



United Way of Forsyth County



Building a Thriving Community

Community-Wide Funded Programs 2024-25

Our Mission

United Way of Forsyth County brings the community and its resources together to solve problems that no one organization can address alone.

Our Vision for Forsyth County

A world-class community where no one lives in poverty and EVERYONE holds the power to access opportunities and resources needed to thrive.

United Way of Forsyth County recognizes structural racism and other forms of oppression have contributed to persistent disparities which United Way seeks to dismantle. We strive to engage community members, especially those whose voices have traditionally been marginalized. We work with residents and public and private partners to co-create solutions that ensure everyone has the resources, supports, opportunities and networks they need to thrive. We commit to leveraging all our assets (convening, collaborating, strategic investments, awareness building, advocacy) to create more equitable communities.

UWFC is investing in highly impactful organizations using results-oriented projects and programs demonstrating comprehensive approaches to services designed to provide Pathways to Economic Mobility for low-resource individuals and ensure a strong safety net of basic needs and health services to stabilize households. Our Community-Wide Education investments explicitly concentrate on providing support for programs which are designed to demonstrate achievement in reaching the shared community goal of 3rd grade reading proficiency. UWFC funds programs which demonstrate impact in achieving UWFC stated community goals in Building a Thriving Household.

2024-25 Community-Wide Funded Programs:

Click the hyperlink to visit the funded partner's website.

❖ Pathways to Economic Wellbeing

Car Ownership Program, [The CAREs Project](#)

VITA, [Experiment in Self Reliance](#)

New Century IDA, [Experiment in Self Reliance](#)

Center for Homeownership, [Financial Pathways of the Piedmont](#)

Financial Management, Education & Debt Counseling, [Financial Pathways of the Piedmont](#)

Senior Financial Care, [Financial Pathways of the Piedmont](#)

PCHG - Prosperity Center / Hispanic Grant, [Goodwill Industries of NWNC](#)

GREAT Forsyth, [The Parenting Path](#)

YMCA Literacy, [YMCA](#)

❖ Socioeconomic Wellbeing (Basic Needs/Safety Net Programs)

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Legal Advocacy in Family Violence: Stepping Forward, [Legal Aid](#) [Children's Law Center](#)

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Cancer Patient Advocacy, [Cancer Services](#)

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❖ **Education Programs**

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- ***Freedom Schools Summer Programming***, [Action 4 Equity](#)
- ***Boys & Girls Club Summer Camp***, [The Salvation Army](#)
- ***The Reading and Math Summer Camp (RAMS-C) / Lit-Fit***, [Winston-Salem State University](#)
- ***Read URBAN***, [Winston-Salem Urban League](#)
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- ***Best Choice Center - Academic After School Programs*** - [YWCA](#)

2024-25 Program Summaries



Pathways to Economic Wellbeing

Economic mobility can have a multi-generational, positive impact on overall wellbeing by increasing access to quality healthcare, improving housing options, and broadening educational opportunities. Unfortunately, Forsyth County ranks as one of the worst counties in the country for economic mobility for children in poor families. For many, systemic racism hinders movement up the economic ladder. Effective economic mobility work operates with a commitment to racial equity. The following programs were chosen based on their potential to support and build pathways to economic mobility in our community.

Lead Agency: *The CAREs Project*

Program Name: **Car Ownership Program**

Program Summary: The Car Ownership Program moves people toward financial security by providing community-funded vehicle loans and building skills through financial and credit coaching. Reliable transportation is essential for sustainable employment, managing a household, and pursuing education. Car ownership is an asset that removes many barriers for low-income families seeking financial mobility. The Car Ownership Program offers financial literacy education, credit counseling, and teaches budgeting skills. Participants are assisted with a low interest loan for a warranted used car and matched with a long-term personal Financial Coach for the duration of the loan.

Lead Agency: *Experiment in Self Reliance*

Program Name: **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)**

Program Summary: Forsyth Free Tax provides free tax preparation at two sites throughout Forsyth County during the tax season. This program is free to any resident making less than \$57,000 per year and prepares electronic returns for about 4,000 low-to-moderate income taxpayers in Forsyth County each year. The program promotes the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). This credit allows qualifying residents to build their savings, pay off debts, and improve financial capability. Volunteers are certified by the IRS. The program ensures that everyone who qualifies for a tax credit receives it. Two tax sites will have drop-off capabilities and accept appointments.

