/peer support programs for parents and caregivers.
- B. Support efforts to expand computer literacy and access to technology for families.
- C. Collaborate with others to develop a marketing campaign to educate parents on the relationship between school success and success in life.

Proposed Strategies:

Support positive youth dev. programs in which developmental assets are promoted:

- A. Boys and girls are educated about life options, including the value of postponing parenthood.
- B. Youth are encouraged to excel and continue in their education.

Support specific Bridge to Success community youth plan efforts that focus on:

- C. Intentional relationship building between adults and children.
- D. Enhancing the degree to which both boys and girls feel valued by and have an active role in the community.
- E. Adults and youth working with others to develop strategies that improve safety.

Support positive youth dev. programs in which:

- F. Children are encouraged to be physically active.

Increasing financial stability through employment opportunities
Vision: All Greater Waterbury residents have adequate economic self-sufficiency for themselves and their family.

Outcomes for People #B: Experienced workers whose skills are no longer in demand have expanded training and employment opportunities

Outcomes for People #C: Under-employed and unemployed youth and adults (including those who do not speak English) have expanded entry level employment opportunities that may lead to self-sufficiency.

Outcomes for People #D: Underemployed and unemployed youth and adults have opportunities to increase their income, build savings, and become financially stable.

Community Change #1:
 Greater Waterbury has a coordinated system in place that links displaced experienced workers to transitional career counseling and training.

Community Change #2:
 Greater Waterbury has a coordinated system that provides a variety of supports needed to obtain and retain new jobs.

Community Change #1:
 Greater Waterbury has a system in place that provides outreach and career counseling, education, and training to youth and adults necessary to pursue viable careers.

Community Change #2:
 Greater Waterbury has a coordinated system of providers that focus on job readiness and life skill for youth and adults.

Community Change #3:
 Underemployed and unemployed youth and adults get hired and retain jobs.

Community Change #1:
 Greater Waterbury has income supports in place for working households that foster economic security.

- Proposed Strategies:**
- A. Fund career counseling/ training programs.
 - B. Adapt 2-1-1 Navigator to enable people to determine which career counseling/ training programs they can access and how quickly they can be accessed.
 - C. Encourage common criteria, approaches and coordination among existing career counseling/training programs to increase ease of access
 - D. Support expanded public funding of career counseling/training programs.
 - E. Publicize or support efforts to publicize the existence, value and ease of access to career counseling/training programs through creative marketing strategies.
 - F. Educate small employers about availability of career counseling, reemployment & training programs and encourage employers to share this information with impacted employees.

- Proposed Strategies:**
- A. Encourage economic development plans to address the lack of timely, affordable transportation to job sites.
 - B. Identify and support programs that assist people in overcoming barriers to employment and training; transportation and child care.
 - C. Support programs that assist people in addressing personal history issues related to employment (particularly age, disability, credit or criminal background, homelessness).
 - D. Encourage employers to consider hiring and retaining people with personal history issues (particularly age, disability, credit or criminal background, homelessness).

- Proposed Strategies:**
- A. Support programs that help youth and/or adults identify realistic career options and understand the education/ training necessary to pursue specific options (examples might include mentoring or shadowing programs).
 - B. Support programs that expand English language skills (ESL).
 - C. Support programs that provide assessment and training services for adults with limited cognitive/ intellectual/literacy abilities, and limited work history.
 - D. Support programs that help youth & adults have the resources to access education & training.
 - E. Support greater coordination between programs that help youth and/or adults understand career options and the education/training necessary to pursue those options.
 - F. Support efforts to educate youth and adults about the value and accessibility of community college.
 - G. Promote career ladders.

- Proposed Strategies:**
- A. Support programs that help youth and/or adults identify employer expectations and assist them in developing the skills necessary to match those expectations.
 - B. Assist public and private agencies in sharing information about job readiness skills necessary for successful employment.
 - C. Publicize or support efforts to publicize the existence, value and ease of access to programs that assist in developing job readiness skills through creative marketing strategies.
 - D. Educate or support efforts to educate employers about existing programs to help employees improve job readiness skills.
 - E. Support programs that help employers to assist employees with newly acquired job readiness skills to maintain and expand those skills.
 - F. Identify and support programs that assist people in overcoming barriers to employment and training; transportation and child care.
 - G. Support efforts to expand public funding for programs that provide sufficiently specific instruction to assist people to develop job readiness skills.

- Proposed Strategies:**
- A. Support programs that link people who have skills and readiness with specific actual jobs.
 - B. Support efforts to expand public funding for programs that link people who have skills and readiness with specific actual jobs.
 - C. To maximize effectiveness of existing resources, encourage coordination between public and private programs that link people who have skills and readiness with specific actual jobs.
 - D. Encourage expansion of existing programs to unconventional hours so that employed people can access those programs.
 - E. Publicize or support efforts to publicize the existence of career advancement programs through creative marketing strategies.
 - F. Educate small employers about availability of career advancement programs and encourage employers to share this information with employees.
 - G. Implement job retention strategies.

- Proposed Strategies:**
- A. Support programs and practices that increase household income.
 - B. Support approaches that include financial literacy.
 - C. Support savings programs to encourage financial stability with a focus on emergency savings.