

This is a United Way of Grays Harbor working document. Changes may occur as goals, approach, strategies, and programs are added or removed. Feel free to reach out for more in-depth information.



ReadGH

CHILDHOOD SUCCESS

Ensuring children reach critical milestones (enter school ready to succeed)
Ensuring children are developmentally & academically prepared for secondary education

ReadGH is a specific initiative within United Way's Education building block
focused on childhood success for children ages 0-9

United Way's overall educational goal is to ensure that youth gain the knowledge, skills and credentials so that they are prepared for workforce and able to obtain family sustaining employment.

Without question, it takes entire communities working together more collaboratively than ever before to co create community based, comprehensive solutions that support children and youth along the education continuum from birth through elementary school, high school and career readiness. Families, school, early care providers, government, service providers, business leaders and the community all have roles to play. The goals and strategies here provide guidance to optimize the role of families, learning environments and the extended community in guaranteeing that children are on track for success.

The evidence clearly demonstrates success can only occur if a solid foundation has been laid; school readiness is predictive of early grade proficiency which is in turn predictive of graduation.

While the basic strategies for school readiness and early grade proficiency can be grouped into family engagement, learning environment, and community supports, the needs of the two age groups (0-5 & 6-9) and the systems that are used to engage are different.

Thus to ensure childhood success we've designed two goals targeting each age group individually.

GOAL 1: CHILDREN ENTER SCHOOL READY TO SUCCEED

GOAL 2: STUDENTS ARE SUCCESSFUL IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND PREPARED FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

GOAL 1: CHILDREN ENTER SCHOOL READY TO SUCCEED.

Strategy 1: Ensure families are equipped to support the optimal development of their children.

Approaches

- Equip families with knowledge and skills to support child development
- Ensure families have timely access to and are utilizing quality services
- Ensure home environments support early development.

Programs

Existing Member Agency Programs

- Care & Kids
- Snug Harbor
- TBRI

New United Way Projects

- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library: program delivers a brand new age appropriate book to enrolled children every month from birth to five, creating home library and parents as first teacher

Strategy 2: Children are in early learning environments that nurture and stimulate growth along all developmental domains.

Approaches

- Improve the quality of early learning environments, formal and informal
- Improve the training and qualifications of teachers and caregivers
- Increase availability of high quality programs for at-risk children

Programs

Existing Member Agency Programs

- Snug Harbor
- Big Brothers Big Sisters

New United Way Projects

- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library: program delivers a brand new age appropriate book to enrolled children every month from birth to five, creating home library and parents as first teacher

Program Opportunities

Read to Succeed: Center based early literacy program

Pay for Success: high impact and targeted curriculum to increases school readiness

United Way Center for Excellence in Early Education: center that shares best practices with parents

Strategy 3: Community services are coordinated and accessible and policies effectively address the needs of children and families.

Approaches

- Engage the public and policymakers about quality early childhood development and learning
- Build the capacity of communities to collect and use early childhood data in decision-making & planning
- Work with organizations and systems to deliver aligned, effective services

Programs

Existing Member Agency Programs

- COPE: Snug Harbor
- CASA
- Big Brothers Big Sisters

Program Opportunities

Strive Together: cradle to career pipeline

Reach Out and Read: builds on parent/medical relationship

Learning Checkups: developmental delay screenings

GOAL 2: STUDENTS ARE SUCCESSFUL IN ELEMENTARY/PRIMARY SCHOOL AND PREPARED FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL/SECONDARY SCHOOL.

Strategy 1: Ensure families are equipped to support student success.

Approaches

- Inform and connect families with knowledge and resources to best support their children's success in the early grades (e.g. attendance, homework assistance)
- Engage families of struggling students to identify barriers to student success
- Connect families of struggling students with community-based resources.
- Support schools in efforts to implement family engagement activities.

Programs

Existing Member Agency Programs

- None at this time

Program Opportunities

Family School Community Partnership: Parent rooms several locations serving as HUB for parents

Raising a Reader: parental training to develop habit of sharing books. Book bags sent home.

Scholastic Read & Rise: series of six workshops the provide hands on strategies for building literacy at home

Strategy 2: Partner with schools to ensure student engagement and learning.

Approaches

- Provide classroom resources and professional development for teachers and administrators to support student growth.
- Develop and use systems to identify students at risk of academic failure based on attendance, grades and behavior and provide timely supports.
- Support schools to deliver supplemental services for students below grade level, especially in reading and mathematics.
- Partner with school to deliver extended day options that expand learning and enrichment and is aligned to school curriculum.

Programs

Existing Member Agency Programs

- Harbor Afterschool
- Big Brothers Big Sisters

Program Opportunities

Reading Corps: Provides struggling readers with individualized, data-driven instruction, one-on-one attention, well-trained tutors, instruction delivered with fidelity, and the frequency and duration necessary for student achievement.

Reading Pals: Ensures that children are reading on grade level by engaging, training and deploying volunteer reading tutors in low performing schools.

Strategy 3: Organize a system of wrap-around supports for students as they progress through elementary school.

Approaches

- Connect students with community-based out-of-school time programming to support their academic success and overall development (afterschool and summer learning programs, tutoring, homework assistance, mentoring, etc.)

- Work with schools and organizations to identify and deliver timely supports to students at risk of academic failure based on attendance, grades, and behavior.

Programs

Existing Member Agency Programs

- Harbor Afterschool
- Late Night

Program Opportunities

Strive Together: a collective impact framework for developing and implementing a cradle to career pipeline for young children and youth

Community Schools: Using public schools as hubs, community schools bring together many partners to offer a range of supports and opportunities to children, youth, families and communities.

Summer Literacy Collaborative: Community-based summer learning programs and multiple school districts aim to stem summer reading loss and ultimately increase children's reading skills.

Wrap-Around Supports Are Worth It: A cost-benefit analysis of "integrated supports"