Lead Agency: *Experiment in Self Reliance*

Program Name: **New Century Individual Development Account (IDA)**

Program Summary: New Century IDA provides financial literacy training for low-to-moderate-income residents of Forsyth County preparing them to become first-time homeowners or small business entrepreneurs. Participants work closely with a success coach to budget, build savings, and generate sustainable wealth. Economic literacy workshops and a small business curriculum teach clients budgeting skills, techniques for improving credit, and financing options. Participants actively work to improve their financial position and achieve asset goals. Clients will establish a savings account they funded during the program. Upon completion, these savings will be matched by NEW Century IDA and applied to a down payment or closing costs on a home or used to enhance their business. These types of investments, homeownership, and small business ownership are proven to help move low-income workers out of poverty.

Lead Agency: *Financial Pathways of the Piedmont*

Program Name: **Center for Homeownership (CHO)**

Program Summary: The Center for Homeownership (CHO) serves prospective homeowners in Forsyth County of all income ranges but is especially useful to first time buyers and those in search of subsidized mortgages and other supportive programs. They guide potential homeowners with comprehensive housing education, counseling, referrals, information on financing options, and other resources to prepare participants for responsible homeownership. Additionally, CHO is a premier advocate for affordable housing needs in our community. Enhancing homeownership stabilizes the community, allows individuals to begin to build assets, and improves the overall tax base.

Lead Agency: *Financial Pathways of the Piedmont*

Program Name: **Financial Management, Education & Debt Counseling**

Program Summary: Financial Management, Education and Debt Counseling offers certified financial educators and counselors to assist individuals and families as they improve their financial health and reach financial goals. Participants are assisted through individualized counseling and educational workshops in resolving debt, improving credit, budgeting, and avoiding financial crises. Services are available to residents in Forsyth County seeking money management skills, student loan counseling, mortgage default and foreclosure intervention, and other forms of financial education to improve financial self-sufficiency. This program is committed to supporting residents as they recover from the pandemic through rebuilding lost wages, assets, and greater stability.

Lead Agency: *Financial Pathways of the Piedmont*

Program Name: **Senior Financial Care (SFC)**

Program Summary: Senior Financial Care (SFC) provides personal financial counseling to residents in or around Forsyth County who are 60 years old and older. For over 30 years, SFC has supported senior citizens as they navigate emerging barriers to their financial wellbeing. SFC was established to provide remote and in-home money management services for seniors including check writing for bill paying, bank statement reconciliation, budget and credit counseling, debt negotiation, housing and Reverse Mortgage counseling, fraud awareness, insurance counseling and assistance in choosing Medicare supplemental plans.

Lead Agency: *Goodwill Industries of NWNC*

Collaborating Partner: *Financial Pathways of the Piedmont*

Program Name: **PCHG - Prosperity Center / Hispanic Grant**

Program Summary: The Prosperity Center is a United Way collaborative of Goodwill Industries of Northwest North Carolina and Financial Pathways of the Piedmont. The program utilizes career navigation services to develop plans for individuals to achieve their vocational, financial, and educational goals. Career Navigators and financial staff are onsite, allowing access to assistance with resume writing, applications, networking, and interviewing skills and financial coaching sessions on asset-building, debt reduction, budgeting, and good use of credit. Center staff provide wrap-around services through assistance with or referral to resources to help overcome other barriers to employment, such as housing, transportation, and language skills. The center provides bilingual services and Hispanic outreach, connecting Hispanic individuals to resources tailored to their needs.

Lead Agency: *The Parenting Path*

Program Name: **GREAT Forsyth**

Program Summary: The GREAT Forsyth Program, a collaboration with Forsyth Technical Community College, provides services to parents and guardians attending Forsyth Tech. Participating “student parents” engage in parenting seminars, are matched with vital community resources and navigation through a process of holistic case management and will have scholarship opportunities. According to Diverse Education, student parents are nearly four times less likely to complete their degree when compared to students without children. GREAT Forsyth supports work to ensure parents/caregivers remain enrolled, persist to graduation, and find economic mobility.

