

Neighborhoods Impact Council



United Way
of the Wabash Valley

The Neighborhoods 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 community building and supporting strong neighborhoods. 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 who are passionate about community building, but should also include 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"

Improving the look of our community was identified as an area of need throughout our community conversations. Our neighbors feel a general sense of apathy, due in large part to the aesthetics of some of our neighborhoods, and this leads to worries about crime. We also heard that there was a lack of unity in our community and improving the overall morale was a concern.

Objective: Reduce crime and drugs while addressing blight

Strategies:

- Build neighborhood associations and investment projects
- Support neighborhood coalitions to address blight
- Focused volunteer engagement supporting neighborhood clean-up and rebuilding
- Focus on public safety through neighborhood strength – “watch programs” to improve monitoring/reduction of drug issue

Proposed Measurements:

- Crime and drug related offences
- Project investments
- Association membership