

## BASIC NEEDS FUNDING GUIDELINES 2025-2028 Grant Cycle

### INTRODUCTION

While the community works to address the root causes of important community issues, we realize that there are individuals in our region who need our support right now. That's why United Way provides funding to fulfill basic needs such as food, shelter, health, and safety. When individuals are unable to meet their immediate needs, it becomes more difficult to focus on long-term goals such as employment, housing, or education. When a crisis occurs, United Way is there, providing those in need with services and assistance to bring the stability they need to get back on track.

***Bold Goal: Chippewa Valley residents will have access to food, shelter, and medical services in their time of need.***

### FUNDING GUIDELINES

Basic needs grants are meant to fund intervention-related activities that address short-term client needs (as opposed to the Community Impact long-term prevention-related strategies in the focus areas of Health, Education and Financial Stability).

Basic Needs grants are meant to serve people who have had a temporary setback or who face emergency situations. The goal is to provide immediate, short-term assistance to help people stabilize their situation or recover from the emergency and continue their journey toward a better quality of life.

Programs seeking grants in the Basic Needs focus area are required to collaborate with other programs that help transition these clients beyond basic needs assistance and help them move toward long-term self-sustainability.

#### Target Population:

- Households living at or below the ALICE threshold

#### Eligible Services:

- Food - includes groceries and meals
- Shelter/Housing - includes sleeping, transitional, warming, and personal hygiene facilities, as well as rental assistance
- Medical care - includes basic health care and prescriptions and basic dental care. Programs that enhance access to the above services

**Budgetary Limitations:**

- United Way Funding may be no more than 50% of the program's budget for Chippewa County and Eau Claire County services.

**Guidelines for Decision-Making**General Evaluation Criteria

The proposed program aligns with the target population and one or more of the eligible service areas.

- The proposal identifies an efficient use of financial resources.
- The proposal addresses accessibility-how potential barriers to access are addressed (hours, location, transportation, as well as social aspects such as gender, race, class, etc.).
- The proposal addresses the context of why services are needed, what services are available, and who the services are for.
- The program and its strategic collaborative partner(s) can leverage adequate funds and resources to affect the issue.
- The program will provide data on unique individuals and services provided.
- Demographic data will be collected including:

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