United Way puts Hope in Action to address gaps in education from birth through adulthood. United Way of Sheboygan County (UWSC) invests in 15 education programs.

Childhood success programs, working with families with children aged 6 and younger, focus on providing parent support and education to ensure that parents are confident in their roles as their child’s first teacher. These programs ensure young children are healthy, safe, reaching development milestones on time, and prepared to enter school.

Youth success programs, working with school-aged youth, help keep youth on track academically to graduate high school on time, prepared for college and career. These programs also help youth learn valuable life skills to make the transition to adulthood easier – from navigating healthy relationships to gaining confidence and self-sufficiency to mindfulness and stress management.

While there is a heavy emphasis on children and youth, UWSC knows learning is a lifelong endeavor. Adults need opportunities to continue to learn and grow as well, which is why UWSC invests in adult education opportunities as well. These programs work with adults on individual educational and professional goals to help people advance and improve their quality of life.

87% of children (Littles) in Big Brothers Big Sisters WI Shoreline Community Based Mentoring Program improved on educational expectations.

61% of children who graduate Parents as Teachers are healthy, safe and ready to learn.

71% of children and teens who participate at Boys and Girls Club of Sheboygan County increased their interest in educational activities, academic achievement, and spent more time studying.

89% of Girl Scouts in Sheboygan County practiced and improved decision-making skills, including goal setting, independence and possibility assessment.

$737,617
2022-23 Investment

Bay-Lakes Council, Boy Scouts of America
Comprehensive Youth Development

Big Brothers Big Sisters WI Shoreline
Community Based Mentoring
School Based Mentoring

Boys & Girls Clubs of Sheboygan County
Academic Excellence
Good Character

Family Connections
Child Care Resource Development

Family Resource Center of Sheboygan County
Parents as Teachers
Literacy Council Adult Tutoring

Foundations Health & Wholeness
Runaway and Youth Services

Girl Scouts of Manitou Council
Leadership Experience

Mental Health America Lakeshore
Education

Nourish Farms, Inc.
Farm to School
Farm to ECE

REINS, Inc.
Equine Assist Learning Program

Safe Harbor of Sheboygan County
Prevention & Education

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Tutors who work with Sheboygan County’s Literacy Council, a program that provides one-to-one adult tutoring, come across many opportunities to make an impact in a student’s life. Most students have relocated to Sheboygan from another country and are in the process of learning English and trying to understand American culture.

Ann, a nurse and volunteer tutor for the Sheboygan County Literacy Council, has worked with her student, Sandra, a refugee, since fall 2017. Sandra has been learning to speak English and to advocate for herself and her family when it comes to health issues.

Ann has helped Sandra develop a deeper knowledge of health care and an emergency medicine-based vocabulary, allowing her to better care for her family. Sandra and her family are building health-related vocabulary skills and health care system workflow and access opportunities. Ann also was able to assist Sandra in completing a developmental check form for her 4-year-old daughter’s doctor appointment. This multi-page form evaluated the household’s social and dietary environment and the child’s physical, cognitive, and emotional status from Sandra’s standpoint. Talking through key health factors for the form with a trusted tutor allowed time for questions and answers about American social and health norms.

When it was Sandra’s birthday, Ann surprised her by stopping by with a gift. Sandra and her husband, Joe, begged Ann to come into the house to talk as Joe had been in the Emergency Department the previous day and was prescribed multiple medications and was scheduled for outpatient surgery for a biopsy in two days. Although Joe had been provided with a translator for the Emergency Department visit, it was overwhelming and he wanted to talk through the medications prescribed, what the purpose of the biopsy was, and what to expect when he reported for outpatient surgery. With Ann’s help, Joe and Sandra became more comfortable with the information provided by the medical professionals.

_Family Resource Center’s Literacy Council_ is one of the 15 programs that United Way invests in under the building block of ‘education.’