STRONGER NEIGHBORHOODS
FOR A STRONGER CHICAGO REGION.
United Way of Metro Chicago
This is our city. As Chicagoans, we have a great love for our neighborhoods. There is plenty to celebrate, but the zip code you live in can have a significant impact on your access to opportunities. By tackling issues—neighborhood by neighborhood—we can stabilize our community and improve the quality of life for our neighbors across the entire region.
THE POWER OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK

In 2013, United Way of Metro Chicago combined proven cross-sector strategies and years of expertise with community-led initiatives to strengthen the Chicago region’s most challenged neighborhoods. We call it the Neighborhood Network.

United Way implemented this initiative in 10 communities across the Chicago region. We work alongside neighborhood leaders to set bold goals that tackle community-identified problems and improve the quality of life in these neighborhoods.

ABOUT OUR PARTNERS AND OUR WORK

United Way of Metro Chicago sits at the intersection of economic development and human services. In each Neighborhood Network, we’re delivering funding, resources and knowledge to bring community-driven goals to life.

- Work in partnership with community leaders
- Provide long-term funding for sustainable solutions
- Provide best practice training, capacity building, leadership development and networking for community leaders
- Enable access to corporate resources (in-kind, technical assistance, volunteers)
- Bring a region-wide, community-wide lens to inform planning and actions
- Work with coalitions to develop bold goals and action plans
- Coordinate and participate in community meetings
- Create shared planning and measurement platforms
United Way works in ten neighborhoods, six city and four suburban, and each neighborhood network has a bold goal.

**WEST CHICAGO**
**BOLD GOAL**
By 2025, 90% of K-8 students will meet projected improvements in reading and math and the obesity rate among youth will decrease by 6%.

**AUSTIN**
**BOLD GOAL**
Ensure 3,900 children have access to quality early learning programs by 2025. Lift 2,775 families with young children out of poverty by 2025.

**LITTLE VILLAGE**
**BOLD GOAL**
Increase the percentage of healthy weight children from 51% to 60% by 2020.

**CICERO**
**BOLD GOAL**
By 2027, 10,000 Cicero children will successfully meet developmental and academic benchmarks.

**EVANSTON**
**BOLD GOAL**
Increase overall kindergarten readiness from 54% to 85% by 2025 while significantly increasing parity for African American and Latino children.

**BRIGHTON PARK**
**BOLD GOAL**
Increase high school graduation rate from 78% to 90% at Kelly High School.

**BRONZEVILLE**
**BOLD GOAL**
Connect 5,000 greater Bronzeville residents ages 16-55 with household sustaining jobs by 2027.

**BLUE ISLAND/ROBBINS**
**BOLD GOAL**
Reduce food insecurity for 15% of families served by the Blue Island-Robbins Neighborhood Network by 2027.

**SOUTH CHICAGO**
**BOLD GOAL**
Reduce trauma-related crimes involving youth by 5% by 2027.

**AUBURN GRESHAM**
**BOLD GOAL**
80% of 3rd grade students read at or above grade level by 2027.