



Children's Service Society of WI – Children's Hospital of WI

Building Families

Children's Service Society of WI-Children's Hospital of WI provides the voluntary home visiting Building Families program. This program focuses on the premise that offering parent education, activities, and support, beginning with the birth of the first child, will empower families and dramatically reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect among those individuals identified at risk. The goal of the program is to support children in their social, emotional, and physical health to assure they enter school healthful and ready to learn. Funding provided through United Way's Successful Children's Network supports these services and allows for home visiting services to families throughout Eau Claire and Chippewa counties.

Eau Claire City-County Health Department

Nurse Family Partnership

Western Wisconsin Nurse Family Partnership Consortium is an evidence-based home visiting program that targets first-time pregnant mothers and their children. Through a strong nurse-client relationship and training in best practices, nurses teach positive health-related behaviors including care of children, family planning, educational achievement, and participation in the workforce. Home visits occur during pregnancy and the first two years of the child's life. They support the health and physical well-being of mothers and children through support of smoking and alcohol cessation, healthy eating habits, breastfeeding, and child developmental screening. Through support from United Way's Successful Children's Network, the Chippewa County Department of Public Health and the Eau Claire City-County Health Department jointly implement this program in both Chippewa and Eau Claire counties.

Marshfield Clinic

Reach Out and Read

Through Marshfield Clinic and support from United Way, Reach Out and Read (ROR) is a national, evidence-based, non-profit organization that partners with medical providers to develop critical early reading skills in children. ROR utilizes the regular "well-child" visit to integrate its program activities. This comprehensive program reaches children at regular and developmentally significant milestones throughout a child's first 5 years. Pediatricians and nurse practitioners counsel parents on the importance of brain development and early literacy, teaching strategies and skills needed to read to their child, and provide a new developmentally appropriate book at each visit. United Way through the Successful Children's Network, provides funding for 5,900 of the 8,100 books needed for the program each year. There are currently four Marshfield Clinic ROR sites in the Chippewa Valley, including Bloomer, Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire, and Oakwood Center. Three other sites are in the process of pursuing ROR site affiliation (Lake Hallie, Cadott, Cornell).

Western Dairyland Economic Opportunity Council

Head Start Oral Health

It has been recognized that oral health problems have a direct impact on school-readiness and success throughout school. Head Start Dental Health Program provides children enrolled in Head Start with preventative oral health care. United Way's Successful Children's Network provides funding to support the Dental Health Program, which provides each child at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines, three dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications each year. The hygienist also works with the children to teach them good oral care habits and the importance of oral hygiene and works with the child's family if it is determined that dental treatment is needed. The Head Start hygienist collaborates with the Eau Claire County public health nurses to provide oral health education to their WIC clients and with Literacy Volunteers to provide translation services.

Family Resource Center

Education and Support and Rural Play and Learn Playgroups

Through support from United Way's Successful Children's Network, the Family Resource Center (FRC) Child Development Education and Support program provides a cohesive package of services to deliver information, support and skills parents need to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life. FRC staff visit new parents in the hospital to share community resources, connect them to services, and assess risk and protective factors. These families may then receive follow-up visits in their home using the Parents as Teachers Curriculum to promote parental resilience, knowledge of parenting and child development, and social-emotional competence of children. Group meetings are held on-site at the Family Resource Center to promote additional learning and playgroup opportunities as well as parent education and parent-to-parent mentorship.

Rural Play and Learn Playgroups

Through funding provided by United Way's Successful Children's Network, Rural Play N' Learn Playgroups take place in the rural communities of Altoona, Augusta, Fairchild, and Fall Creek. These rural playgroups provide parents access to a monthly child playgroup in their own community. These sessions are facilitated by a parent educator that is certified in the nationally recognized Parents as Teachers Curriculum. The parent educator will provide planned activities and be available to support parent-child and child-child interactions, to model appropriate skills, reflect on child development, facilitate peer mentoring and social connections, support parental understanding of child development, and answer questions in order to increase positive outcomes for children.

