

EDUCATION, INCOME & HEALTH

The building blocks for a good life –
a quality education that leads to a
stable job, enough income to support a family
through retirement, and good health.

United Way of Racine County community investment volunteers make funding decisions during the year to support valuable programs and projects that lead to our overall goal of “advancing the common good” throughout Racine County. We work to ensure that people in our community have opportunities for better lives by addressing the education, income and health needs of all.

On an annual basis, United Way carefully tracks statistical trends on specific community indicators to help us understand the context in which services are needed. All United Way-funded programs report on their progress toward addressing community needs by measuring program participant outcomes, and this information is reviewed as part of the funding process.

Your designation to an area such as *education, income or health* tells United Way and investment volunteers what’s most important to you.



EDUCATION - Helping children and youth achieve their potential through education

Racine County Facts

- The Racine Unified School District graduation rate in 2005/06 was 71.30% compared to 89.3% for Wisconsin.
- In the City of Racine, 17.5% of the adults have less than a high school degree. Average earning for those workers was \$18,142 while other workers with some college or an associate degree averaged \$30,551.

Some examples of how United Way and you make a difference...

The Racine Family YMCA helped 70 at-risk students improve their grades while **Big Brothers/Big Sisters** improved the academic performance of 160 children. Support at **HALO** made sure 154 homeless children attended school on a regular basis and kept up with their homework. Afterschool programs through **Urban League** and **Racine Family Literacy** helped more than 40 African-American and Hispanic teens improve in math and reading.

INCOME - Helping families become financially stable and independent

Racine County Facts

- In 2006, 16% of families in City of Racine are Below Poverty Level with 8.4% families in poverty county-wide.
- Most current unemployment rate (July, 2008) for City of Racine was 9.6%, compared to 4.8% for state.
- On an annual basis, more than 1,000 homeless men, women and children in Racine County need safe shelter.

Some examples of how United Way and you make a difference...

Through various programs at **HALO**, **Bethany Apartments**, **Racine Friendship Clubhouse** and **Developmentally Disabled Information Services**, more than 400 people gained skills in self-sufficiency and maintaining their own household. About 300 adults improved their chance for employment through **Racine Literacy Council** tutoring and classes. **Racine Vocational Ministry** helped 193 chronically unemployed people find jobs, and **First Choice Pre-Apprenticeship** ensured that 42 individuals gained valuable skills for living wage employment.

HEALTH - Improving people's health

Racine County Facts

- On a 2006 youth survey of Racine County students in grades 9-12, 25% reported drinking alcohol, 18% reported using drugs, and 23% reported being sexually active.
- Of 187,000 persons living in Racine County, 8% or 15,000 are described as currently uninsured.

Some examples of how United Way and you make a difference...

Next Generation Now, **Racine Family Literacy**, and **Family Smart/Kid Friendly** supported the healthy development of hundreds of infants and young children. **Lutheran Social Services** helped more than 3,000 children understand abuse and how to get help, while providing support to victims of abuse as well. **Focus** programs educated thousands of school age children about drug-free lifestyles. About 12,000 children were active in recreational programs through **Racine Youth Sports**, **RASA**, and **Racine Family YMCA**. **Health Care Network** provided access to health care services and/or medications for more than 1,500 uninsured people.