



UNITED WAY
Washington County

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS 2026

United Way strategically invests every dollar raised in local programs and initiatives to reduce barriers, strengthen families, and help everyone thrive.

MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: Fills critical gaps in mental health services for youth and families with low-cost or free individual, group and family counseling. Open to all faiths, cultures and backgrounds.

KETTLE MORaine YMCA: Builds resilient communities through preventative mental health education for preteens, and social-emotional learning for school-age children.

YOUTH & FAMILY PROJECT, INC: Delivers onsite mental health counseling for school-aged youth, helping them build wellness and coping skills.

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Mails a free, age-appropriate book every month to registered Washington County children under age five.

211 HELPLINE

Connects local residents with thousands of local programs and services for food, housing, and more with the help of trained specialists who are available 24/7.

AMERICAN RED CROSS OF SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN

DISASTER SERVICES: Delivers essentials to families who've lost everything in a home fire, keeps the community blood supply strong, and trains residents in life-saving CPR and First Aid.

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

MATCHING AND MENTORING: Builds meaningful, carefully monitored friendships between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles") that help kids thrive.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM: Sets kids up to succeed in school with dedicated daily academic time and summer programming that keeps skills sharp year-round.

STEAM: Sparks curiosity through hands-on science, technology, engineering, arts, and math activities to build skills and open kids' eyes to future STEAM careers.

CASA GUADALUPE MULTICULTURAL CENTER

BILINGUAL/BICULTURAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: English classes in partnership with Moraine Park Technical College help adults communicate more confidently, while computer and employability skills training give bicultural adults the tools to unlock better job and pay opportunities.

DREAM TO SUCCEED: Guides multicultural middle and high schoolers toward being college-, career-, and life-ready.

HEALTHY FAMILIES, HEALTHY FUTURE: Guides multicultural middle and high schoolers toward being college-, career-, and life-ready.

EASTER SEALS SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN

INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENT AND SUPPORT: Helps individuals with mental health and/or substance use disorders find meaningful, sustainable employment with a focus on competitive jobs that pay at least minimum wage.

ELEVATE

ATODA PREVENTION: Uses evidence-based strategies to reduce youth substance use by building knowledge, life skills, and positive peer support.

TREATMENT & DIVERSION: Helps individuals with a substance use disorder develop a sober, healthy lifestyle through community-based interventions, and supports their families in the recovery journey.

FAMILY PROMISE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

HOMELESS SERVICES: Provides food, shelter, and a path to financial stability for unhoused individuals and families, tackling unemployment, financial illiteracy, and homelessness together.

FORWARD CAREERS

INDEPENDENT LIVING: Equips young adults aging out of foster care with the life skills they need for a successful, independent transition to adulthood.

FRIENDS, INC.

SAFE HOUSING SERVICES: Offers up to 12 months of emergency housing and support to individuals and families experiencing domestic or sexual violence. Staff and clients build action plans that lead to lasting, independent housing.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAM: Teaches students to recognize the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships and understand sexual assault, harassment, and misconduct, including abuse perpetuated through the use of technology.

FULL SHELF FOOD PANTRY

FOOD DISTRIBUTION: Serves low-income Washington County resident with monthly food pickups, plus weekly access to bread, milk, and fresh produce.

INTERFAITH CAREGIVERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

HEALTHY AGING IN PLACE: Pairs seniors with caring volunteers so they can safely and independently age in place, while accessing healthcare, food, wellness, and companionship.

H.E.L.P. CORNER: A community partnership that lends durable medical equipment to residents who need it.

KETTLE MORAINÉ YMCA

DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM: A small-group program that helps people with prediabetes eat healthier, get active, and lose weight to delay or prevent type 2 diabetes.

LAKESHORE REGIONAL CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

FORENSIC INTERVIEWS: Provides forensic interviews and support for children and vulnerable adults who've witnessed or experienced a crime, in a safe, family-friendly and neutral setting.

NAMI OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MENTAL HEALTH: Support groups, education, and art therapy build mental health resiliency and reduce stigma so young people can thrive.

NOBLE COMMUNITY CLINICS

CONTINUITY OF CARE: Delivers free healthcare to qualifying, uninsured Washington County residents, treating chronic and acute conditions and coordinating specialty and behavioral health care.

RIDES & REINS

THERAPEUTIC HORSEBACK RIDING: Uses equine therapy to serve the physical and emotional needs of children with disabilities.

SENIOR CITIZENS ACTIVITIES CENTER

SENIOR ACTIVITIES FOR BETTER HEALTH & WELLNESS: Keeps seniors confident and independent with exercises that build strength, balance, coordination, and mobility.

THE THRESHOLD, INC.

BIRTH TO 3: Helps children under three who are experiencing developmental delays build critical skills, and transitions families smoothly to next-step services.

PROJECT SEARCH: A one-year transition program helping students and adults with disabilities ages 18-21 move into competitive, community employment through classroom learning and hands-on internships.

YOUTH & FAMILY PROJECT

CROSSROADS YOUTH PROGRAM: Partners mental health counselors with school-aged youth to provide free, short-term counseling, strengthen supportive connections with trusted adults and peers, and help youth build healthy coping skills.