

The Success By 6® Impact Council is a United Way of the Wabash Valley initiative designed to provide every child with the opportunity to develop basic reading skills so that they may enter kindergarten ready to learn. We believe that by providing and supporting innovative program and initiatives to improve early childhood education, we can break the cycle of generational poverty and bring more households to financial stability.

# United Way SUCCESS BY 6 SUCCESS BY 6 IMPACT COUNCIL STRATEGY GUIDE

The Success By 6 Impact Council aligns its efforts with the UWWV Strategic Plan and the bold community goal to **move 10,000 families out of financial struggles and into stability!** 

# Success By 6 Vision:

Across all sectors, our community supports and invests in high-quality early childhood education.

#### Success By 6 Mission:

Promoting healthy early childhood development to ensure children enter school ready to succeed.

# We Believe That:

- Early childhood education is an economic issue that affects our future economy, workforce and job opportunities.
- Early childhood development programs initiate cognitive and character skills, preparing children for success in kindergarten and overall achievement in school and life

#### **Measurements**

The Success By 6 Impact Council will work with all local school corporations to develop and implement a community-wide annual assessment of Kindergarten Readiness based on state standards local expertise.

**Kindergarten Readiness**: This annual community-wide assessment will be the basis of measurement for the success of council programs and initiatives.

Additional indicators to be tracked and reported will include:

- ECE Enrollment Statistics: PTQ Level 3 & 4 capacity, enrollment and retention.
- ECE Community Engagement: Number of business, civic government leaders actively serving on the council and subcommittees.
- ECE Media Attention: The council will develop a means to quantify positive media attention that is not initiated by the council.

#### <u>Objective</u>: With each annual assessment, community-wide "Kindergarten Readiness" score and % of students who are kindergarten-ready will improve. A long-term goal for % of children "kindergarten-ready" will be established after multiple years of assessment.

## Strategy A: Increase high quality childcare programs and access to them

#### Tactics:

- Explore, develop and invest in "Request for Proposal" RFP grant opportunities for the community to improve access and cost of ECE
- Seek outside funding sources for local investments to address ECE access and cost

### Strategy B: Support coordination between ECE and school settings

Tactics:

- Facilitate dialogue to further collaboration among ECE professionals
- Investigate methods and initiatives to help schools partner with and mentor preschools in their neighborhood/jurisdiction

#### **<u>Strategy C</u>:** Parent and volunteer engagement in literacy acquisition

#### Tactics:

 Develop and invest in programs to teach how to model reading and other developmentally appropriate practices through use of parents/mentors

# <u>Strategy D</u>: Engage in public policy and advocacy related to ECE, poverty and community economic prosperity

#### Tactics:

- Define, recruit and train "ECE Champions" -- especially from among non-traditional audiences
- Invite key stakeholders (including media) to be part of subcommittees and Resource Team work focused on ECE initiatives
- Incorporate ECE talking points into UWWV communications plans as appropriate
- Evaluate and implement educational symposiums or community conversations