

SOCIAL STABILITY & GROWTH



United Way of
Southwestern Indiana



Strengthening relationships that serve as a safety net (family & friends) and alliances that expand opportunities for growth



SOCIAL STABILITY & GROWTH PATHWAY

This Pathway to Potential focuses on the elements of social capital and how it impacts employment, self-sufficiency, and upward mobility



"For individuals, social capital is important because it is a source of power and influence that helps people to 'get by' and 'get ahead'. The adage: "it's not just what you know, but who you know" relates to the powerful effects and importance of social capital.

- The Institute for Social Capital



WHAT IS SOCIAL CAPITAL?

Social capital refers to the connections, networks, and relationships among people, the value that arises from them, and how this value can be mobilized to help individuals succeed in life



TYPES OF SOCIAL CAPITAL

Bonding: ties that exist between family members and friends ("net")

Bridging: ties that exist across community members ("ladder")

GRANT AVAILABLE SPRING 2023



SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH



SOCIAL CAPITAL UNEVENLY DISTRIBUTED

Social networks may be smaller or weaker for low-income individuals because they lack family or other social connections to institutions, such as higher education, that are critical for upward mobility. In addition, they may also have fewer connections to high-status individuals or institutions that can help provide valuable opportunities.



BEST-IN-CLASS ASSESSMENT

United Way is committed to utilizing research and subject-matter experts to inform and develop both the Request for Proposals and the evaluation of applications.



"BRIDGING" SOCIAL CAPITAL A KEY FACTOR

Children who grow up in communities rich in bridging social capital (where low-income families are more likely to interact with high-income families) have significantly better chances of rising out of poverty. The cross-class interaction is influenced by exposure to other socio-economic classes and "friending bias" (the tendency to befriend others of similar status).*



COMMITMENT TO HIGHEST QUALITY

United Way is working for genuine change in our community. We seek to fund initiatives that are fiscally sound, targeted toward low-income households, and demonstrate the strongest outcomes.

United Way of Southwestern Indiana

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