Family Support Center

River Source and Rural Playgroups

The Family Support Center's River Source Family Center (RSFC) runs the Parents as Teachers (PAT) program in collaboration with the Chippewa County Department of Public Health. Through support from United Way's Successful Children's Network, the program works with Chippewa County families with children ages birth to five to promote health and physical well-being, social and emotional development, language skills, and general knowledge in these children. RSFC utilizes the PAT program components, such as personal home visits, connection to community resources, group connections, and screening tools to help parents understand their child's development, recognize strengths, and identify areas of concern that might suggest the need for follow up services. Through the PAT program, RSFC is able to outreach at rural WIC clinics and conduct discussions with parents to engage families and encourage interest in rural playgroups. Rural play groups incorporate elements of parent coaching, parent socialization with each other, and play time for kids. United Way's Successful Children's Network also provides funding to RSFC to provide these playgroups in Chippewa County rural communities.



FamilyMeans

Consumer Credit Counseling Service

FamilyMeans' Consumer Credit Counseling Service is funded under United Way's Financial Stability Partnership. This program works with individuals and families who are facing financial crisis or difficult financial situations. This program offers one-on-one support to help clients create a balanced budget and long-term financial strategy. This program is able to offer services at no cost to the client. Last year, this program provided individual counseling to 128 adults who were struggling to make ends meet.

Junior Achievement of Wisconsin-Northwest District

Personal Finance and Work Readiness Education

Junior Achievement of Wisconsin-Northwest District has been serving the Chippewa Falls Area United School Junior Achievement has been serving the Chippewa Valley for the past 25 years. Using Junior Achievement's curriculum, trained local professionals volunteer in the classroom to teach youth about budgeting, debt and saving for the future. As a funded partner of United Way's Financial Stability Partnership, Junior Achievement also provides practical information to middle and high school students about managing personal finances, preparing for the working world and exploring potential careers. Junior Achievement collaborates with many school districts in Eau Claire and Chippewa counties to reach over 2,000 students each year. Collaborating schools and districts include: Altoona School District, Augusta School District, Chippewa Falls Area United School District, Eau Claire Area School District, Fall Creek School District, Regis Catholic School and McDonnell Area Catholic Schools. Junior Achievement also collaborated with the Boy Scouts and Chippewa Valley Technical College to engage youth in personal finance and career exploration outside of their classrooms. Junior Achievement is working together with United Way to help youth in the Chippewa Valley be prepared to enter the workforce and learn skills that will lead them to a financially stable future.

Western Dairyland Economic Opportunity Council

Fresh Start

Western Dairyland's Fresh Start program is funded under United Way's Financial Stability Partnership. Each year this program helps give up to 20 at-risk youth aged 17-24 a chance to rebuild their lives. With support from United Way, these youth receive employment wages while learning and performing construction job skills as they work together to build a house from the ground up that is later sold to an income-qualifying family. Through this program, the youth gain skills which allow them to advance into career opportunities in the field of construction. They also job-shadow specialists such as electricians, plumbers and HVAC workers that further expose these youth to certified job skills that are involved in the construction field. While in the Fresh Start program, these youth also focus on completion of their H.S. diploma or GED while in the program and learn how to budget their wages. Fresh Start collaborates with the Beaver Creek Reserve, Boy Scouts of America, Eau Claire Area School District, Eau Claire Probation and Parole, McKinley Charter School and University of Wisconsin-Extension.

Homeless Employment Linking Program (HELP)

As a funded partner of United Way's Financial Stability Partnership, Western Dairyland works together with the Eau Claire Interfaith Hospitality Network-Beacon House to provide employment-related case management services to homeless families with children. With support from United Way, an Employment Specialist is available to work with homeless parents who need employment or training services. This begins while the family is in shelter, and can continue for up to six months, if needed, after placement in permanent housing. This program assists homeless parents who can work to obtain a job or complete the training required for certain careers. Then the Employment Specialist links them with appropriate supports such as child care and transportation so that they can maintain employment. Last year, 27 parents from two local homeless programs were able to secure employment which helped set them on a path out of homelessness.