Lead Agency: *YMCA*

Program Name: **Adult Literacy**

Program Summary: The YMCA Literacy Works Program targets adult native English speakers in East Winston-Salem who read on a 4th to 8th grade level and are looking to advance their employment opportunities. The program offers group classes 3 times a week, one-on-one tutoring sessions, career preparation, and counseling to adult learners. Their model focuses on job-related literacy and prioritizes individualized curriculums to move clients toward economic stability. Participants are expected to achieve personal goals including entering employment, retaining employment, earning U.S citizenship, passing job-related certifications, and mastering job-specific vocabulary.



Socioeconomic Wellbeing (Basic Needs/Safety Net Programs)

The unprecedented unemployment in 2020-21 greatly impacted financial stability, putting families in our community at greater risk of falling into poverty. Women were disproportionately affected, with mothers of young children experiencing the steepest reduction in employment. Even before the pandemic, in 2019, 16.8 % of Forsyth County residents lived below the poverty line, a number that is higher than the national average of 12.3%.

Furthermore, this federal poverty measure only covers 43% of the income needed to be Self-Sufficient in Forsyth County. The following programs enable families and individuals to nurture their socioeconomic wellbeing and find stability in areas such as housing, nutrition, and health care. When families have their basic needs met, they can pursue the things we know increase upward mobility, including keeping employment, staying in school, landing a better job with medical insurance, and have a greater ability to save money.

Lead Agency: *American Red Cross*

Program Name: **Disaster Services**

Program Summary: Disaster Services helps individuals and families prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. Disaster Preparedness is focused on increasing public awareness on how to prevent, prepare for, and respond to disasters. Disaster Response provides the tools to meet immediate disaster needs. Disaster Recovery assists clients in bridging what they can accomplish on their own and what is necessary for them to recover.

Lead Agency: *The Centers for Exceptional Children*

Program Name: **Family Support Network Program (FSN)**

Program Summary: The Family Support Network (FSN) program supports families through the years of early childhood and school age special education and offer continuing guidance as families enter the world of adult disability services. FSN facilitates parent support groups and provides information/referral services, parent education, and workshops to help family members learn more about caring for a child with a disability, coping with difficult circumstances, developing advocacy skills, and finding community resources.

Lead Agency: *The Centers for Exceptional Children*

Program Name: **Infant and Toddler Program (ITP)**

Program Summary: The Infant & Toddler Program (ITP) provides care and developmental support primarily for young children with disabilities or delays. Awarded the prestigious 5-star childcare rating, ITP staff have the advanced training and certifications to supply children with the very best developmental and physical therapies in a hands-on, nurturing environment. Each child receives an individualized care plan that addresses their unique physical, learning, and social needs. Research from the First Five Years Fund reports that “quality early childhood education for children is one of the best ways to promote upward mobility that pays off for everyone.”

Lead Agency: *City with Dwellings*

Program Name: **HEART**

Program Summary: The HEART program (Housing Emergency Assistance Response Team) focuses on a highly vulnerable and hard-to-serve segment of the homeless population that has difficulty accessing traditional support services. Many of their clients have lived in crisis for an extended period with little to no income, no mode of transportation, and few relational supports. In HEART, individuals:

- move immediately into a HEART unit the day they agree to come in off the streets or are discharged from an institution,
 - are not screened out due to lack of official documentation, criminal records, credit history or income,
 - have access to intensive, multidisciplinary services (e.g., case management, medical management, and legal services),
 - receive intensive peer support services to counsel them to make wise financial, employment, and lifestyle decisions,
 - receive consistent care from the moment they enter HEART through their transition to permanent housing, between 6 and 18 months after program entry.
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Lead Agency: *Family Services*

Program Name: **ER Shelter for Survivors of Interpersonal Violence**

Program Summary: Family Services serves adult survivors of domestic violence and their children and any other family member or any other member of the residence threatened with danger. The shelter is staffed 24/7 with administrative support, case managers, or resident advisors. Some of the support services offered include individual or group counseling, case management, job training, education, parenting classes, support groups, legal services, and childcare. In working with their case managers, guests are provided with the opportunity to engage in safety planning, learn about domestic violence, and have assistance with housing searches and rapid re-housing paperwork. Participation in all services is voluntary for survivors and their families. Voluntary participation in services recognizes that each person has different symptoms and experiences of trauma and will need to make their own decisions about which services will be beneficial.

