

## **United Way of Lancaster County 2018-2021 Collective Impact Partnerships**

United Way of Lancaster County, using the collective impact model, brought together more than 100 local nonprofits, schools, faith-based groups, funders, government entities, and others - all organizations that already make Lancaster County a great place to live - and challenged them to think about systemic change. We asked them what problems they experience with the systems they work in, and how they would form unique alliances to tackle those issues. The result is a county-wide network of partnerships that are making strides to improve education, employment, quality of life and healthcare in Lancaster County.

## **BOLD GOAL 1: KINDERGARTEN READINESS**

- P-3 Partnership Pathways is a collective of Lancaster County school districts and early childhood education providers united around the goal to align two integral components of a child's educational success: early childhood education and elementary school public education. Their vision is that education providers across the prenatal grade 3 continua will move beyond isolated, reactive approaches to service delivery to a more intentional shared vision of community-level and systems-level strategies.
- Plant the Seed of Learning engages, educates, and empowers parents of children from birth to age 4 to plant seeds of learning through interactive workshops with meaningful activities. The Partnership works with local hospitals, school districts and early learning centers to support kindergarten transition. Families are educated about brain development in a playful environment and leave the sessions with developmentally appropriate toys and books.
- Systems Aligned in Learning (SAIL) increases the quality of home-based child care by providing early learning resources, materials and mentoring directly to home-based child care providers across the county. Not only do they provide supports for these professionals to enhance their businesses, but they ultimately positively impact the children in their care as they prepare to enter kindergarten. SAIL enhances early literacy with their mobile resource and activity van, the 'Be READy Rover', staffed with an early literacy specialist, while also providing resources and supplies for developmentally appropriate physical activities and social-emotional development through evidence-based training.

## **BOLD GOAL 2: POST-SECONDARY CREDENTIALS**

- Integration Services for New Americans is a "one-stop shop" of services at the Refugee Center at Reynolds Middle School in Lancaster. There, this Partnership provides education, health, and financial services for refugee and immigrant students and their families. These services go beyond the federally-mandated 90-day cultural orientation for individuals upon arrival in the U.S., expanding and enhancing support of these individuals so that they may thrive.
- Path to One Good Job serves any Lancaster County resident with an educational, situational, or financial barrier to obtaining a post-secondary credential. Using the Integrated Education (IET) module, they provide simultaneous instruction in basic education or language development (ESL) with occupational or industry-specific training with the assistance of Career Navigators based at Tec Centro and CareerLink. Their vision is to ensure that all Lancaster County residents obtain and retain employment and income for themselves and their families to thrive.

## **BOLD GOALS 3 & 4: POVERTY REDUCTION/ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE**

• Elizabethtown Hub is a collaboration of more than 60 Partners in the greater Elizabethtown area working together to innovate education, physical/mental health, financial well-being, housing, and food services for their residents in northwest Lancaster County. Their goal is to holistically address and disrupt the cycle of generational poverty from pre-

natal to adulthood, considering the various socio-economic factors that prevent individuals and families in their community from thriving.

- Lancaster County Coalition to End Homelessness (LancoMyHome) is a cross-functional team made up of local service providers, businesses, churches and community volunteers aligned to serve individuals and families facing or experiencing homelessness. United Way investments are leveraged by Lancaster City and County homelessness funds. This Partnership continues to improve the systemic response to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Lancaster County. This coalition continues to be nationally recognized for their systemic response to homelessness in our county.
- Northern Lancaster Hub addresses the lack of access northern Lancaster County families and individuals have to critical education, health, and human services. They recognize that transportation can be a major factor that prevents their residents from getting the assistance they need. The Hub is comprised of two physical sites, Community Commons in Ephrata and the Declaration House in Denver and will meet the steadily increasing need for services in this section of Lancaster County.
- Together Initiative Network is a movement that empowers individuals and families who struggle with poverty in eastern Lancaster County. Within the Together Community Center in Paradise, they offer high quality pre-K education, teen and adult life skills courses, and dental and behavioral health services. They bring together nonprofits, healthcare organizations, schools, local government, faith-based organizations, and passionate neighbors together to improve their community.
- Solanco Family Life Network provides holistic early intervention for students and families in southern Lancaster County who are looking to build a career and get out of poverty. Their services include parenting/family training, career training, before- and after-school programs, nutrition support, and budgeting/heating bill assistance. With more than 60 organizations within the Network, they collaborate to address their communities' financial, education, relational, and emotional barriers to success.