Chippewa Valley Technical College Foundation

United Way Microgrant Program

United Way, in partnership with the Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) Foundation, has established the United Way Microgrant Program. This program offers microgrants (in amounts up to \$900) to support qualifying students in locally in-demand degree programs at CVTC. Because students who have unmet financial needs are at risk of not completing their education, United Way is working to reduce financial barriers (such as tuition, books, child care, auto repair, utilities and food) for these students so they can finish their degree programs. When these students graduate, they will help boost our local economy by filling the skills gaps that have been identified by Chippewa Valley employers. Students who have unmet financial need (based on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA) are eligible to apply for the United Way microgrants if they are enrolled in the following CVTC programs:

- Architectural Structural Design
- Electrical Power Distributions
- Electromechanical Technology
- Industrial Mechanic
- IT-Mobile Developer
- IT-Network Specialist
- IT-Software Developer
- Machine Tooling Technics
- Manufacturing Engineering Technologist
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Laboratory Technician
- Nano Engineering Technology
- Nursing Assistant
- Nursing-Associate Degree
- Residential Construction
- Truck Driving
- Welding
- Welding Fabrication

United Way also recognizes that financial emergencies can happen, so emergency microgrants are also available throughout the school year to students in these programs, generally in amounts up to \$500 based on the student's individual emergency. In its first year, United Way provided more than \$140,000 through 194 microgrants to keep local CVTC students enrolled and successful in their degree programs.



Children's Service Society of WI- Children's Hospital of WI

Child and Family Counseling Program

The Child and Family Counseling (CFC) program, provided through the Children's Service Society of WI-Children's Hospital of WI located in Eau Claire, provides outpatient counseling services to children and their families in the Chippewa Valley, including individual, family, and group counseling. Counseling services are expected to reduce stress and conflict, improve parenting skills, and strengthen families. Therapists work closely with the Department of Human Services (DHS) and schools, which is where most referrals come from. Through United Way's Community Health Initiative, school-based mental health services are provided with groups at Altoona Middle and High School, Memorial High School, and North High School. School-based outpatient counseling has also been added at four Eau Claire elementary schools.

Chippewa Valley Free Clinic

Mental Health Services

Free Clinics are safety-net health care organizations that utilize a volunteer/staff model to provide a range of medical, dental, pharmacy, vision, and behavioral health services to economically disadvantaged individuals. Through support from United Way's Community Health Initiative, the Chippewa Valley Free Clinic, located in Eau Claire, is able to offer the Mental Health Services program, which provides access to mental health care for low-income adults and diagnoses and treats their conditions. This allows them to live a quality life and improve their ability to participate in work, home and community life. This program works in collaboration with medical professionals from the major health institutions and the Department of Human Services.

Open Door Clinic

Mental Health Care

The Open Door Clinic has been serving Chippewa Falls and the surrounding area since 2006. Located in the First Presbyterian Church in downtown Chippewa Falls, the clinic provides basic medical care services, basic lab testing, pharmaceutical services, and now with help from United Way, mental health services to area residents without other health care alternatives. Under direction of the Clinic Coordinator Mary Meyers from St. Joseph's Hospital, every Tuesday evening, area medical professionals volunteer their time to help people get the medical care they need. The Open Door Clinic is working together with United Way to help people in the Chippewa Valley live healthier, happier lives.

The Wellness Shack

Peer Support Mental Health Recovery

The Wellness Shack (TWS), located in downtown Eau Claire, provides peer support through people sharing their hope, success, and experience of recovery from mental illness. Peers sharing common experiences encourage and support members toward living lives of improved health and wellness. A more formal support is provided by Peer Support Specialists who utilize evidence based recovery principles to help people achieve personal recovery. Peer support has been proven to reduce crisis and hospitalization of people suffering from mental illness. United Way's Community Health Initiative provides funding for the TWS Peer Support Mental Health Recovery program, as this program works to improve mental health issues in our community, encourages people to consider healthier alternatives, and provides vital coping mechanisms.

Bolton Refuge House, Inc.

Self-Sufficiency and Support Services

Through support from United Way's Community Health Initiative, Bolton Refuge House implements their Self-Sufficiency and Supportive Services program, which consists of a range of services and resources provided to a victim and their children. Bolton Refuge House provides safe and supportive services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and/or stalking, as well as services to children who have witnessed or been exposed to violence. Supportive services include emergency sheltering, transitional housing, children advocacy, individual and support-group counseling, personal advocacy, case management, legal advocacy, and other services that empower victims throughout the life span. Bolton Refuge House is located in Eau Claire, WI, but provides services throughout the Chippewa Valley.

