

Focus Area Needed Improvements



United Way of Asheville
and Buncombe County

Education Focus Area: We envision an engaged community where each child develops and succeeds academically, socially, and emotionally.

BARRIER #1: Many children are not prepared to enter kindergarten.

- A** Increase high quality, affordable early care and education opportunities for children from birth to kindergarten (*tier 1 priority*)
 - *Increase = increasing, maintaining or preventing a reduction in high quality, affordable early care and education opportunities*
 - *High quality = 4 or 5-starred facilities*
 - *Affordable = financial assistance, scholarship, use of subsidy*
 - *High quality child care programs demonstrate that children are moving through the developmental stages and/or are kindergarten-ready*
- B** Enhance families' and caregivers' ability to support the development of children from birth to kindergarten (*tier 1 priority*)
 - *Families and caregivers have increased knowledge and skills*
 - *Families and caregivers demonstrate knowledge and apply skills*
- C** Enhance the community's capacity to identify and address children's developmental vulnerabilities (*tier 2 priority*)

BARRIER #2: Many children do not move successfully from kindergarten through high school graduation.

- D** Strengthen the social and basic life skills that youth need for success (*tier 1 priority*)
- E** Increase the involvement of families, caregivers and the community in the academic success of all children (*tier 1 priority*)
 - *Academic success = improved attendance, improved grades, improved behavior, satisfactory EOG scores and/or promotion to the next grade/graduation*
- F** Increase basic academic skills of children performing below grade level (*tier 1 priority*)

BARRIER #3: The diverse educational needs of children and youth are not met.

- H** Increase diverse educational options for all learners (*tier 1 priority*)

Income Focus Area: We envision a thriving community working together, fulfilling basic needs, and building economic self-sufficiency for all.

BARRIER #1: Many people can not meet their basic needs.

- J** Increase availability and use of public and private services that provide basic needs assistance for people in crisis or with ongoing needs (*tier 1 priority*)
 - *Increase availability = increasing, maintaining or preventing a reduction in the availability and use of basic needs assistance*
 - *Basic needs = food & groceries, utilities, housing, clothing, and/or transportation*

BARRIER #2: Many people do not have living wage jobs.

- K** Increase the vocational, language and literacy skills of individuals (*tier 1 priority*)
 - *Literacy skills = reading, writing, computation, technology, and English-language*
- L** Increase the number of workers who earn a living wage (*tier 1 priority*)
 - *Increase = increasing, maintaining or preventing a reduction in the number of workers who earn a living wage*

- *Living wage = at minimum, what a single individual needs to make to meet basic needs without public or private assistance. The living wage in Buncombe County in 2010 is \$11.35/hour without employer-provided health insurance, or \$9.85/hour with employer-provided health insurance.*

BARRIER #3: Many people are not financially stable.

- M** Increase the capacity of individuals to move out of financial crisis (*tier 2 priority*)
 - *Financial crisis = loss of ability or imminent risk of losing ability to meet basic needs*
- N** Increase individuals' skills needed to manage financial resources and build stability (*tier 1 priority*)

BARRIER #4: Many people live in substandard or unaffordable housing.

- P** Maintain existing and increase affordable and safe housing stock for low-income households (*tier 1 priority*)

Health Focus Area: We envision a safe community where everyone has the knowledge, resources, access and opportunities to be healthy.

BARRIER #1: Not all people, homes and communities are safe.

- R** Increase the power of individuals and the community to prevent violence and abuse (*tier 1 priority*)
 - *Examples of power include but are not limited to ability, access to and use of resources, knowledge &/or skills*
- S** Increase the likelihood of recovery for anyone experiencing trauma from violence or abuse (*tier 1 priority*)

BARRIER #2: Many people do not have quality support for preventive health and wellness.

- U** Increase awareness of and opportunities for wellness, prevention, and early detection (*tier 1 priority*)
- V** Increase physical activity and healthy eating for children, families, and those at risk of poor health (*tier 1 priority*)
- W** Increase supportive networks for seniors and people with disabilities (*tier 1 priority*)
 - *Networks = formal and informal connections among and between individuals and/or organizations that serve these clientele*

BARRIER #3: Many people do not have quality primary and behavioral health care.

- X** Increase community support options to keep people as independent as possible (*tier 1 priority*)
 - *Increase = increasing, maintaining or preventing a reduction in community support options*
- Z** Increase access to quality primary, behavioral, and dental healthcare regardless of ability to pay (*tier 1 priority*)
 - *Increase = increasing, maintaining or preventing a reduction in access to quality primary, behavioral, and dental healthcare*

Please note

- Programs not currently funded by United Way must propose results that align with a tier 1 priority.
- The proposed results of currently funded programs may align with a tier 1 or tier 2 priority.
- The letters omitted in the A-Z listing above are not referenced because the needed improvements that the omitted letters represent are not eligible for funding in 2011.