Lead Agency: *Family Services*

Program Name: **Advocacy & Support for those Impacted by Interpersonal Violence**

Program Summary: The Supportive Services unit works with victims and secondary victims (such as victims' children) of Interpersonal Violence from all backgrounds and gender identities. Advocacy and Supportive Services are part of the continuum of services available to victims of interpersonal violence through Family Services and within our community. Victim Advocates and a program manager perform key activities including advocacy, facilitating support groups, court accompaniment, safety planning, crisis counseling, resource referral, risk assessment, follow-up, and application for the Address Confidentiality Program and Victim Compensation. The education and outreach coordinator provides training and resources to professionals and the public regarding the impacts of domestic violence. This work raises public awareness about the complex effects of domestic violence on individuals, children, and communities.

Lead Agency: *Family Services*

Program Name: **Vantage Pointe Children's Advocacy Center (CAC)**

Program Summary: The Vantage Pointe Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) offers a systematic multidisciplinary response to cases of child maltreatment. The CAC provides a safe child-focused environment in Forsyth County for law enforcement, child protective services, prosecution, and medical and mental health professionals to share information and develop a coordinated strategy that seeks justice for child victims while also meeting the unique needs of each child and their family members. Services include forensic interviewing, multidisciplinary team staffing, victim advocacy, community resource referrals, and education to communities and professionals.

Lead Agency: *Family Services*

Program Name: **Trauma Focused Clinical Services**

Program Summary: Trauma Focused Clinical Services strengthens an individual's/family's capacity to heal from trauma and experience healthy functioning in relationships and the community. Those who are victims of interpersonal violence are at an increased risk for developing mental health problems including PTSD, anxiety, and depression. The comprehensive adult and child specific trauma counseling services offered include screening/triage of initial calls; trauma informed comprehensive clinical assessment; development of individual treatment plans and goals; individual, family, and group therapy; and linkage to other resources, ensuring a warm handoff. Their social workers, counselors, marriage and family therapists, and community partners are led by the goal of strengthening an individual/family's capacity to heal deep-seated emotional wounds and work toward healthy future relationships.

Lead Agency: *Financial Pathways of the Piedmont*

Program Name: **Representative Payee Program**

Program Summary: The Representative Payee Program serves some of our community's residents most at-risk for financial exploitation due to insecure living situations, mental illness, substance abuse issues, and intellectual or developmental disabilities. This program serves as the 'Payee' for their clients and provides financial management through budgeting, bill-pay, and financial coaching. Through these services, this program helps clients avoid homelessness, food insecurities, and ensures basic needs are met.

Lead Agency: *Legal Aid*

Collaborating Partner: *Children's Law Center*

Program Name: **Legal Advocacy in Family Violence: Stepping Forward**

Program Summary: Stepping Forward's goal is to create stable lifestyles for families away from their abusers. They work closely with Domestic Violence Action Center clients who are seeking, or already have received, a protective order, and children and their families involved in high-conflict custody cases. Outcome Specialists offer community resources to address issues that are common in domestic violence cases, including access to housing, applying for food stamps, and obtaining employment. Legal professionals also devote pro bono representation to victims in hearings to receive protective orders.

Lead Agency: *The Parenting Path*

Program Name: **Parent Support Services**

Program Summary: The Parent Support Services Program is composed of 3 service components: Parent Aide, Positive Effective Parenting, and Welcome Baby. This program provides appropriate and timely interventions to victims, families, and abusers; and coordinates services to create maximum protections for victims. Welcome Baby and Parent Aide establish goal plans with each family at the beginning of services, related to child safety & development, linking to community resources and education, employment, and stable safe housing. Through these initiatives, home visitation, parent education, and case management are provided to families in Forsyth County with children at risk of or experiencing maltreatment. Positive Effective Parenting is an additional support; an evidence-based 12-week parenting class designed to increase parent competence and reduce the risk of abuse and neglect.

Lead Agency: *The Parenting Path*

Program Name: **STA Safe**

Program Summary: The STA SAFE Program provides intervention and treatment for victims, siblings, caregivers, and youthful offenders of sexual abuse. Services are coordinated to create maximum protections for victims. Licensed Professional Counselors and Licensed Clinical Social Workers will administer evidence-based trauma focused intervention and therapy. Staff work closely with educational institutions to enhance academic growth; juvenile justice and law enforcement entities to reduce recidivism; mental health organizations to stabilize and promote emotional wellbeing; as well as human services organizations to foster basic needs and socioeconomic wellbeing.