Family Support Center

Domestic Violence Program

The Family Support Center (FSC), located in Chippewa Falls, has a mission to help women, men, and children end domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse and other forms of domestic violence through education, prevention, and intervention services. With support from United Way, the FSC domestic violence program promotes safety and overall well-being of victims of domestic violence and their children. Components of the program include counseling, safety planning, legal advocacy, support groups, personal advocacy, and a 24 hour crisis line. Through the Community Health Initiative of United Way, the FSC provides access to comprehensive services and works to decrease incidences of domestic violence throughout the Chippewa Valley.

Big Brothers Big Sisters

One-to-One Mentoring

Big Brothers Big Sisters, located in Eau Claire, serves children throughout the Chippewa Valley. Through support from United Way's Community Health Initiative, Big Brothers Big Sisters One-to-One Mentoring program pairs a caring adult mentor with a child mentee who is facing adversity. The purpose of this program is to build strengths in the child and help the youth manage the everyday challenges they are dealing with. This program offers greater confidence, encourages avoidance of risky behaviors, and promotes educational success. Through the community-based mentoring program, volunteers (Bigs) provide a child (Little) individualized time and attention on a regular basis. Relationships are developed through conversations and shared activities. Through the site-based mentoring program, mentors meet with their child through local schools (Lunch Buddies Program), the Boys and Girls Club, or at local community venues. The mentors (Bigs) and mentees (Littles) chose activities to do together (with parental approval) while building strengths in the child and helping them become engaged, productive citizens.

Mentors in Motion

United Way's Community Health Initiative also supports the Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentors in Motion program. This program focuses on getting children to change their lifestyle to a healthier, more active lifestyle, by placing a positive role model or mentor in their life. By doing this, the mentor not only encourages their little to be more active, they also increase their knowledge about risk factors associated with obesity and other chronic diseases. Mentors in Motion encourages children to become more physically active, resulting in lower obesity rates and thusly lowering the onset of chronic disease. The program focuses on children who face adversity and are at or below 200% of poverty, encouraging them to be more active and educated about health.

L.E. Phillips Senior Center

Active Living Every Day

Active Living Every Day (ALED) is a tested and proven program for improving the health and well-being of individuals 50 and over through physical activity. The program provides information, skills, and a step-by-step process for creating an active lifestyle, thus reducing obesity. ALED uses facilitated group-based problem solving methods to integrate physical activity and healthy eating into everyday living. Developed by behavioral scientists from the Cooper Institute in Dallas, Texas, and offered through a partnership with Human Kinetics, the program allows the flexibility of being offered independently or in conjunction with existing community-based physical activity programs. The L.E. Phillips Senior Center, through a grant from the Eau Claire Area Foundation, is certified to administer this program.

Eau Claire YMCA

YMCA Healthy Living Program

The YMCA Healthy Living program was developed to focus on primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention strategies by targeting individuals, families, organizations, and the community. The program is implemented through various evidence-based program services and supported by a variety of national and local partners. The programs supported under the YMCA Healthy Living Program include:

- *YMCA Diabetes Prevention Program (YDPP)* - YDPP helps pre-diabetic adults reduce their risk for developing diabetes. A small-group environment is provided where participants work with a trained lifestyle coach to lose weight and increase physical activity.
- *Camp Wabi* - Camp Wabi empowers obese children ages 10-14 to make healthy lifestyle choices and treats obesity as a multifaceted problem. Lessons include topics related to nutrition, physical activity, and mental wellness. Campers learn ways to take control of their actions and begin making healthy choices.
- *Healthy Eating and Physical Activity (HEPA) Standards for School-Aged Childcare* - The Y has established HEPA standards aligned with the Institute of Medicine standards for early learning programs, the Healthy Out-of-School Time Coalition standards for after-school programs, and *Let's Move!* standards for reducing childhood obesity.

- Enhance@Fitness - Enhance@Fitness is a program comprised of classes that safely increase participants' fitness levels through aerobic and strength training exercises while building a sense of community among class members. Enhance @Fitness is proven to increase participants' strength, balance, flexibility, mood, general activity level, and independence when they attend on a regular basis.
- Y5210 - Y5210 is evidenced-based curriculum to teach school-aged kids that daily they should have at least 5 servings of fruits/vegetables, 2 or less hours of "screen time," 1 hour of exercise, & 0 sugar-sweetened drinks.
- LIVESTRONG@ at the YMCA - LIVESTRONG@ at the YMCA helps adult cancer survivors build muscle mass/strength, increase flexibility and endurance, and improve functional ability. Instructors create a customized physical activity plan for each participant through goals, such as reducing the severity of therapy side effects, preventing unwanted weight changes, and increase energy and self-esteem.



