

Basic Needs Investment Strategies 2012

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UWSEM is supporting result-oriented projects, programs and services that are delivered to individuals and families using an approach that provides access to basic resources, assistance navigating the safety net to access additional resources, and the support to move out of the safety net and become self-sufficient and financially stable. In addition to aligning our work in Financial Stability and Basic Needs UWSEM is also examining how to leverage our investments in order to create the largest impact. By selecting communities where UWSEM has already begun to support and engage agencies, we can further the impact of our investments. In all strategies, priority will be given to organizations in communities with established UWSEM initiatives (where there is a Target High School, Early Learning Community, or Center for Working Families).

GOALS

- Household income is sufficient and well managed.
- Family has safe, adequate and affordable housing.
- The household can choose to purchase the food their family needs.
- The household has a way to provide for all basic needs of healthy daily living.
- Family has the mindset that you can make the future better than the past.

FOCUS

Create an investment process that is:

- Providing client centered approaches to service provision.
- Removing barriers to access and navigation of services.
- Integrating services to solve for the crisis and put individuals on a path towards self-sufficiency.
- Fueled by the creation of networks to meet a variety of needs for the community.
- Outcome driven, with specific metrics tied to the self-sufficiency matrix.
- Focused on sustainability and leverages existing resources

Strategies	Key Deliverables
<p><u>NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORKS</u> Invest in pilot projects to create networks to better serve individuals and families through formal collaboration, information and data sharing, barrier removal and integrated services. Initial investments will focus on neighborhoods served by target high schools.</p> <p>Neighborhood Networks will be comprised of a variety of partners, with a designated lead organization.</p> <p>The purpose of the Neighborhood Network is to maximize the assets, capacity and impact throughout neighborhoods to move individuals and families from crisis to self-sufficiency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate how the network has been effective in collectively moving clients through the service provider network through an integrated services model. • Increase the number of individuals and families served that have moved along the continuum from crisis to self-sufficiency. <p>*Meetings will be held in late January and Early February to begin the process of selecting network collaborators, lead agencies, and to establish the form of the networks.</p>
<p><u>REGIONAL ALLIANCES</u> Invest in existing or new regional networks that address evidence based systems change across the region. Regional Networks should have a focus on improving the social safety net.</p>	<p>In addition to the deliverables listed above for Neighborhood Networks, Regional Networks will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate how the regional network is improving the safety net. • Address systems change across the region. • Increase efficiencies. • Demonstrate client movement towards self-sufficiency on the matrix as a result of the systems change.

<p><u>BRIDGING THE GAP</u> Investments in a variety of basic needs supports throughout the region to partners who are providing essential services for families in crisis and can demonstrate how they are moving individuals and families to self-sufficiency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of individuals and families accessing benefits (public and private) and services. • Increase the number of individuals and families served that have moved along the continuum from crisis to self-sufficiency. • Demonstration of a strong network of relationships and linkages in community to ensure children and families are getting access to services that are moving people to self-sufficiency.
<p><u>FOOD BEST PRACTICES</u> Investments in the following best practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration and expansion of food distribution. • Accessing food related benefits. • Supporting child nutrition programs such as school meal programs, after school feeding programs and summer feeding sites. • Creating “Super Sites” which provide meals year round, where communities know they can always access food. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate supporting the goal of reducing child hunger by 50%. • Number of individuals served. • Number of meals provided. • Systems change to remove barriers to food access.
<p><u>INNOVATION</u> Investments will focus on innovative practices as a result of the safety net study conducted in 2010.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Independence Initiative • Expansion of Michigan Benefits Access Initiative • Implementing the Collective Impact approach to change

¹ Targeted High Schools include: Hamtramck High School, Pontiac High School, Central High School, River Rouge High School, Melvindale High School, Lincoln High School, Osborn High School, Harper Woods High School, East Detroit High School, Madison Heights High School, Henry Ford High School, and Cody High School.