

**UNITED
IS THE
WAY™**

**2026
COMMUNITY
IMPACT**



Fremont Area
UNITED WAY

INTRODUCTION

Together, we can advance **HEALTHY COMMUNITY**, **YOUTH OPPORTUNITY**, **FINANCIAL SECURITY** and strengthen overall **COMMUNITY RESILIENCY** to build a future where everyone can reach their full potential.

Fremont Area United Way works collaboratively to make lasting change in the community. Funding decisions are made utilizing the concepts of collective impact and looking toward outcomes more than simply outputs. Fremont Area United Way strives to improve quality of life for generations through valuing prevention work and results focused data. Fremont Area United Way continuously considers our donors expectations when evaluating funding requests and decisions. You will find in this document:

Decision Tool

Fremont Area United Way's four areas of impact:

HEALTHY COMMUNITY, YOUTH OPPORTUNITY, FINANCIAL SECURITY and COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

Glossary

Contact Information

There is much work to be done in Dodge and Washington counties. We hope you will consider joining the fight with us to improve our community because change doesn't happen alone.

LEADING THE WAY



DECISION TOOL

Is Fremont Area United Way funding right for you?

This tool will be particularly helpful for organizations that do not currently receive funding from FAUW. Before you apply for funding for the 2026 funding cycle, consider your answers to these questions:

- Does your program align with the Impact Areas, Goals, and Measures outlined in this document?
- Can your program measure one or more of the Outcomes/Outputs listed in the applicable impact area?
- Does your program have a measurement tool that can be administered on a regular and consistent basis, or are you willing to implement one prior to the start of the funding cycle?
- Can your program track the categories of demographics outlined in this document (age, gender, ethnicity, ZIP Code of residence)?
- Is your organization willing and able to provide complete quarterly reports in a timely manner?
- You are an organization or a nonprofit with a 501(c)(3) status that serves Dodge and/or Washington County?

If you answer NO to ANY of these questions or if you are unsure of your answer, you are encouraged to contact the Fremont Area United Way for clarification and guidance. Contact information is provided at the end of this document.

LEADING THE WAY



YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

Helping young people realize their full potential

Ensuring that children and youth are ready for kindergarten, have success in school and graduate high school ready for college and career. This impact area covers children and youth from birth to age 21

THIS INCLUDES:

- Ensuring that children 0-5 have the supports they need to promote early development, and successful transition to kindergarten
- Provide literacy supports to ensure students learn to read by the end of third grade.
- Provide learning and enrichment supports for students, especially those academically at-risk
- Engaging parents and families to ensure they have the resources, tools and information needed to support their child's development and school success
- Partnering with K-12 schools and community-based organizations to provide whole-school, wrap around supports
- Supporting youth to effectively transition to college and career
- Also includes specific efforts to close persistent gaps and disparities in educational access and outcomes

OUTPUTS

of students who participate in school and/or out-of-school programs and/or receive individual supports

of youth that receive job skills training

of children (0-5) enrolled in high quality early childhood programs

of children receiving early literacy supports before 3rd grade

of families and/or caregivers provided with information, resources, tools training, and/or teaching skills

of youth graduating from high school

OUTCOMES

% of children (0-5) served who achieve developmental milestones

% of children (K-3) served who are proficient on school readiness assessments

% of children (K-3) served reading at or above grade level
% of youth who developed soft skills (e.g. time management)

% of youth served who gain post-secondary employment, GED, further education and/or credentials

% of youth served who earn passing grades in core subject areas

% of individuals who increase knowledge of children's social, emotional, cognitive, and/or physical development

% of parents/guardians served who report an increase in their knowledge, skills, and/or ability to parent



HEALTHY COMMUNITY

Improving health and wellbeing for all

Helping individuals and their families to live healthy lives.

THIS INCLUDES:

- Ensuring access to healthcare services (physical, mental, dental, social services, etc.) and insurance to pay for them.
- Improving access to healthy, nutritious food and physical activity.
- Closing gaps and disparities in maternal health and child wellbeing.
- Increasing access to safe, healthy spaces.
- Addressing the Social Determinants of Health (e.g. employment, education, housing).

OUTPUTS

- # of individuals served participating in physical activity and/or healthy food access/nutrition programs
- # of individuals served with access to healthcare services
- # of individuals that obtained mental health support
- # of individuals who maintain the ability to live at home
- # of families with improved family well-being
- # of individuals with access to health insurance
- # of individuals served food
- # of meals provided

OUTCOMES

- % of children/adults served who adopt healthy behaviors through increased physical activity and/or consumption of nutritious food
- % of individuals served that increase their mental and/or emotional health
- % of individuals served that increase their physical health
- % of individuals served that increase their quality of life
- % of improved protective factors
- % of individuals who increased access to health supports
- % of children/adults who eat healthier, increase physical activity, move towards a healthy weight
- % of babies who experience healthy birth outcomes
- % of youth/adults who avoid risk taking behaviors (alcohol consumption, drug abuse, unprotected sexual activity)



COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

Addressing urgent needs today for a better tomorrow

Mobilizing stakeholders to help the community prepare for, withstand and recover from natural and manmade disasters, crises and challenges that no one entity can singularly accomplish

THIS INCLUDES:

