

# Graduation Impact Council



United Way  
of the Wabash Valley

The Graduation Impact Council is a multi-sector volunteer committee of nonprofit, government, education, and business leaders who are preferably issue experts in and/or are passionate about children's success in school through graduation. The council is a subcommittee of the full United Way of the Wabash Valley Community Impact Committee (CIC).

## All UWWV Impact Councils will work towards the overall **BOLD GOAL**

**Move 10,000 families out of financial struggles and into stability!**

### Objective

Works and invests to bring successful results to the agreed-upon specific outcome targets in support of the overall UWWV community goal.

### Structure

The council membership shall be 15-20 persons (including a chair and co-chair seated on the CIC), working through two distinct teams. A development team shall include individuals either working in or with children in school, but should also include passionate and engaged community members from business, government, nonprofits, or related coalitions. The resource team shall oversee the financial investments requested by the development team. Representation should include multiple counties within the United Way service area, and all council members must be financial supporters of UWWV.



## Investment Guidelines

Based on their knowledge, members of the impact councils recommend and monitor the investment of resources in efforts that align with the objectives. The impact council will be granted funding from the CIC for investment in community initiatives, programs and/or impact products. One (1) standard and two (2) optional investment strategies are available to all impact councils:



**Collective Impact Grant Funding** – Standardized multi-year open grant process conducted via evaluation teams and based upon “Requests for Proposals” (RFPs) as developed by the impact council.



**Alternative Investment Opportunities** - Impact growth opportunities such as matching funds for a potential larger federal or specialty grant opportunity.



**Develop Collaborative Impact Products** - may brainstorm and propose “impact products” (a community program or initiative) and seek collaborative partners to further develop and operate or execute the product with provided funding.

## Framework Strategies from "Stronger United Plan"

Poverty consistently correlates with a lack of education and can be a strong barrier to academic achievement. With 1 in 5 children in the Wabash Valley living in poverty, we want to help close the achievement gap to assist more children and families to succeed in school. We believe that by supporting the entire continuum of education including youth educational success and post-secondary planning and preparation, we can help break the cycle of poverty.

## Objective: Increase Children Performing Academically At or Above Grade Level

### Strategies:

- Strengthen student support through parents, tutors, mentors
- Build out-of-school enrichment opportunities for students/parents
- Build college- and career- readiness skills for middle & high school students; soft/employable skills development
- Increased focus on transitions to middle school / high school
- Support post-secondary financial planning and preparation

### Proposed Measurements:

- Academic measuring statistics
- Post-secondary enrollment stats