American Red Cross

Disaster Cycle Services

The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. Five values essential to their continued success include compassion, collaboration, creativity, credibility, and commitment. The Disaster Cycle Services program addresses the important need of disaster relief and services are provided free-of-charge to anyone in Eau Claire and Chippewa counties. This is important because disaster can put people into an emergency situation that leaves them without shelter, food, clothing, medical supplies, or the means to provide for themselves or their families. The phases of the process include time for preparation, responsiveness, and recovery.

Services to Armed Forces

The Service to Armed Forces program provides humanitarian support to service members, veterans, and their families around the clock, around the globe, and under a trusted symbol. The process includes: 1.) Verifying emergency messages; 2.) Identifying and providing access to the best resources, including financial assistance; 3.) Supporting military hospitals and veterans affairs health care facilities; 4.) Building strong families and resilient communities through preparedness briefings and Health and Safety courses; and 5.) Networking and support opportunities.

Center for Independent Living for Western WI

Volunteer Caregiver Program

The Center for Independent Living works with the Chippewa County ADRC and through referrals from other organizations to provide free rides for the elderly and people with disabilities through its Volunteer Caregiver Program (VCP). The purpose of the VCP is to help individuals in Chippewa County remain in their home and maintain independence for as long as possible by providing a means to access necessary basic needs within the community. Drivers recruited for the VCP receive training and often times are matched based individuals based on the services needed. Currently 12 drivers volunteer their time to provide approximately 1,300 rides each year in Chippewa County. Most rides are scheduled for medical and dental appointments, but the program has recently been enhanced to also address requests related to social and daily needs like shopping or running errands.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse

Basic Needs Support

Catholic Charities promotes human dignity by alleviating poverty and strengthening individuals and families. The collaboration of Catholic Charities with Agnes Table and the Household Cupboard provides a well-rounded level of Basic Needs Support. Agnes' Table provides meals twice a week in Chippewa Falls, while the Household Cupboard provides household items free-of-charge to individuals in need in Chippewa Falls. Catholic Charities provides assistance for basic needs including rental assistance, utility assistance, clothing, food, assistance for medical and dental expenses, and assistance for items to begin a new job in both Eau Claire and Chippewa counties. Long-term needs related to financial literacy are also being addressed through services provided by Catholic Charities.

Shelter for Homeless Adults (Sojourner House)

Sojourner House provides Shelter for Homeless Adults 365 days of the year. Up to 48 guests can be housed each evening, with separate sleeping spaces for men and women, as well as a separate space for those who have used alcohol. All guests are provided a bed, food, use of shower facilities, and use of laundry facilities. Food is provided in the evening in case someone comes who had not eaten. Breakfast is provided to guests prior to morning discharge, which is important since there are no community breakfast facilities in Eau Claire. Additional programming services related to financial literacy and charitable assistance are also available during the day. In collaboration with Positive Avenues, shelter and socialization opportunities are provided at the daytime drop-in center. Programming on topics like basic living skills, mental health education, financial management, and job readiness geared toward helping individuals take the next step in their recovery are also offered. Meals to homeless adults are available 7 days a week through the Community Table, located in the same building as Positive Avenues.

Chippewa Valley Technical College

CVTC Dental Clinic

The CVTC Dental Clinic operates through a partnership of community, university, and technical college health providers. It primarily serves as a training facility for dental professionals that provides primary, preventive, and/or restorative dental health services to qualifying low-income individuals and families. Individuals receiving services must provide documentation that they are on medical assistance and/or living below 200% of poverty guidelines. The program take of about 6,000 patients each year for their needs related to dental hygiene, screening, fluoride varnish and sealants, endodontics, oral surgery, limited crown and bridge services, and denture services. Oral hygiene education is also extremely important, so the CVTC Dental Clinic staff is continuously working toward increasing knowledge of their patients and other health care professionals.