Lead Agency: **Springwell Network**

Program Name: **Socioeconomic Wellbeing- Developmental Disabilities Residential and Training**

Program Summary: This program provides adults with intellectual disabilities stable housing, educational services in life skills and literacy, and employment. The program is designed to help children and adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities as they work towards increased independence and community inclusion. In-home services and case management are provided as staff assists participants in locating additional resources, navigating systems of support, and making community connections.

Lead Agency: *The Salvation Army*

Program Name: **Emergency Shelter for Families**

Program Summary: The Salvation Army Center of Hope provides emergency shelter for families and an overflow shelter for single women. Residents receive safe shelter, nutritious food, transportation, personal products, childcare, and experienced case management. The intensive case management support includes a complete assessment of one's financial and personal situation. A plan is built to assess resources in the community to help the client transition from shelter to permanent housing and achieve stabilization.



Socioeconomic Wellbeing (Health Programs)

Social and economic forces shape individuals' exposure to risk and predict health outcomes. COVID-19 related morbidity, hospitalization, and mortality showed significant racial and ethnic inequalities. Factors such as race, income, education, employment, community safety, and social support can significantly affect how well and how long we live. Forsyth County ranked 34th in North Carolina's ranking of health outcomes, an unfavorable position compared to NC's other urban counties. Shifting focus toward the upstream, socioeconomic causes of vulnerability to poor health is essential to alleviating health disparities and creating a stronger community. The following programs support socioeconomic wellbeing by providing opportunities for residents to make their health a priority.

Lead Agency: *Amos Cottage*

Program Name: **Therapeutic Day Program Services**

Program Summary: Children eligible for Day Treatment include those experiencing severe behavioral challenges despite active professional support. Therapeutic Day Program Services employs a multi-disciplinary team approach, including staff licensed in their respective fields and pediatricians who conduct extensive diagnostic processes and develop treatment plans. A Licensed Social Worker, Licensed Psychological Associate, Board Certified Music Therapist, Licensed Recreational Therapist, and Behavioral Specialists work collaboratively and closely with families to support children's social competence and emotional wellbeing. Outpatient counseling is offered once patients improve beyond needing the intense mental health support Day Treatment provides. They find economic wellbeing of client families translates to improved clinical outcomes; resources are dedicated to meeting basic needs such as housing, food, childcare, employment, and medical coverage. The program also works within WSFC schools training educators on supporting behaviorally challenged children, conducting behavioral health screenings, and introducing families to relevant behavioral health community supports.

Lead Agency: *Bowman Gray Child Guidance*

Program Name: **Mental Health Medication Management & Counseling**

Program Summary: Bowman Gray Child Guidance seeks to provide comprehensive and special mental health services to children ages 3-18. Counseling and treatment plans are informed by assessments of the unique needs of the child and their family. Child Guidance's comprehensive interventions include psychiatric evaluation, medication management, individual therapy, family therapy, and psychological testing.

Lead Agency: *Cancer Services*

Program Name: **Advocacy & Outreach for Hispanic Latino Population**

Program Summary: This program advances the health of Hispanic and Latino populations through providing resources, education, and advocacy. They have identified the following priorities:

- 1) Assess participants' current access to preventive cancer care and food and provide follow-up for individuals requiring a medical home or screening services or referral of food assistance.
 - 2) Educate participants regarding positive health changes through cooking and exercise classes as well as access to screenings and nutrition resources.
 - 3) Provide consistent programming to communicate the health benefits of increasing fruit and vegetable intake and time spent in physical activity for multiple chronic diseases; and
 - 4) Provide patient advocacy services for Hispanic/Latinx individuals facing cancer in our community.
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Lead Agency: *Cancer Services*

Program Name: **Cancer Patient Advocacy**

Program Summary: With Patient Advocacy, Cancer Services meets the financial, physical, and social needs of cancer survivors and families. Cancer Services targets individuals below a 200% Federal Poverty level, including the un/underinsured, to ensure they have access to vital treatment, medications, and supplies. This program prioritizes health equity, increased survivorship, quality of life, and financial stability during and post-treatment. Aligned with such goals, their physical and emotional supports include peer support, transportation, nutrition education, and client-centered wellness programming.

