STRONGER NEIGHBORHOODS
FOR A STRONGER CHICAGO REGION

United Way of Metro Chicago
This is our city. As Chicagoans, we have a great love for our neighborhoods. There is plenty to celebrate, but there are also serious issues impacting our region and they’re easy to ignore when you don’t face them daily. By tackling issues—neighborhood by neighborhood—we can stabilize our communities and improve the quality of life for the entire region.
THE POWER OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK

In 2013, United Way of Metro Chicago identified an approach that would allow us to take our best thinking, proven strategies and experts into the Chicago region’s most challenged neighborhoods. We call it the Neighborhood Network.

United Way implemented this initiative in 10 communities across the Chicago region. We work with these neighborhoods to set bold goals that solve community-identified problems and improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods.

ABOUT OUR PARTNERS AND OUR WORK

In each United Way Neighborhood Network community, United Way of Metro Chicago serves a critical role as the backbone organization, convening a cross sector of coalition partners.

- Coordinate and participate in community meetings
- Work with coalitions to develop bold goals and action plans
- Create shared planning and measurement platforms
- Bring a region-wide, community-wide lens to inform planning and actions
- Work in partnership with community leaders
- Provide best practice training, capacity building, leadership development and networking for community leaders
- Enable access to corporate resources (in-kind, technical assistance, volunteers)
- Provide long-term sustainable funding
NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK
BOLD GOALS

United Way works in ten neighborhoods, six city and four suburban.

WEST CHICAGO
BOLD GOAL
By 2025, 90% of K-8 students will meet projected improvements in reading and math and the obesity rate among youth will decrease by 6%.

AUSTIN
BOLD GOAL
Ensure 3,900 children have access to quality early learning programs by 2025. Lift 2,775 families with young children out of poverty by 2025.

BRIGHTON PARK
BOLD GOAL
Increase high school graduation rate from 78% to 90% at Kelly High School.

EVANSTON
BOLD GOAL
Increase overall kindergarten readiness from 54% to 85% by 2025 while significantly increasing parity for African American and Latino children.

BRONZEVILLE
BOLD GOAL
Connect 5,000 greater Bronzeville residents ages 16-55 with household sustaining jobs by 2027.

LITTLE VILLAGE
BOLD GOAL
Increase the percentage of healthy weight children from 51% to 60% by 2020.

AUBURN GRESHAM
BOLD GOAL
80% of 3rd grade students read at or above grade level by 2027.

CICERO
BOLD GOAL
By 2027, 10,000 Cicero children will successfully meet developmental and academic benchmarks.

BROOKLYN/ROBBINS
BOLD GOAL
Reduce food insecurity for 15% of families served by the Blue Island-Robbins Neighborhood Network by 2027.

SOUTH CHICAGO
BOLD GOAL
Reduce trauma-related crimes involving youth by 5% by 2027.