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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UNITED WAY GRANT FUNDING PROCESS BEGINS

Funding available to area programs that support health, education, financial stability and basic needs

(Chippewa and Eau Claire counties, WI) United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley (UWGCV) will begin its next **three-year grant-funding cycle** in 2018. UWGCV plans to distribute dollars each year between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2021 to programs that address mental health prevention and intervention, school readiness, employment skills and personal money management, as well as serving the basic needs of food, shelter, medical and dental care and access to those services.

On June 1, 2017, UWGCV will make its **request for proposal (RFP)** available for review by agencies and organizations wishing to apply for program funding. Eligible programs will align with the initiatives described in UWGCV's most current community action plans: Community Health Initiative, Successful Children's Network, and Financial Stability Partnership.

On July 1, 2017, the application process for 2018-2021 United Way grant dollars will begin. Programs wishing to apply for grant dollars must **submit a grant application by September 1, 2017**. All information and forms are available on UWGCV's website at: www.uwgcv.org/funding. All submissions will be reviewed for appropriate alignment with the guidelines provided.

To further advance the community impact goals, UWGCV is focusing on shared outcomes, collaboration, urban and rural outreach, and are further expanding the population to include ALICE individuals and families. ALICE (**A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mployed) represents those households who are unable to afford life's basic necessities. The United Way ALICE report illustrates that nearly half of all households in Chippewa (42%) and Eau Claire (47%) counties do not earn enough to be self-sufficient. To increase access to services for ALICE and poverty level households, UWGCV funding should target residents of communities within Chippewa and Eau Claire counties with household income at or below the ALICE threshold, which is approximately 250% of the Federal Poverty Level. To learn more about the United Way ALICE report visit <https://www.uwgcv.org/meet-alice> or to obtain a copy of the report visit https://www.uwgcv.org/sites/uwgcv.org/files/ALICE%20Report_WI.pdf.

To provide an overview and answer questions regarding the grant funding application process, United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley will host a meeting open to all interested organizations on **Thursday, July 27, 2017** beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Eagles Club in Lake Hallie.

For questions or details related to United Way's grant funding application process, please contact Executive Director Jan Porath at 715-834-5043.