

# UNLEASHING THE POTENTIAL OF GREATER CHICAGO...NEIGHBORHOOD BY NEIGHBORHOOD

LIVE UNITED®

## Julissa's Story



Every parent wants their child to grow up to be happy and healthy. That's why when Juan and Isabella noticed that their 14 month old daughter Julissa wasn't crawling or saying simple words, they went to the **Children's Center of Cicero-Berwyn (CCCB)**, an agency partner of United Way of Metro Chicago, for help. The team at CCCB screened Julissa and confirmed that she had development delays, particularly with speech and motor skills.

In addition to beginning weekly at-home speech therapy through an Early Intervention Agency, Juan and Julissa began regularly attending the Toddler Yoga and Play with Purposes classes at CCCB. Through the classes, Julissa quickly learned how to crawl, and soon was walking using the walking ladders available at the center. Juan was amazed at the progress Julissa was making and realized that he had unintentionally been hindering his daughter's development by limiting her activities. CCCB provided Juan and his wife, Isabella, with the tools and strategies he needed to facilitate activities at home to continue Julissa's growth.

The whole family started attending the center's weekly family night events, where they were able to form connections with other families in their community. CCCB also connected them with additional resources, such as eye and dental care, ESL classes, SNAP and utility support.

Julissa has reached all of her developmental milestones and is on track to attend pre-school. Additionally, the rest of the family was able to gain access to resources and support that they needed to live healthier lives.



United Way  
of Metro Chicago

United Way of Metro Chicago partners with best-in-class agencies and empowers them to work together—improving household outcomes and helping neighborhoods thrive.

Join the fight for a stronger Chicago region at [LIVEUNITEDchicago.org](https://LIVEUNITEDchicago.org)