

# TAKE PART IN THE CONVERSATION



United Way of Central Illinois

## Welcome

United Way fights for the basic needs, education, financial stability and health of every person in our community. United focuses on protecting services vital to the immediate basic needs of the most vulnerable members of our community; while making long term investments in education, financial stability and health, because these are the building blocks for a good quality of life.

We bring together people and organizations from all across the community who bring the passion, expertise and resources needed to get things done.

UWCIL accomplishes this goal by targeting resources to a determined set of priorities that were selected and are continuously reviewed by Vision Councils with the help of the community, requiring consistency in outcome measurement and striving towards community wide shared metrics, and gradually increasing the proportion of funding directed toward BIG community change.

## History

In 2014, United Way of Central Illinois evaluated its work in our community to determine how it can continue to best invest resources in strategies that have the best chance of solving our community's toughest challenges.

In examining our United Way, we found our greatest strength remains our ability to bring together nonprofit, business and community leaders, and individuals to address our community's health and human service needs. As a result, we entered into a series of community conversations aimed at discussing the overarching issues affecting our community, identifying specific priorities, and discussing strategies we could invest in to improve community conditions. Vision Council members were then asked to balance both the qualitative and quantitative information.

Through this process, United Way and its partners identified priorities, strategies and aligned outcomes to direct our work. Together, we identified and are working toward key indicators of success. We hold ourselves and our partners accountable for achieving success by using concrete metrics, based on local, state and federal data to measure our progress. We will adjust our programs and approaches as needed to ensure we are making the most effective use of available resources.

## Questions

All questions related to this RFA should be submitted in writing via email with "Health RFA" in the subject line to [kschroeder@uwcil.org](mailto:kschroeder@uwcil.org). United Way staff will respond within 48 business hours.