- Ensuring that residents have access to resources to meet their short-term needs, including food, housing and water, immediately following disaster
- Activities that mitigate the long-term impact of disasters and help community residents rebuild
- Efforts that address the disruptive impacts of climate change and/or advance environmental sustainability, especially for populations most vulnerable and /or disproportionately impacted
- Social cohesion - efforts that increase/restore social connectedness within the community, especially those experiencing conflict, violence and disengagement
- Investing in and leveraging 211 and community-based capacity to respond

OUTPUTS

of individuals adversely impacted that received emergency assistance (medical, mortgage/rent, utilities, transportation, educational supports)

of individuals who completed training, credentialing or certification programs to prepare them for green jobs

of non-profits funded to provide short and/or long-term disaster services

of homes that are “climatized”, i.e., prepared to withstand increases in climate change and climate related weather events (fires, floods, extreme heat)

OUTCOMES

of community-based organizations that had adequate resources to meet ongoing needs and/or increased demand for services during a disaster, crisis or conflict

of individuals adversely impacted and served that regain stability (i.e., reliable transportation, permanent housing and employment)



FINANCIAL SECURITY

Creating a stronger financial future for every generation

Helping individuals achieve financial stability and access opportunities to improve their economic well being

THIS INCLUDES:

- Helping individuals and families lower costs by providing financial services, products and accessing benefits (e.g., free tax prep, public benefits, financial education)
- Helping individuals attain family-sustaining jobs that offer living wages, benefits and opportunities for advancement (e.g., continuing education, vocational training and/or career advancement)
- Help individuals and families secure safe affordable housing, reducing homelessness, providing pathways to home ownership
- Closing persistent gaps and disparities and fostering economic opportunity

OUTPUTS

- # of individuals served who receive job skills training
- # of individuals that received services related to housing
- # of individuals that accessed financial services, products and education
- # of individuals provided shelter and/or safe environment
- # of night total that shelter and/or safe environment was provided
- # of nights per person on average that shelter and/or safe environment was provided
- # of individuals who no longer need assistance due to an improved situation

OUTCOMES

- % of individuals served who gain employment
- % of individuals served who increase their wages
- % of individuals served who increase disposable income by accessing benefits and/or reducing costs
- % of individuals served who earn job-relevant licenses, certificates, and/or credentials
- % of individuals who increase their financial health through reduced debt, maintaining a budget, increased savings, increased credit score, and/or building assets
- % of individuals who demonstrate an increase in financial skills and knowledge
- % of individuals served who obtain affordable, stable housing (rental) home ownership
- % of individuals that benefited to meet basic needs such as food stamps, LIHEAP, Section 8
- % of people who were discharged to permanent housing
- % of people who maintained housing, prevented homelessness



GLOSSARY

Balance Sheet - A financial statement that summarizes a company's assets, liabilities and shareholders' equity at a specific point in time.

Collaboration - When two or more organizations give of themselves to work together in pursuit of common goals. It is a recursive process that includes sharing various kinds of resources.

Cost per unit – what it cost you to have a successful outcome, may be cost per day, per hour, per client, per home, per intervention.

Demographics - Basic characteristics of those served. FAUW asks that Funded Partners track age, gender, ethnicity, and ZIP Code of residence.

Funded Partner - A non-profit or tax-exempt organization that is approved to receive funding from FAUW through a one-year funding cycle, and enters into a Partnership Letter of Agreement to deliver agreed upon outcomes. Funded partners will be expected to submit an updated application for subsequent years.

Funding Cycle - FAUW has a one-year funding cycle. Funding begins on January 1, 2026 and runs through December 31, 2026. Throughout that year, allocations are distributed on a quarterly basis.

Impact Area - From strengthening Community Resiliency to advancing to a Healthy Community with Youth Opportunity and Financial Security, Fremont Area United Way is mobilizing the community to action so all can thrive. These impact areas are a critical component of United Way Worldwide's new brand strategy.

Impact Committee - A committee of the FAUW Board of Directors, Donors, and Community Members that will volunteer to complete the initial grant review and review the quarterly progress reports that is advancing the common good. The Impact Committee will recommend funding allocations to Fremont Area United Way Board of Directors for final approval.

Income Statement - Also referred to as a Profit and Loss Statement. It shows the organization's revenues and expenses during a particular period of time.

Measurement/Evaluation Tool - The mechanism used to track outcomes. Funded Partners may use their own tools, or may seek guidance from FAUW on potential tools to use.

Outcomes - The measurable change that takes place in the lives of the people served. Such changes include , knowledge, skill, and behavior. The outcome is the result of the change due to the Funded Partner's successful program.

Outputs - The number of units of service provided (i.e., the number of people served).

Partnership Letter of Agreement - The contract that FAUW enters into with each Funded Partner. The PLOA outlines the responsibilities and requirements that are expected of both FAUW and the Funded Partner.

Program Budget Report - When applying for funding, each organization must provide a proposed annual program budget. When a Funded Partner completes the quarterly progress report, they must report on the actual income and expenses, as compared to the program budget submitted January 1, 2026. At that point, the report is also referred to as the Actual Income and Expenses Report.

Quarterly Progress Reports - Funded Partners will provide progress reports quarterly. These reports include updates on outputs, outcomes, actual income/expenses, and success stories. Supplemental materials may also be requested including copies of marketing materials and other organizational documents.

Suggested Program Strategies - These are methods of service delivery that are considered to be best practices for the types of outcomes listed in this document. Suggested program strategies are just that - suggestions. The lists are not exhaustive, and FAUW will consider funding requests from program methodologies that are not listed.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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