Bolton Refuge House

Crisis Intervention Services

Bolton Refuge House (BRH) provides safe and supportive services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and/or stalking and to children who have witnessed or been exposed to violence. Supportive services include emergency shelter, transitional housing, children, advocacy, individual and support -group counseling, personal advocacy, case management, legal advocacy and other services that empower victims throughout the life span. Each year, BRH provides shelter and assistance to approximately 150 people from Chippewa County and 200 individuals from Eau Claire County. The Crisis Intervention Services program consists of supportive service with case management to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and/or stalking and their children who face emergency situations and are residing at the BRH Emergency Shelter. Individual access the 14-room emergency shelter when fleeing a violent incident from an intimate partner and are fearful they are in immediate danger of physical harm. Emergency transportation to the emergency shelter is also available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by taxi or staff for victims from Eau Claire or Chippewa Counties. The emergency shelter provides all the items and services an individual needs for basic survival. Examples include access to their own room with beds to accommodate the victim and their children (victims without children share with another single individual), health and beauty aids, clothing, food, laundry facilities, access to other donations, 24 hours a day one-to-one supportive listening, and other services to aid the individuals to meet their basic needs. Following entrance to the shelter, the BRH Case Manager/Victim Advocate meets with the new participant to create a safety plan, assess needs/goals, provide referrals, and share information regarding resources and services available to them within the agency and community.

Chippewa Valley Free Clinic

Free Clinic Health Care Services

The Chippewa Valley Free Clinic is a safety-net health care organization that utilizes a volunteer/staff model to provide Free Clinic Health Care Services, as well as specific program needs for diabetes, vision, and/or behavioral health services to economically disadvantaged individuals whose income falls below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Annually, the clinic staff uses strategies that include diagnosis and treatment, medication management, and patient education for 700 adults living in Eau Claire and Chippewa counties. In doing so, the clinic provides access to quality healthcare services and prescriptions needed to fill the gaps unmet by publicly supported health programs and public financing.

Chippewa County Housing Authority

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance

The Chippewa County Housing Authority (CCHA) provides encouragement, promotion, and assistance in the development and provision of safe, decent, affordable, and accessible housing for all county residents. Each year its Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program serves about 45 households with incomes below the 200% poverty level who are experiencing a housing emergency by providing rental assistance along with case management services. Applicant households are enrolled by self-referral or referred by another agency. TBRA

services can be provided up to 18 months. The program helps households secure housing if they are homeless or to stabilize their existing housing if they are at risk of becoming homeless. Another component of TBRA is to help families develop the skills necessary to maintain stable housing. Case management services assist the family to access available resources for their basic needs such as food, medical care, and regular income. The case manager also helps families to identify and work toward goals that will assure long-term housing stability and self-sufficiency. At the end of the program, participants and providers complete evaluations to determine the following: (1) Housing Stability, (2) Basic Living Skills, (3) Parenting Skills, and (4) Long-Range Planning Skills.

Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley

Sheltering for Homeless Families (Beacon House)

The Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley's mission is to serve families and pregnant women who are temporarily homeless or at-risk of homelessness by providing resources for emergency assistance, stabilization, and prevention. The Sheltering for Homeless Families program uses a group shelter, Beacon House, where six homeless families are living under one roof. Each family has their own bedroom, but a common living room and dining room is shared by all of the families. Working in conjunction with the staff at Western Dairyland, four additional families can be provided housing in separate, single family apartments. Case management is available through the program for assisting families to overcome their barriers to homelessness, moving into permanent housing, and providing up to six months of support once housing is secured. Case managers also refer families to mainstream resources such as W-2, SSI (Supplemental Security Income), SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance), FoodShare, and BadgerCare. When possible, services are provided to help families seek, maintain or improve their employment situations.

Eau Claire Area Hmong Mutual Assistance Association

Rent Assistance

The Rent Assistance program is an emergency housing assistance program for qualifying low-income families in Eau Claire and Chippewa Counties. Besides the qualification of being below 200% of the federal poverty level, a family must be either behind on rent, their rent will be due in 10 days or less and they do not have the money to pay for it, or they are homeless/living in a homeless shelter or unsheltered. The program is intended to prevent homelessness by providing financial assistance through a 30-day rent payment, with the stipulation that only one payment can be received per year. The hope is that the assistance will help strengthen the well-being of families and improve self-sufficiency to allow them to use their constricted financial resources for other needs.