Lead Agency: *Fellowship Home*

Program Name: **Comprehensive Relapse Prevention Program**

Program Summary: This program offers men in crisis due to substance misuse a two-year comprehensive relapse prevention program which includes up to nine months of residency followed by continuing care. The programs key components include a therapeutic atmosphere of fellowship; therapy, counseling, and case management; opportunities to develop a goal plan, resolve legal issues, and obtain needed medical care; daily 12-step meetings to learn principles and build a recovery network for life; coaching in financial literacy and self-sufficiency; and support in finding full-time employment, rebuilding relationships, and attaining an independent living arrangement upon exiting the program.

Lead Agency: *Insight Human Services*

Program Name: **Forsyth Integrated Health Network**

Program Summary: The Forsyth Integrated Health Network offers a collaborative array of primary and behavioral health services, reaching adults in Forsyth County who misuse substances. The program addresses barriers and provides access to care for uninsured or financially vulnerable individuals. For clients, improved access reduces risks for hospitalizations, incarcerations, and morbidity, while improving work, educational, and family outcomes.

Lead Agency: *Mental Health Association*

Program Name: **First Responder Training**

Program Summary: First Responder Training offers mental health education training to heighten awareness and reduce the stigma associated with mental illness. Crisis Intervention Team training and other mental health programming are offered to first responders, law enforcement, human service professionals, clergy members, and interested community members, including those affected by mental illness. Such conversations work to create a safer, more equitable community.

Lead Agency: *Mental Health Association*

Program Name: **Accessing Mental Health Care in our Community**

Program Summary: Accessing Mental Health Care in our Community supports individuals around Forsyth County in accessing services for therapy and psychiatry, and among other services promoting wellbeing. Clients are often uninsured and looking for guidance to access affordable care for their unique mental health needs. After assessing clients' needs, staff educate clients on available resources for obtaining mental health care, provide referrals and warm handoffs to services within the community, and perform follow ups and continued support if needed.

Lead Agency: *YWCA*

Program Name: **Gateway to Success (GTS)**

Program Summary: Gateway to Success (GTS) is a partnership of the YWCA, Novant Health, and Wake Forest Baptist Health. The program supports low-and moderate-resourced participants with diabetes or those interested in diabetes prevention to manage and improve their health through lifestyle changes. Emphasis is on good nutrition, weight loss, exercise, and behavioral health. GTS offers free intensive lifestyle coaching by a team of behavioral health specialists, dietitians, wellness coaches, and fitness coaches. Participants receive up to a three-year membership at the Gateway YWCA, and a family membership if needed to encourage the individual's progress.

Lead Agency: YWCA

Program Name: Hawley House

Program Summary: Hawley House is the only state-licensed residential recovery facility in Forsyth County for women who have been diagnosed with a substance use disorder. The program encourages adult women to become physically and mentally healthy. Women are expected to have already gone through detox and completed treatment before their stay. The staff creates a structured environment that encourages healthy behavior, sustained recovery, independence, and stability. Residents are provided nutritious meals, counseling, 12-step AA/NA programs, and transportation. The Hawley House’s long-standing partnerships with community organizations support residents in accessing employment, healthcare, medication, education, and housing.

Education Programs



Research shows early grade reading mastery is one of the best predictors of children’s later success in school. Early language and literacy development plays a key role in supporting learning experiences which are linked with academic achievement, reduced grade retention, higher graduation rates, and enhanced productivity in adult life. According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation, children in the lowest socioeconomic groups, on average, start school months behind their middleclass peers in pre-reading and pre-math skills. This gap almost triples when the poorest children are compared to the most affluent 20%. Reading is a critical predictor of high school success or failure. This is because children are learning to read until fourth grade; after that, they are reading to learn. Forsyth County continues to have significant gaps in educational achievement by race and income along all age groups of child development. Closing these gaps will be key to ensuring the community’s future workforce can compete on a national scale and thrive. UWFC’s educational priorities directly support those of Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools.

