United Way puts Hope In Action by helping families and individuals meet their current financial needs while planning for future financial success. United Way of Sheboygan County (UWSC) invests in 6 financial stability programs.

United Way of Sheboygan County (UWSC) focuses on lasting solutions that go beyond charity, working to ensure more individuals and families can stop walking a financial tightrope and get on solid ground.

Financially empowered people are more likely to have access to quality healthcare, provide high-quality education for their children and contribute to their local economies.

UWSC invests in programs that provide direct financial support to the unique needs of individuals and families, as well as financial education to improve their socio-economic status.

80% of clients who participated in Budget and Credit Counseling identified a significant reduction of financial stress, which improved workplace production, family relationships and mental and physical health.

82% of individuals and families who receive case management at Catholic Charities gain greater degree(s) of self-sufficiency and improvement in their lives, including financial stability.

73% of clients implemented their personalized action plan developed through The Salvation Army’s comprehensive services program and overcome obstacles to progress towards self-sufficiency.

100% of families receive child care subsidy for regulated child care through Family Connections, increasing their ability to obtain and sustain employment.
Sheboygan is a wonderful community that holds much promise for young families. Gustavo and Consuelo, immigrants from Guatemala with their four young girls, looked forward to being a part of the community and contributing to it. While they were able to find work, they were unable to find affordable housing. They were referred to Catholic Charities from a co-worker who received services from the agency’s Outreach and Case Management program in the past.

When the case manager met Gustavo and Consuelo, they were facing homelessness with no family in Wisconsin and working low-income jobs. It was very difficult to have enough food, personal hygiene, and household cleaning items, and clothing. Gustavo and Consuelo were afraid for the safety and future of their daughters. The couple was very happy to be in the U.S. but were overwhelmed and anxious living in a new country, trying to learn the American culture.

The case manager worked with them to assess their situation and create a plan to meet their basic needs first. She was able to secure food and hygiene items; then worked with the family to contact area landlords; within a few weeks they found an apartment. Gustavo and Consuelo and their girls were overjoyed when they were told that they were approved for an apartment. Staff was able to secure clothing and household items from St. Vincent de Paul and other organizations to help them begin to settle into their new home.

Gustavo and Consuelo work very hard but with their income it is difficult to make ends meet. The case manager worked with the couple to develop long-term goals that focused on attending English as a Second language (ESL) classes and developing employment skills to get better paying jobs. Gustavo and Consuelo are very motivated and will continue working with the case manager to access basic needs and address other issues that may develop, and they look forward to a better future for themselves and their daughters.

Clarita Wesley, Catholic Charities Case Manager, said, “This family is so full of hope and dreams, I am honored to be able to be a part of their journey.”

Catholic Charities’ Case Management service is one of the six programs that United Way invests in under the building block of ‘health.’