Rice Pantry

The Rice Pantry program is a weekly rice distribution program for low income families, seniors, and new arrivals temporarily living with relatives, or families experiencing an emergency situation (e.g., house fire, injury, illness, etc.). To qualify for the program, a family must have an income less than 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Qualifying families are allocated either a 25 or 50 pound bag of rice, based on their family size. The Rice Pantry helps mitigate the problem of food insecurity by allowing families to use their constrained financial resources to purchase additional nutritional foods.

Open Door Clinic

Medical and Prescription Services

The Open Door Clinic (ODC) provides basic health care for uninsured and, in some cases, underinsured residents of Chippewa County whose income is less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. Through the work of volunteer providers, each week the ODC offers general medicine, physical therapy, psychiatry, pulmonology, chiropractic care, diabetes education and dietician services. At the initial visit, patients meet with an intake volunteer to assess eligibility for the ODC, as well as identifying other potential sources for healthcare. Patients meet with providers every 3 months or as needed and are seen on a first-come first-served basis. On a typical night, patients may see multiple providers as deemed appropriate. Labs are drawn on-site and processed via in-kind donations.

As part of its Medical and Prescription Services program, all care and any medications (but not narcotics) prescribed by ODC providers are provided at no cost to the patient. In an effort to enhance community health, the ODC provides flu shots and TDAP vaccines, as well as pneumonia shots to high-risk patients.

Positive Alternatives, Inc.

TeenCare Crisis Intervention

Positive Alternatives, Inc., equips at-risk youth (ages 12-17) and young adults in the Chippewa Valley with the social, emotional, and developmental skills needed to flourish through a continuum of family and strengths-based services. Its TeenCare program is the only short-term, crisis intervention program offered in Western Wisconsin to youth and families in crisis. Services are provided to youth confidentially, voluntarily, and free-of-charge. TeenCare Crisis Intervention provides safe shelter to runaways, throwaways, homeless, and other youth. The goal of the program is to divert youth in-crisis from the social service and law enforcements systems, as well as assist in

the reunification of families. The services include (1) Free emergency shelter for runaway, throw-away and youth in-crisis up to 14 days, (2) Free individual and family mediation/counseling (shelter and walk-in available), (3) Access to a 24/7 hotline monitored by trained counselors, (4) Information and referral, (5) School and community presentations, and (6) Street outreach. Annually, TeenCare addresses about 30 crisis calls and situations requiring shelter. Each year over 1,200 presentations are also made in schools and through community outreach.

The Community Table

Strong Families and Individuals

The Community Table's mission is to serve balanced, nutritious meals in a safe, welcoming environment and to connect those in need with existing resources. As part of its Strong Families and Individuals program, over 1,000 volunteers each year help in paying for the food and then serving 125 to 150 individuals one meal each day of the week (alternating between lunch and dinner)—no questions asked. By engaging diverse volunteers in service and by fostering partnerships with local organizations, the public also learns more about issues of hunger present in the community. On-going programs are regularly scheduled to share information about community resources that are available. Periodically, people who come to The Community Table are also surveyed so the staff can learn more about their needs and how to serve them better.

West CAP

Homeless Prevention Program

The Homeless Prevention Program (HPP) provides short- and long-term housing and supportive services to at-risk and homeless families in Chippewa County. In cooperation with Catholic Charities, services are provided through one-to-one case management with all families. West CAP helps clients with rent assistance to prevent homelessness or by subsidizing scattered-site housing units to alleviate homelessness. Individuals or families in transitional or permanent housing programs are required to pay no more than 30% of their incomes and HPP subsidizes the remainder of the rent. The program also hopes to improve the quality of life for individuals and families through increased income and development of life skills.

Western Dairyland Economic Opportunity Council

Housing First

The Housing First program prioritizes services to the chronically homeless with rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing. Clients from Eau Claire County are offered supportive services such as needs assessment, transportation assistance, case management, housing search, assistance in dealing with landlords, and life skills training. Case managers coordinate services with community partners and other resources, which is critical when working with residents suffering from mental illness and/or problems with addiction. Management is also provided to residents on a regular basis as determined by results of ongoing needs assessments.