

For Immediate Release
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United Way of Southwestern Indiana Awards Mental Health Grants

More than \$500,000 awarded to 4 local nonprofits addressing mental health equity.

Evansville, IN – United Way of Southwestern Indiana (UWSWI) today announced distribution of \$568,995 in grant funds as part of their Mental Health Pathways to Potential initiative. This is the second round of funding for the Mental Health Pathway and included two funding tracks – direct services from a licensed mental health provider and prevention services.

Grant recipients demonstrated the ability to improve access to behavioral health supportive services or behavioral health awareness and skill-building opportunities for low-income people in Spencer, Vanderburgh, and/or Warrick Counties. Programs serving low-income individuals/families and/or addressing equitable access for populations with barriers received priority consideration.

Direct Services Grantees

- **Catholic Charities is awarded \$152,440** to support a part-time, bilingual licensed social worker (LSW) for the outpatient counseling program and underwrite community language interpretation training for three staff members. These additions will increase the organization's ability to serve Spanish-speaking clients of any age. A portion of this grant award will also offset the costs incurred from Catholic Charities' sliding scale fee model.
- **United Methodist Youth Home is awarded \$177,631** to expand their therapy program for at-risk youth to include those recently discharged from UMYH inpatient programs and youth in need of outpatient services to prevent court intervention.

Prevention Services Grantees

- **Success Through Mentoring is awarded \$88,924** to underwrite one full-time position and expand mentoring opportunities further into Spencer County. The organization connects adult mentors to kids from lower-income, underserved communities.
- **Youth First is awarded \$150,000** to support evidence-based youth mental health prevention programs in five EVSC schools with larger low-income populations. This work addresses critical, underlying challenges that improve mental health and break cycles of poverty.

The evaluations for both direct behavioral health and prevention programming proposals were conducted by United Way's Mental Health Expert Taskforce. Taskforce members were selected for their professional expertise related to the grant topic. The team consisted of the following professionals: psychologists, psychiatric nurse practitioners, licensed clinical social workers, and health care administrators with specialization in operating mental health care facilities (both inpatient and outpatient).

United Way of Southwestern Indiana's Pathway Grants are intended to address root causes of poverty and are made possible through the generous donations of individuals and businesses in our community. To support this work, please visit unitedwayswi.org/give.

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United Way envisions communities where all individuals and families have the opportunity to achieve their full potential. The nonprofit organization serves at the center of a network of partners and programs who are working to improve the upward mobility of low-income and disadvantaged individuals and families in Vanderburgh, Warrick, and Spencer Counties. To learn more about United Way's work, visit unitedwayswi.org.