

Fostering Childhood Success



Fostering **childhood success** is crucial in the early ages of childhood, and it doesn't end there. Our children are the future, and we are continuing to invest in them. Our focus is on shaping early childhood opportunities as well as our future workforce.

Early Childhood Success:

What we are up against: For a single working mother almost **half** of their paycheck goes to childcare. There's no way around this as all parents want to ensure that their children have a safe environment to stay in while they are working. This is before school-age years even begin.

Early childhood goal: Our long-term goal at UWECI (United Way of East Central Iowa) is to gather a group to continue to brainstorm and experiment with new solutions for quality and affordable childcare.

How we are getting there together: With your support, we are part of a community group called **Envision East Central Iowa**. In this group, we are regionally working towards finding solutions for quality and affordable childcare.

Your impact: Your investment in UWECI will support over 2,000 children to access early childhood resources.



2,000 children given access to early childhood resources

Early Childhood Success Nonprofit Partners FY24-FY26: \$309,696 Investment from UWECI

Hawkeye Area Community Action Program (HACAP)

Waypoint Services for Women, Children and Families

Young Parents Network Inc.



School Aged/Future Workforce:

What we're up against: As your children grow up from early childhood into school age, they face many new challenges, especially as they enter high school. The graduation rate for high school students in Linn County is **87%** for all students and even lower graduation rates when you break down rates for Hispanic, Latino, and Black students. Of the kids who do graduate, almost **1/3** do not have any plans beyond graduation for education or career paths.

School Aged/ Future Workforce Goal: Our long-term goal at UWECI is to work as a community to ensure every student has a path for their future. We also aim to create opportunities using experts who specialize in teenage and young adults to support at-risk and crisis youth.

How we're getting there together: With your support, we are developing community strategies using those who specialize in teenage and young adults to create solutions to support overlooked youth in high need communities.

Your impact: Your investment in UWECI will provide over **13,000** children with the support and access they need to be successful through after-school and summer programs. These programs focus on fostering leadership development, success in schools, and planning for future careers. They also provide access to resources that children need to be successful in their journeys into adulthood.



over 13,000 children will be supported

School Aged/ Future Workforce Childhood Success Nonprofit Partners FY24-FY26: \$554,315 Investment from UWECI

Area Substance Abuse Council

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cedar Rapids and East Central Iowa

Boys and Girls Club of Cedar Rapids

Four Oaks Family and Children Services

Kids First Law Center

The Arc of East Central Iowa

Youthport

Zach Johnson Foundation