Summer Slide Programs

Lead Agency: *Action 4 Equity*

Program Name: Freedom Schools Summer Programming

Program Summary: Forsyth Freedom Schools is a six-week summer program designed to increase literacy, self-esteem, social-emotional skills, and a love of learning for children in grades K-12. UWFC will be funding 55 K-3 students at two Freedom School sites in Forsyth County. Through a research-based and multicultural program model provided by CDF Freedom Schools, students are inspired participants, known as “scholars,” who spend their summer learning about

and believing in their ability to make a difference in themselves, their families, and their communities, with hope, education, and action. Freedom Schools programming encourages scholars to embrace their cultural history and

reinforces confidence in their abilities. Throughout the program, scholars will build their personal libraries, establish dedicated reading times, attend field trips, and become energized for learning through the morning rally (“Harambee”) which includes singing, cheers, and chants. Freedom Schools are led by young-adult teachers and mentors known as Servant Leader Interns, who come from diverse backgrounds and help scholars envision themselves as future college students, advocates, and leaders. During the six weeks, the program encourages the parents of our scholars to be engaged in their child’s learning through informational meetings in the summer and multiple volunteer opportunities.

Lead Agency: *The Salvation Army*

Program Name: **Boys & Girls Club Summer Camp**

Program Summary: The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club Summer Camp seeks to provide a summer camp experience to keep kids safe by providing a positive environment where they can learn, play, and grow. The program serves youth ages 5 - 18 from 38 schools in the WS/Forsyth County School district. UWFC funding will support K-3 students in the summer camp. Youth and families benefit from our holistic impact model and wraparound services, aimed at building the academic aptitude, health awareness, and leadership skills of their youth. The summer program incorporates a variety of educational games, worksheets, reading time, STEM experiments, online academic curricula, a fully stocked library, and partnerships with community organizations that promote reading and individualized tutoring to not only reduce summer learning loss but promote learning gains. The Club offers accredited programs like Summer Brain Gain that not only halt summer learning loss but also lead to gains in math and reading for many young people.

Lead Agency: *Winston-Salem State University*

Program Name: **The Reading and Math Summer Camp (RAMS-C) / Lit-Fit**

Program Summary: RAMS-C is a 6-week summer camp designed for rising first through fourth graders to offset the academic regression referred to in research as the ‘summer slide.’ Lit-Fit is an additional summer component integrated into the already established RAMS-C structure, providing participants with an introduction to sports/fitness via expository/non-fiction literature and experiential learning via field trips and exposure. Each week has a sports-related integration within the English/Language Arts and/or Mathematics instruction and a culminating Friday field trip provides participants with a natural/simulated experience. Preference is given to non-familiar sports as a proper introduction.

Lead Agency: *Winston-Salem Urban League*

Program Name: **Read URBAN**

Program Summary: Read URBAN seeks to increase reading performance for 40 rising third graders who attend Title one schools via a six-week intensive summer reading program. Read URBAN scholars will attend the program Monday through Friday. The program will target one WSFC elementary school for this program. The program, based on Harlem Children’s Zone literacy success programming, Read 2 Succeed, will use interactive, modern, intensive instruction to boost reading performance. Scholars will focus on comprehension, vocabulary, fluency, phonemic awareness, and phonics. Programming will include instruction in reading, writing, speaking, listening and small group activities. Program goals include stemming summer reading skill loss, increasing reading skill where possible and preparing scholars for 3rd grade reading proficiency testing.

Lead Agency: *YMCA*

Program Name: **Summer Learning Academies (SLA)**

Program Summary: The goal of the YMCA’s Summer Learning Academy (SLA) at the Fulton Family YMCA is to close the socio-economic opportunity and achievement gaps between minority students and white students, and economically disadvantaged students and non-economically disadvantaged students, ensuring that every child regardless of income or background, can learn, grow, and thrive. The program is designed to provide differentiated and targeted academic support to kindergarten through third grade students in core subject areas with a primary focus on reading. In the Summer of 2023, the Fulton SLA plans to meet the following objectives: 1) Provide a summer experience that prevents summer learning loss and prepares and excites students for the coming school year, 2) Primarily focus on improving reading proficiency for kindergarten through third grade students, 3) Employ certified teachers to provide tutoring and academic instruction, and 4) Create a differentiated learning environment utilizing a variety of learning modalities. This 10-week program incorporates the best parts of the Y’s traditional day camp with the middle 6 weeks of the summer focusing on reading proficiency for rising 1st through 3rd grade students. Students will participate in 12 hours of academic instruction a week during the SLA portion of the program. Tutors hired from our feeder school will provide instruction in a 1:10 tutor to student ratio.

Lead Agency: YWCA

Program Name: Best Choice Center – Summer Camp

Program Summary: The Best Choice Center’s mission is to help at risk children succeed academically and inter-personally. The center strives to ensure children ages 5-9 (K-3rd grade) are on track to be reading on grade level by the end of third grade. UWFC funding will serve 70 children K-rising 4th graders. The Best Choice Center Summer Enrichment Camp maintains a critical focus on reading and math over the summer. Certified teachers and staff assess children upon entry to the program and based on the assessment, work with them through tutoring and mentoring to improve any deficiencies that may exist. During the camp the children spend the morning in enriching activities that keep them engaged in reading and math. The summer program works to ensure children ages 5-9 (K-3rd grade) are on track to be reading on grade level by the end of third grade. The program encourages parental involvement and staff/parent collaboration in promoting the students’ success. Summer camp provides certified teachers; teaching assistants; experienced and well-trained staff & counselors; breakfast, lunch, and healthy snacks; computer lab; parent friendly hours - open from 7 am to 6 pm; swimming lessons, tennis lessons, and basketball at the YWCA wellness center; field trips to science museums and performance venues in the state; Career Day with inspirational speakers; and exposure to arts, music, and entertainment.

Tutoring Programs

Lead Agency: *Big Brothers Big Sisters*

Program Name: Site Based Mentoring Program

Program Summary: This program focuses on children, between the ages of K-12th grade, primarily including those from single-parent homes, and those who have been identified by teachers and/or school guidance counselors as ones who would benefit from having an additional friend/mentor. UWFC funding will focus on serving 56 children K-3 at two Title One WSFCS elementary schools. Mentors will meet with their students during and/or after school for at least one hour. The program also plans to employ professional paid mentors who will provide weekly group mentoring while Littles wait to be matched with their one-to-one mentor. Activities range from reading together and working on homework to playing games or simply listening and talking. Group activities will utilize a curriculum focused on reading, social and emotional growth, and personal accountability. The goal is to support high-quality, community-based tutoring for at-risk children (Grades 1-3), measuring the children’s progress toward grade level reading.

Lead Agency: *The Salvation Army*

Program Name: **Ken Carlson Boys & Girls Club**

Program Summary: The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club seeks to provide an after-school program to keep kids safe by providing a positive environment where they can learn, play, and grow. The program serves youth ages 5 - 18 from 38 schools in the WS/Forsyth County School district. During non-school hours, the club provides a safe place, supportive adult mentors, fun, friendship, and high-impact youth development programs. UWFC funding will focus on serving 80 children K-3 at the Club. The program has three main strategies to create success for every student including accredited curriculums in academics, character development, and healthy lifestyles. Specifically, K-3 students will use this time to hone their reading skills through physical, auditory and online books; educational games; worksheets; and online activities associated with an accredited reading curriculum. This specific emphasis will incorporate early literacy programs and best practices, early screenings, individual reading plans, interactions with teachers and parents and periodic assessments to determine progress.

Lead Agency: **YWCA**

Program Name: **Best Choice Center – Academic After School Programs**

Program Summary: The Best Choice Center’s mission is to help at risk children succeed academically and inter-personally. The center strives to ensure children ages 5-9 (K-3rd grade) are on track to be reading on grade level by the end of third grade. The majority of Best Choice parents/guardians earn incomes that are 150% of the Federal Poverty level. Certified teachers and staff assess children upon entry to the program and based on the assessment, work with them through tutoring and mentoring to improve any deficiencies that may exist. The After School program provides: • Certified teachers; • A computer lab; • Healthy snacks, hot dinner after school: breakfast and lunch during camp sessions; • Parent-friendly hours - open until 6 pm Monday-Friday; • Transportation from school to the Center; • and Gift cards quarterly to students named to the honor roll. The certified teachers and Best Choice staff work with the children on homework, test preparation, and school projects. This program provides a hands-on mentoring environment for children to learn along with The Crosby Bigs for Success program which complements the academic work with confidence and school functioning skills.



United Way of Forsyth County